

ISSUES FACING LGBT OLDER ADULTS

- Historic and present-day social stigma, prejudice and discrimination.
- Unequal treatment under laws, programs and services.
- Lack of support from biological families and increased reliance on informal families (of choice) for social connection, care and support.

These obstacles, along with others, make it more difficult for LGBT older adults to achieve key components of healthy aging: financial security, quality health care, community support and engagement.

QUICK FACTS

- Roughly 80% of long-term senior care is provided by family members. LGBT older adults are 50% less likely to have relatives they can rely on for help, as compared to the general population.
- 73% of LGBT older adults state that discrimination occurs in retirement facilities.
- Police and government agencies can be sources of abuse and mistreatment for transgender seniors, making it difficult to safely report discrimination.



CONTACT INFORMATION

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sage
METRO PORTLAND

Advocacy &
Services for
LGBT Elders



A PROGRAM OF FRIENDLY HOUSE

SAGE Metro Portland improves the lives of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender older adults.



ABOUT SAGE METRO PORTLAND

Previously named “Elder Resource Center” (ERA), and “Gay & Grey”, SAGE Metro Portland was founded in 2001 in collaboration with a coalition of aging service professionals and LGBT older adults. We work to enhance the lives of LGBT community members through education, advocacy, outreach and resource development. SAGE Metro Portland works with and for older adults 60 and better, to create community and social change. We work to ensure the safety and well-being of LGBT older adults in the Portland Metro area.

ABOUT FRIENDLY HOUSE

A non-profit neighborhood center and social service agency, Friendly House was founded in 1930. Our mission is to create a thriving community by connecting people of all ages and backgrounds through quality educational, recreational and other life sustaining services.

WHAT WE DO

SUPPORT—SAGE Metro Portland offers Options Counseling, Case Management, and Information and Referral services to LGBT seniors (60 and better) living in Multnomah County, offering support in finding and accessing resources, decision making and aging service system navigation.

ADVOCACY—SAGE Metro Portland advocates for all LGBT seniors, locally and nationally. This includes involvement with legislative and community leaders, partnerships with senior housing providers, and connection to the SAGE National network.

HOUSING—We advocate for safe and welcoming housing for LGBT older adults. We work directly with senior housing facilities to create lasting change and welcoming, inclusive environments.

COMMUNITY BUILDING—SAGE Metro Portland hosts weekly social groups at local restaurants to promote networking and community building. We also hold special events including the Gay & Grey Expo (a health and resource fair for LGBT seniors, professionals and allies), Pride events, holiday parties, and guest speakers!

INTERESTED IN A TRAINING?

Since 2001, SAGE Metro Portland has offered high-quality trainings for students, business leaders and professionals in nursing, social work, naturopathy, gerontology, in-home care services, senior housing, government and non-profit management.

Trainings include an expert facilitator and a panel of LGBT seniors who share their life experiences about the joys and challenges of being both LGBT and an aging person in our culture and society.

IN TRAINING, YOUR TEAM WILL:

- Learn best practices for working with the LGBT elder population.
- Develop understandings of how to make your workplace and services more inclusive and equitable.
- Understand the challenges LGBT older adults face specific to housing and medical care.

See contact information on the back of this brochure for more information about trainings!

