



People who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) experience sexual violence at higher rates than people who identify as heterosexual. A 2011 study analyzed data

from more than 75 research reports and found that lesbian and bisexual women may be up to 3 times as likely as heterosexual women to report having been sexually assaulted during their lifetime; gay men may be up to 15 times as likely as heterosexual men to report having been sexually assaulted during their lifetime (Rothman, Exner and Baughman, 2011).

Sexual violence against the LGBTQ community occurs in a variety of ways including gender bullying in schools and the workplace, street harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault. LGBTQ people also experience hate crimes due to their gender and sexual identity. Because LGBTQ people do not have the same rights as heterosexual people, LGBTQ victim/survivors of sexual assault have less access to laws that protect them when they choose to report their experiences. Reporting their sexual assault may mean they have to come out as LGBTQ which is not always possible or safe. Coming out can lead to more harassment from people who are in helping professions such as law enforcement and medical professionals. Because of the fears of judgment and violence from others, people who identify as LGBTQ often do not report their experiences of sexual violence.

In order to prevent sexual violence in the LGBTQ community, we must work to end inequality and homophobia, transphobia, biphobia, etc. By ending inequality, we create spaces where LGBTQ people are seen as equal and reduce the amount of violence they experience, including sexual violence.

In a study of 268 LGBT respondents, 6% had been sexually assaulted because of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender presentation (Green, 2012).

Respondents who expressed a transgender or gender non-conforming identity during grades K-12 reported significant rates of harassment (78%), physical assault (35%) and sexual violence (12%). American Indian, Asian, African-American, and multiracial respondents experienced higher rates of K-12 sexual violence than students of other races. More than half (51%) of respondents who were harassed, physically assaulted, or sexually assaulted due to the gender expression in K-12 reported having attempted suicide (Grant, Mottet, Tanis, et al., 2011).

SERVICES

Find more information at
<http://centralpaequality.com>



Cultural Diversity Training

The [Cultural Diversity Training](#) program provides educational and training presentations to organizations on the issues that effect the LGBTQ population.

Anonymous HIV Testing

Free, anonymous, rapid HIV testing is available at the Center.

AGING WITH PRIDE

The Aging with Pride initiative promotes a positive and healthy quality of life for LGBTQ individuals in central Pennsylvania by ensuring they continue to be supported, respected, and connected as they advance in age.

Resource Center

The largest of its kind in the Midwest, our Resource Center offers more than 500 brochures, newsletters, newspapers, job postings, and housing postings for and about the LGBT community.

Hate Crimes Reporting

Staff is on call for phone and drop-in help during regular business hours.

Center Space

Our goal is to promote existing facilities that host meeting or event space for local LGBT groups, associations, planning boards and other organizations.

Help us in our development:

**Where there is not currently services available, we intent to advocate for these services within each county.*

RESOURCES

NATIONAL

BiNet USA:www.binetusa.org
COLAGE:www.colage.org
FORGE:www.forge-forward.org
GLAD:www.glaad.org
GLSEN:www.glsen.org
HRC:www.hrc.org
Immigration Equality
[:immigrationequality.org](http://immigrationequality.org)
Lambda Legal :www.lambdalegal.org
Log Cabin Republicans:www.lcr.org
National Center for Transgender Equality:
www.nctequality.org
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force:
www.thetaskforce.org
PFLAG:www.pflag.org
Soulforce:www.soulforce.org
Stonewall Democrats:
www.stonewalldemocrats.org
Transgender Law Center:
www.transgenderlawcenter.org
TrevorProject:www.thetrevorproject.org

LOCAL

We are currently in the process of compiling a data base of local LGBTQ resources for each county we service. If you know of a resource that should be listed please sent the information via email to centralpaequality@gmail.com

Please go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KRR9WWS> and take our Survey. Results will be released by the end of the 2016 year. We will be using the results from surveys to help us identify services most needed in each county.

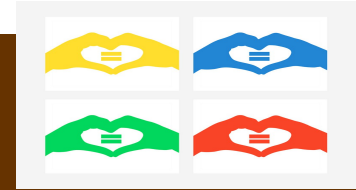


Help us get crucial services to the UN-served and undeserved population of Central Pennsylvania by going to:
https://fundrazr.com/919lRe?ref=sh_65s4e1



Central PA Equality Foundation

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CENTRAL PA EQUALITY FOUNDATION

COUNTIES SERVED:

Clearfield, Cameron, Elk, Jefferson, Indiana, Cambria, Blair, Centre, & Clinton

Mission

The mission of the Central PA Equality Foundation is to create common ground for the LGBTQ community and allies throughout Central Pennsylvania

We seek to:

Create a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment.

Provide and support comprehensive programs throughout the community. Embrace diversity, health, and wellness.

Contact Information:
814-762-5974
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