



Transforming Care

Conference on LGBTQ+ and HIV Health Equity

2019 Report



Contents	
Who We Are	3
<i>Equitas Health Institute</i>	3
<i>The Abstract Committee for the 2019 Transforming Care Conference</i>	3
<i>Volunteers for the 2019 Transforming Care Conference</i>	4
Conference Summary	4
<i>The History of Transforming Care</i>	4
<i>The 2019 Transforming Care Conference</i>	5
Conference Highlights	6
<i>Keynote and Plenary Speakers</i>	6
<i>New This Year at Transforming Care</i>	7
Registrants	8
Conference App	12
<i>Event Engagement</i>	12
The Transforming Care Awards	14
2019 Wellness Fair	19
Our Sponsors	20
Overall Conference Evaluation	21
Closing Comments	26





Equitas Health Institute

The Equitas Health Institute is the education and research arm of Equitas Health, focusing on reducing health disparities in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (LGBTQ+) community. We do this by developing and delivering exceptional LGBTQ+ culturally competent healthcare education and training, engaging with LGBTQ+ and HIV-positive patients, working with community based organizations, and supporting LGBTQ+ health research efforts in our region.



Julia M. Applegate, MA
She/Her/Hers
Director



Zoe Fawcett Freggens
She/Her/Hers
Education Manager



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Dominic Ali, IEWP
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De' Juan Stevens
He/Him/His
Community Engagement Coordinator



Ramona Peel, MA
She/Her/Hers
Lead Trainer



Viola Pagliaro
She/Her/Hers
Education Coordinator

The Abstract Committee for the 2019 Transforming Care Conference

Special thanks to the members of this year's committee:

- Alexis Miranda
- Bradley Eldson
- Brittany Feeling
- Chris Ross
- Cory D'Ambrosio
- David Vavrinak
- Ellen Rapkin
- Emma Bosley-Smith
- Jaron Terry
- Jeff Dubin
- Julie Patterson
- Karin Anderson
- Kimberly Sue Griffiths
- Lea Dooley
- Mykalah Anderson
- Nicholas Pochedly
- Ronald Murray
- Sue Green
- Timothy Bussey
- Viola Pagliaro
- Zoe Fawcett Freggens



Volunteers for the 2019 Transforming Care Conference

The conference would not have been possible without the volunteers who generously donated their time.



59

Volunteers

123

Volunteer Shifts

324

Volunteer Hours

Special thanks to Volunteer Coordinator, Mark Spurgeon



Mark Spurgeon
He/Him/His
Volunteer Manager



The History of Transforming Care

The Transforming Care Conference fosters an environment for community members and professionals alike to address issues of health equity for the LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS communities. It is well documented that these communities experience significant health disparities and inequities, including:

- Suicidal ideation and attempt
- Homelessness
- Substance use and misabuse
- HIV/STIs
- Cancer
- Violence
- Mental health issues

In addition to the aforementioned disparities, these communities too often lack access to quality, culturally humble healthcare, or have fears of prejudice and/or discrimination, resulting in lower rates of engagement and retention in care than their heterosexual, cisgender, and HIV-negative counterparts. Many providers lack the knowledge and skills to successfully engage with these communities. This environment creates a vicious cycle that perpetuates the health disparities which these communities face. The Equitas Health Institute recognizes that these inequities are systematically created and perpetuated, that they are unjust and unfair, and that they must be addressed. The Transforming Care Conference is one of many steps in the long road to achieving health equity for all members of these communities.

Individuals from a wide array of backgrounds (including health and social service professionals, community members, advocates, students, researchers, and community leaders) participated to share knowledge, identify ways to improve the health of the LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS communities, and break down barriers between professionals and laypersons. The Transforming Care Conference is designed for anyone, but particularly those with a stake in obtaining or providing equitable and culturally humble health care and social services to the LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS communities. Continuing education credits are available each year at the Transforming Care Conference for Nurses, Social Workers, Counselors, and Psychologist attendees. In some years of the conference, additional professions, such as ophthalmologists and medical doctors/physicians, could receive credits as well.

The event first emerged and evolved as a result of the work of two Ohio-based coalitions. The Ohio AIDS Coalition introduced the Ohio Leadership Conference on HIV/AIDS in 1997, and the Central Ohio LGBTQ Health Coalition introduced the Central Ohio LGBTQ Health Equity Conference in 2015.

In 2016, the **Equitas Health Institute** and the **Ohio AIDS Coalition** came together with an expanded mission to host over 500 activists, academics, community members, and health & social service professionals, becoming the first annual Transforming Care Conference. The Equitas Health Institute (the education, research, and community engagement division of Equitas Health) has continued the event each year since; 2020 will mark the 5th annual Transforming Care Conference.

The two-day conference has grown considerably over the years since its origin, in both its reach and its size. The Transforming Care Conference established a partnership with the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) for the 2017 conference, and has only continued to grow. With approximately 500 attendees last year (2018) and this year (2019), the Transforming Care Conference is the largest of its kind in the nation. Conference participants tell us that what makes TCC so transformative is the mix of people – researchers, practitioners, activists, community members all broadening each other's perspectives.

The 2019 Transforming Care Conference

The 2019 Transforming Care Conference's theme was **"Discover Differences. Break Barriers. Reduce Disparities,"** and was chosen in order to highlight the intersections of identity and how disparities often stack as those intersections increase. This theme emphasized that, when a person from an underserved population seeks care, they do not bring only the sick part of their self, nor do they only bring one facet of identity. People bring their whole selves when seeking care, and understanding critical differences in identity and experience equips people with the ability to break barriers to care and reduce health disparities. In accordance with this theme, "Elevate Your Voice" was a program introduced to this conference, which featured voices from various LGBTQ+ community members who got to share their experiences with health and disparities they have faced. In addition, a Virtual Reality Showcase allowed attendees to place themselves in situations where the impact of these disparities began to unfold before their very eyes.



Keynote and Plenary Speakers



Brandon Wolf
Co-Founder and Vice President of The Dru Project

Presentation:
Intersectional: Caring for Our Whole Selves

On June 12, 2016, life changed for Brandon Wolf (he/him/his). He hid in a bathroom while a gunman opened fire in Orlando's Pulse Nightclub, killing his two best friends, Drew Leinonen & Juan Guerrero, as well as 47 others. During the three years since, Brandon has made it his mission to honor the victims' legacies with action. For the past two years, Brandon has served as co-founder and Vice President of The Dru Project, a nonprofit organization that seeks to empower youth and enable future leaders in the LGBTQ+ community. He has acted as a surrogate for multiple political campaigns, including Hillary Clinton, Congressman Patrick Murphy, and Mayor Andrew Gillum, lending an intersectional voice to the campaign narratives. Brandon currently serves as the Media Relations Manager for Equality Florida. His current work includes lobbying the Florida Legislature for expanded LGBTQ+ protections, workplace equity, and LGBTQ+ inclusive education.



Kenyon Farrow
Senior Editor at TheBody.com
Board Member for the NY Transgender Advocacy Group (NYTAG)

Presentation:
Ending the HIV Epidemic: Trump's Rhetoric vs. Our Reality

Kenyon Farrow (he/him/his) is an award-winning writer, activist, and strategist. He has worked on local, national, and global campaigns on issues related to criminalization/mass imprisonment, homelessness, health justice, and LGBTQ+ rights. He is currently the senior editor with TheBody.com, a news and information site focused on HIV, LGBT health and social justice, and serves on the board of NY Transgender Advocacy Group (NYTAG). Prior to joining TheBody, he served as U.S. & Global Health Policy director for Treatment Action Group (TAG) and former executive director of Queers for Economic Justice. He has also worked as an organizer and communications strategist for groups like Critical Resistance, FIERCE, and Housing Works. Kenyon's writing has appeared on websites and in publications such as The Atlantic, TheGrio, Colorlines, ReWire News, The American Prospect, and AlterNet. His work has been recognized by Out Magazine's "Out 100" and The Advocate magazine's "40 Under 40." He was also named a "Modern Black History Hero" by Black Entertainment Television.



Reece Malone, DHS, MPH, CSE-S, CST
Founder and CEO of Sexuality Consultants and Support Services Manitoba Inc.

Presentation:
"I Hate Dresses. I Want Scissors.": The Impact of "Othering" on Psychosocial Development

Dr. Reece Malone (he/him/his) is a first generation Filipino Canadian, the CEO and founder of Sexuality Consultants and Support Services Manitoba, Inc. As a trainer, program developer and policy consultant, he has worked with local, national and international organizations including the Public Health Agency of Canada, The Canadian Human Rights Commission, and the World Health Organization on topics centering human sexuality, sexual orientation, and gender identity. He is the author of the Canadian Human Rights National Roundtable on Gender Identity and Gender Expression that helped lead to the inclusion of Gender Identity in the Canadian Human Rights Act and changes to the Canadian Criminal Code. He, along with his research associates, has recently been awarded the prestigious George and Fee Yee Centre for Healthcare Innovation on Patient Engagement examining healthcare barriers experienced by trans and gender diverse Manitobans. As a private practice sex therapist and sexuality education supervisor, his approach is grounded in existentialism, intersectional feminism and social justice.



New This Year at Transforming Care

Elevate Your Voice

Stories from members of the LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS communities

This year's Transforming Care Conference highlighted a session titled "Elevate Your Voice," a series of multi-modal personal presentations featuring firsthand accounts from Shae William, Jack Alferio, Joseph Easley, Sarah A. Green, Melachi Carroll - LGBTQ+ folks experiencing, navigating, and/or avoiding healthcare and social services. Trauma-Informed Social Justice Consultant Kimberly Brazwell moderated the presentation.

Equitas Health Institute Director Julia Applegate had this to say about Elevate Your Voice:

"The real experts on LGBTQ+ healthcare are the patients. If we want to know what keeps a person from engaging in care, or from communicating their concerns to a medical professional, or from maintaining routine treatment, we have to be willing to give up the microphone and listen."



Virtual Reality Showcase

The Equitas Health Institute recently collaborated with Nationwide Children's Hospital to develop the Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity module of the Virtual and Augmented Reality Implicit Association Training (VARIAT). This project is part of the Ohio Department of Medicaid's Medicaid Equity Simulation Project. The purpose of the project is to advance health equity for the Medicaid population by increasing Medicaid provider cultural competency and awareness of implicit bias through training composed of virtual reality and simulated patient experiences. Addressing implicit bias with healthcare professionals can reduce health disparities, improve patient care, and health outcomes.

Thirteen (13) simulations were developed across the state to address a variety of social determinants of health and the impact implicit bias can play on patient outcomes. We were fortunate to have four (4) simulations on display at the conference this year. Virtual and augmented reality can be powerful teaching tools, so attendance was strongly encouraged.

Resiliency Room

In partnership with m+a architects, this year's conference included a Resiliency Room where conference participants and presenters had the opportunity to re-set and destress. The m+a team has used evidenced-based design to construct a respite space that supported your central nervous system and decreased hyper-arousal. Conference-goers were invited to disconnect when they needed to and find a sense of calm and mindfulness.



The Transforming Care Conference draws a diverse group of attendees and presenters. This year's conference has cemented our place as one of the nation's largest LGBTQ health conferences with roughly 493 attendees (based on registration). Of those who reported their sexual orientation and gender identity, approximately 71% self-identified as a sexual minority and 18% identified as trans, gender non-conforming, or non-binary. The largest subset in terms of sexual orientation identified as gay (21%), followed by queer (14%), and bisexual (13%). Among all attendees, 13% identified as gender non-conforming, non-binary, genderqueer, etc. Approximately 1.2% of attendees identified as trans men, and 1.6% identified as trans women. 16% of the respondents identified as African-American or black, 4% identified as Hispanic or Latinx, and 3% identified as Asian.

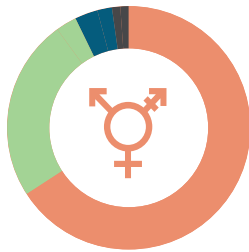
Only about 80 (about 17%) of attendees registered for only one day of the conference. We were pleased to see such enthusiasm from the registrants for the full conference!

In terms of professional backgrounds, approximately 27% of attendees identified themselves as a Social Work professional, 9% as public health professional, 8% as a nursing professional, 8% as a psychologist/behavior health professional, 5% as a physician, 6% in Education/Academia, 1% as a research professional, and 0.8% as a dentist. 8% of attendees registered as students. We offered various ticket options, and prices for students and the general public, tickets were reasonably priced to reduce any cost-related barriers to attendance. Thanks to generous funding from the Ryan White Part B program at the Ohio Department of Health and the AIDS Funding Collaborative, as well as funds raised from AIDSWalk (a first for Transforming Care), the conference was completely free of charge for 77 scholarship recipients living with HIV. Additionally, a limited number of scholarships were available to those with financial need. 16% of attendees were scholarship recipients. No one who requested a scholarship was denied.



From data on 492 registrants, the following data represents our demographics:

Gender Identity



Female - 289
Male - 133
Neither - 63
Prefer not to answer - 7

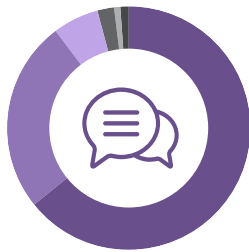


Identify as trans, gender non-conforming, or non-binary?

No - 403
Yes - 89

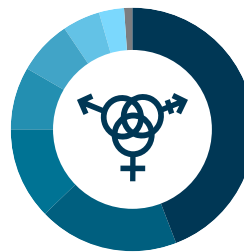
- Gender non-conforming, non-binary, genderqueer, etc - 63
- Trans man - 6
- Trans woman - 8
- Just answered "transgender" - 12

Pronouns



She, her, hers - 299
He, him, his - 137
They, them, theirs - 22
With respect - 11
Self identify - 13
Prefer not to answer - 9

Orientation



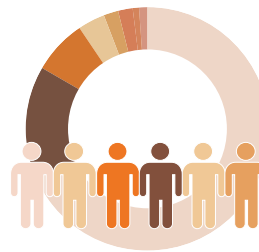
Straight - 204
Gay - 102
Queer - 67
Bisexual - 64
Lesbian - 42
Prefer not to answer - 24
Pansexual - 27
Self-Identify - 8
Asexual - 9
Questioning - 7

HIV Status



Negative - 326
No response - 87
Positive - 60
Don't want to answer - 13
Don't know - 5

Race/Ethnicity



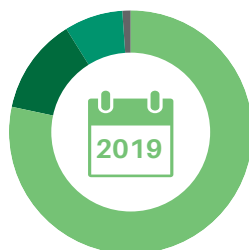
Caucasian/White - 339
African American/Black - 80
Two or more races - 25
African - 2
Asian - 16
Self-Identify - 11
Native American/Alaskan Native/Inuit - 5
Prefer not to answer - 13



Do you identify as Hispanic, Latinx, or Spanish Origin?

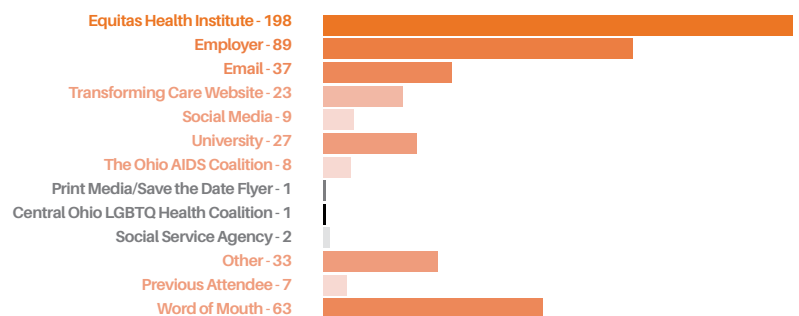
No - 471
Yes - 20

Dates Attended



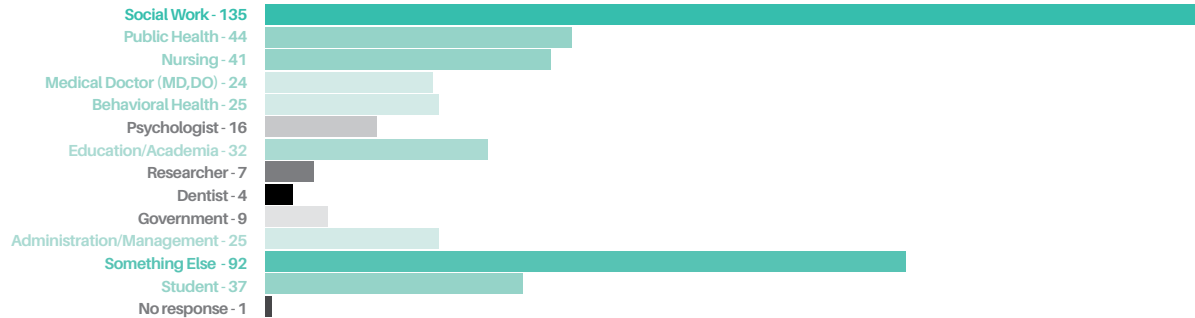
Both - 411
Thursday, October 17th - 35
Friday, October 18th - 45
No response - 1

How did you hear about the Transforming Care Conference?





What is your professional background?



Attended Transforming Care Conference Previously?



No - 278
Yes - 213
No response - 1

Main Reason for Attending



Personal/Professional Growth and Development - 263
Content - 74
Other/No Response - 48
Networking - 35
Conference Speakers - 30
Continuing Education Credits - 21

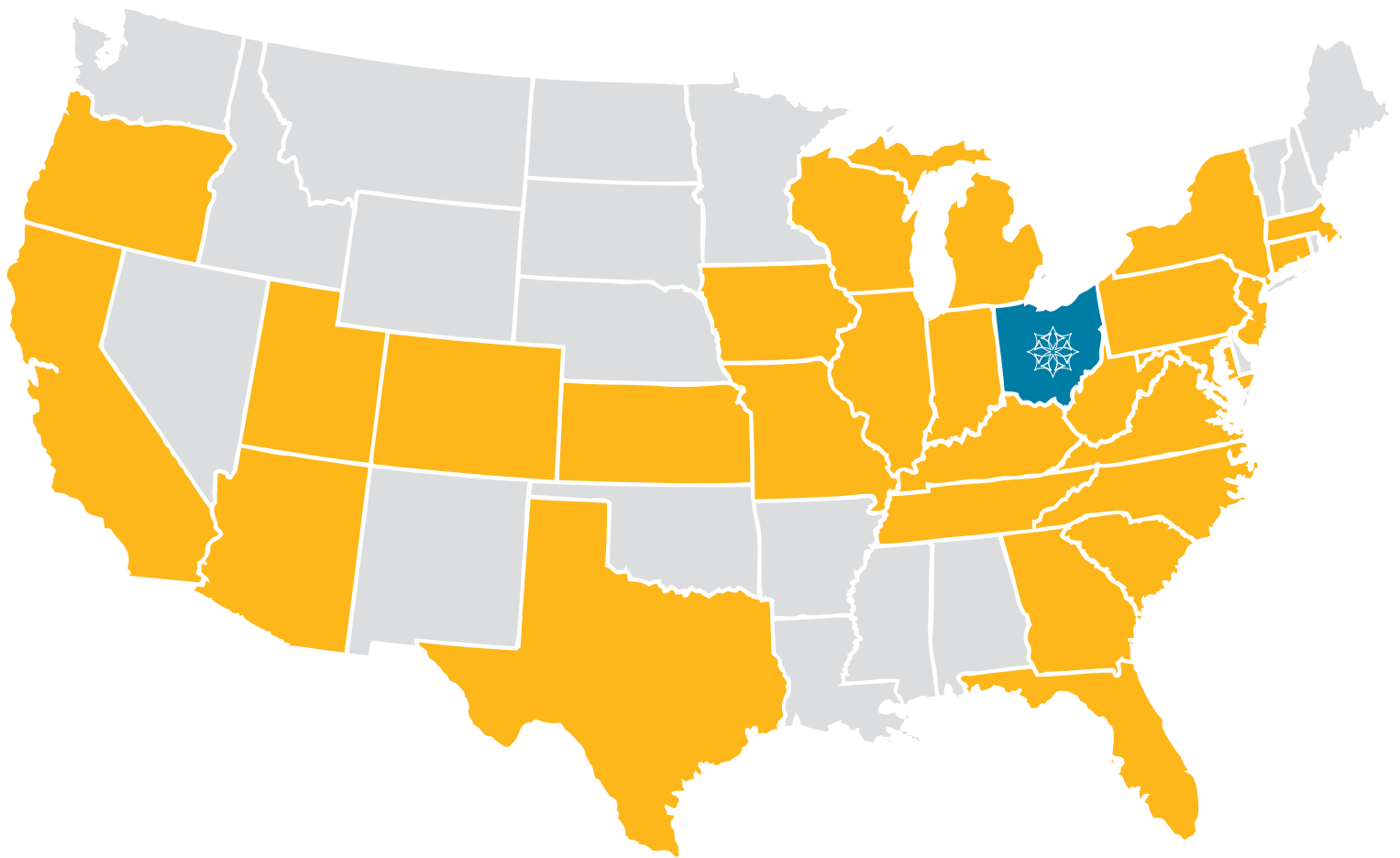
Track Most Interested in



Healthcare at the Intersection of Race, Gender Identity, Sexual Orientation - 207
More than a Spectrum: A Deeper Look into LGBTQ+ Communities - 61
Trauma and Self Care - 48
Health, Wellness, and Poverty - 47
The Race and Class of HIV - 39
Young and Queer - 23
Lifelong Wellness - 22
Spirituality and the Medical Model - 18
Living With Disability. Worthy of Health - 16
Translation and Interpretation in Health and Wellness Settings - 10



ATTENDING FROM:



USA - 406

- Arizona - 2
- California - 2
- Colorado - 1
- Florida - 4
- Illinois - 2
- Indiana - 7
- Iowa - 2
- Kansas - 1

- Kentucky - 9
- Maryland - 1
- Michigan - 11
- Minnesota - 1
- New Jersey - 2
- New York - 5
- North Carolina - 1
- Ohio - 309
- Oregon - 2

- Pennsylvania - 7
- South Carolina - 1
- Tennessee - 1
- Texas - 1
- Utah - 1
- Virginia - 1
- Washington D.C. - 2
- West Virginia - 1
- No Answer - 86



The 2019 Transforming Care Conference featured, for the third year in a row, an optional conference app (Whova) to effectively replace a physical conference booklet. Conference books were made available for accessibility and convenience purposes, with printing thanks to Grainge Insurance. The Whova app allows conference staff to connect with attendees before and throughout the conference. Further, it allows attendees to be more productive at events, for example, browsing the event booklet, setting their own personalized schedule, network and connect with fellow conference goers and presenters, and contacting the event organizers with questions or comments. Of our 583 attendees, 440 (75%) downloaded and used the Whova app. Further, 88% of those 440 users found it to be useful.

Network Activities



232
profile views

20
messages

2,180
contact info exchanged

Photos



75
photos shared

Downloads



440 (75%)
of 583 attendees

Love Whova



88%
found Whova useful

Sponsors



18,443
total sponsorship impressions

Event Community Board



433 messages
158 active members

Agenda



7,035
total session views

Announcements



36 announcements
83% open rate

Check-ins



371 checked-in
194 not checked-in
371 checked-in through app

Agenda Webpage



3,223
views

Documents



7 documents viewed
217 individual views



The Transforming Care Awards

We were excited to offer an opportunity to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the health and wellness of the LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS community through the Transforming Care Awards. With awards in six different categories, we recognized individuals across the spectrum of care from providers to advocates. Winners of the awards were announced at the Transforming Care Awards Lunch on October 18, 2019. The award ceremony would not have been possible without the generous support of GILEAD Sciences.

The Lunch ceremony was the first of its kind in the history of the Transforming Care Conference. In addition to lunch, the ceremony featured a number of performances, including dance and spoken word by Myko Glaze, Landis Davis, and Kenneth Eaddy, and drumming by Sistah Ngoma which set the stage for the awards to be announced thereafter.

Medical Provider

This award will recognize any medical provider including nurses, physicians, pharmacists, etc. who provide exceptional LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS culturally competent healthcare.

Nominees:

- Dr. Andrew Keaster
- Dr. Kara Malone
- Dr. Christopher David McClung
- Phil Pauvlinch (PharmD)
- Dr. Brandon Pollak
- Mimi Rivard, CNP
- Jessica Sherman, APRN-CNP
- Sarah Pickle, MD

Winner: Dr. Sarah Pickle

Dr. Sarah Pickle is an Associate Professor of Family Medicine in the Department of Family Medicine and Community Medicine at University of Cincinnati College of Medicine. In her current role, Dr. Pickle provides comprehensive primary care, reproductive, sexual, and gender healthcare at University of Cincinnati. Dr. Pickle's areas of interest include transgender medicine, sexual health, family planning and reproductive justice. She is also passionate about training the next

generation of health care providers in best practices to affirm patients' expressions of gender and sexuality, and is part of multiple efforts at UC College of Medicine to expand gender diverse learning and address health disparities within LGBTQ+ communities. When she is not teaching or providing patient care, Dr. Pickle serves on the Board of the Cincinnati Sexual Health Consortium, a community nonprofit aiming to improve patient care in the area of sexual health. And maybe her most important job, she is a mom to two great kids.

Social Service Provider

This award will recognize any social service provider including social workers, counselors, etc. who overcomes racial, economic, ability, and language barriers to provide radically inclusive LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS healthcare

Nominees:

- Lucy Campbell
- Emily Clark
- Evelyn Heflin
- Jessica Homan
- Ann Hurst
- Elijah Johnson
- Abigail McAtee, LSW
- Ria Megnin
- Christina Reed
- Erin Upchurch
- Holly Watt
- Trisha Pound

Winner: Trisha Pound, MSW, LISW-S

Trisha started her social work career right out of high school by serving two years in her local Americorps Chapter. She earned an Associate's Degree in Human Services from Central Ohio Technical College, a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from Capital University, and a Master's Degree in Clinical Social Work from Ohio University in Athens. She is currently a clinical supervisor for Equitas Health's Newark location, an Independent Contract Supervisor for The Main Place, and the Founder of the Newark Ohio Pride Coalition. She also currently volunteers for NOPC, The LOSS Team, and The YES Club of Mental Health America of Licking County. She has instructed various higher education courses at The Ohio State University College of Social Work, Capital University, Zane State College, and Central Ohio Technical College.

Last year, Trisha received Mental Health Professional of the Year award by MHA of Licking County and was also named one of Licking County's top 20 under 40 young leaders by Licking County Chamber of Commerce and The Newark Advocate, the city's local newspaper. With the help of a small group of dedicated volunteers, Trisha successfully organized and managed Newark's first pride event in June 2018. Energy and enthusiasm from the festival's success inspired Trisha to form a board of directors and establish an official 501(3)(c). She has raised over \$30,000 for the nonprofit organization and continues to educate and raise awareness on the importance of increased inclusion and equity in her community.



Community Advocate

This award will recognize any community advocate including activists, community organizers, volunteers, etc. who passionately support issues that are important to the LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS community.

Nominees:

- Skyler Blankenship
- Olga Irwin
- Tracy Johnson
- Lena Tenney
- Robert Gregory Lucas
- Briden Schueren
- Gwen Stenbridge
- Dakevineon Wardlaw

Winner: Lena Tenney

Mx.(pronounced “mix”) Lena Tenney is Coordinator of Public Engagement for the Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity at The Ohio State University. They direct the facilitation portfolio of the Race and Cognition Program, which includes traveling around the nation to facilitate trainings about implicit bias, structural racism, being an active bystander, and whiteness. During their time at Kirwan, Lena has facilitated over 170 sessions reaching more than 12,000 participants in 17 states. Lena is a co-creator of three free, publicly available online learning platforms geared toward addressing implicit bias in K-12 education, child welfare, and healthcare.

Lena is a co-founder of two grassroots community activist groups that have sought

to ensure legal protections for and institutional inclusion of LGBTQ individuals at the municipal and campus levels. Lena guided The Ohio State University to incorporate pronouns and honorifics into its standard branding for email signatures and business cards, and collaborated with others to add geo-tagged locations of all gender-inclusive restrooms and lactation rooms on campus to the official OSU app. They previously served on Ohio State’s LGBTQ Student Success Task Force and currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for TransOhio. Lena holds a Masters of Education and a Masters of Public Administration from the University of Oklahoma, as well as a Bachelors of Arts in Religious Studies and History.

Trailblazer

This award will recognize an individual who has shown life-long dedication to the health and wellness of the LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS community.

Nominees:

- Jody Davis
- A.S. Green
- Tracy Johnson
- Luster Singleton
- Francesca Schumann

Winner: Luster Singleton

If you talk to LuSter about their achievements and impact on the community you will find that they are extremely uncomfortable and reluctant to, as they would say, “really go into all of that.” They’d say the work is really something we all have the power to do – “I’m just doing what’s in my blood.” Their Great grandmother Florence Elizabeth Ferris Adams was a local SNCC and SCLC organizer and agitator on behalf of the Civil Rights movement during the 40’s, 50s, 60s and 70s. Both their paternal (Bonnie Means) and maternal (Alberta Williams) grandmothers were community leaders, involved in the NAACP, Christian women’s leagues and legislative lobbying. Their parents were deeply involved in civic action and were related by blood to the ministers of both the leading Baptist and AME churches in Zanesville. LuSter says with some exasperation, “I am also a Libra... what

choice did I have? I had to champion for what was...is right and just.” LuSter’s passion for creating space that allows people to truly be is evident in this sampling of what their creative vision, passion, tenacity and willingness to be vulnerable has borne, an impressive list of queer programs, celebrations and positive impact in the community.

To name just a few of Luster’s creative/ visionary accomplishments:

- co-founder of the OSU Women’s Studies Graduate Association
- creative visionary & co-producer of H.I.S.KINGS drag king troupe 1992-1999
- co-founder/producer of the International Drag King Extravaganza (4 day conference centering female masculinity/ drag kinging/art as protest & resistance
- 2016 Host Emcee World Pride Toronto



Winner: Luster Singleton (cont)

During their tenure as The Coordinator of Gay Lesbian Bisexual Student Services (GLBSS) they

- orchestrated the adding of the 'T' to the GLB - SS
- fostered SHADES (queer under graduate student of color LGBT group)
- fostered RAINBOW GRADUATION (which just celebrated 20 years)
- Come Out! Come Out! National Coming Out Day Event
- Co-founder Diversity of Ohio and Diversity of OSU organizing for QPOC inclusion
- Creative visionary and co-founder of internationally celebrated H.I.S. Kings drag king troupe
- Co-founder of the International Drag King Extravaganza (IDKE)
- Creative director and show producer of several gender expansive productions, touring shows
- 2000 OSU Distinguished Award in Multiculturalism
- 2015 Harry Denman for National Excellence in Evangelism Award

They are featured in several videos, films and documentaries, such as 2004 Drag Kings on Tour, 2008 A Drag King Extravaganza, and 2016 Kings, Queens and In-Betweens. LuSter is a much sought after commentator and keynote speaker on the intersections of mass popular culture, community responsibility, gender-full justice and isms. Their seemingly tireless campaign for the rights of the marginalized... their willingness to literally put themselves on the line, to not only speak up and speak out but to actually do the work of carrying light into dark spaces, is frankly mind boggling. This year alone they were honored as the

- 2019 Equality Ohio Advocate of the Year
- 2019 The ADVOCATE's Champions of Pride Nation's Top 100 LGBT

It is clear that Luster Singleton loves their community.



Emerging Leader

This award will recognize a young professional, student, activists, or individual new to the field who has made a significant contribution to LGBTQ+ or HIV/AIDS health and wellness.

Nominees:

- Skyler Blankenship
- Gregory Price
- Timothy Bussey
- Lutful Karim Raafi
- Lena Tenney

Winner: Timothy Bussey

Timothy R. Bussey, Ph.D. is the Assistant Director for the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Kenyon College in Gambier, Ohio. During the fall semester, he also serves as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Women's and Gender Studies, where he teaches Kenyon College's first permanent queer studies course. Timothy also serves as the Acting Operational Director of the Newark Ohio Pride Coalition in Newark, Ohio, where he lives.

Originally, from the Deep South, Timothy's passion for politics led him to complete his Ph.D. in political science at the University of Connecticut, where his dissertation project focused on the history of LGBTQ exclusion from the American military and intelligence communities from World War I to present. Broadly speaking, Timothy is interested in intersectional and collaborative equity-based work in both healthcare and educational settings.



Organization Champion

This award will recognize a business, nonprofit, or other entity that has significantly contributed to structural change in the area of LGBTQ+ health and wellness.

Nominees:

- Adolescent Health Initiative at the University of Michigan (Azzia Roberts was specifically named in the nomination)
- Clintonville Counseling and Wellness
- The Dirt Advocacy Movement
- Kaleidoscope Youth Center
- Equitas Health Institute (Dominic Ali was specifically named in this nomination.)
- Silence Shoot (Matthew Pruitt was specifically named in this nomination.)

Winner: Kaleidoscope Youth Center

Established in 1994, Kaleidoscope Youth Center (KYC) is the largest and longest standing organization serving LGBTQIA+ young people in the state of Ohio. KYC works in partnership with youth to create safer and affirming spaces for young people through their drop-in center, community education and outreach, advocacy and civic engagement, and in health, wellness, and housing opportunities. In their 25 year history, they've supported over 12,500 unique youth in their drop-in center, and served thousands more across the state through

the Ohio GSA Network. Since 2018, they've doubled in size, tripled the amount of Statewide trainings, expanded services to include ages 12 - 24, developed their first youth-led Community Advisory Board, and have built the first and only case management and housing programs that center the needs of LGBTQIA+ youth.

Accepting on behalf of KYC was their Executive Director Erin Upchurch, who has over 20 years of experience working with youth and families. As a social worker and advocate, Erin has dedicated her life to supporting under served and marginalized communities.





The purpose of the Wellness Fair is to connect people living with HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ+ community members with health and social service providers who offer HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ+ centered care. Attendees had the opportunity to meet with providers and community based organizations, obtain health and wellness screenings, vaccinations, referrals, and network. The opportunity to table at this event is free.

The following entities utilized tables at the Wellness Fair:

- Equitas Health
 - Pharmacy
 - Prevention
 - Advocacy
 - King-Lincoln Medical Center
 - Dental
- The James—The Ohio State University Comprehensive Care Center (OSUCCC - James)
- Universal Hands
- Medical Mutual
- PFLAG
- Syntero
- Lifecare Alliance
- Columbus Public Health
- Columbus Speech and Hearing
- Affirmations
- PrescribeFIT
- Cancer Support Community
- TransOhio
- Center for Family Safety and Healing
- Gil Kudrin, Nightsweats and T-Cells
- BRAVO
- Huckleberry House
- Cincy Children's
- Franklin County Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors
- Clintonville Counseling and Wellness
- GLSEN Columbus
- Global One Health Initiative





The 2019 Transforming Care Conference Objectives were:

1. Identify the differences and challenges of providing nuanced HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ+ centered care that are relevant and accessible to each patient's/client's race, ethnicity, class, spirituality, age, ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
2. Develop skills to increase positive health outcomes in LGBTQ+/PLWH of all races, ethnicities, classes, spiritualities, ages, abilities, sexual orientations, and gender identities.
3. Implement inclusive practices to eliminate or reduce health disparities in the LGBTQ+ and People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH) communities.

In the overall conference evaluation, attendees who completed the survey (n=30) indicated that:

How would you rate the overall quality of the conference?

Excellent	60%
Good	36.7%
Neither Good/Poor	3.3%
Poor	0%
Very Poor	0%

On a scale between 1 and 5, 1 being "Very Unsatisfactory" and 5 being "Extremely Satisfactory," how would you rate the...

Registration Process?

Rated 1	6.7%
Rated 2	6.7%
Rated 3	20%
Rated 4	40%
Rated 5	26.7%

Conference Materials

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	0%
Rated 3	13.3%
Rated 4	53.3%
Rated 5	33.3%

Speaker Selection & Quality

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	0%
Rated 3	6.7%
Rated 4	33.3%
Rated 5	60%

Conference Content

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	3.3%
Rated 3	6.7%
Rated 4	36.7%
Rated 5	53.3%

Conference Facilities

Rated 1	3.3%
Rated 2	3.3%
Rated 3	13.3%
Rated 4	30%
Rated 5	50%

Conference Organization

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	3.3%
Rated 3	3.3%
Rated 4	63.3%
Rated 5	30%

Conference staff were helpful and courteous

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	0%
Rated 3	10%
Rated 4	23.3%
Rated 5	66.7%

Content of sessions was relevant

Rated 1	0%
Rated 2	0%
Rated 3	6.7%
Rated 4	30%
Rated 5	63.3%



Do you plan to attend this conference again next year?

Yes	66.7%
No	0%
Maybe	33.3%

Would you recommend this conference to others?

Yes	93.3%
No	0%
Maybe	6.7%

How would you rate this conference compared to others of this type that you have attended?

Better	43.3%
About the same	20%
Worse	3.3%
Have not attended similar conferences	33.3%

These overwhelmingly positive ratings indicate that the Transforming Care Conference accomplished its desired outcomes. Some of the above ratings were on par with the 2018 conference, which had positive ratings. However, some of the difference may be accounted for in the number of folk who completed the post-conference survey. The means of collecting the overall conference surveys this year differ from last year in that, like the per-session evaluations, we pushed it out through the app (with paper copies available). However, the low-response rate suggests that this may not be as effective for the overall conference evaluation. We do, however, offer a closing and evaluation session at every instance of the conference at which people can provide immediate feedback, and many attendees of this session may have not filled out the survey due to the two means of feedback covering similar content.

It was noted during our closing evaluation that the changes we've previously implemented as a result of direct feedback was incredibly apparent.

What change(s) in practice do you intend to implement into you work or community as a result of this conference?

From the answers provided to this question, the following themes and categories were gleaned:

- Being more mindful/considerate/reflective
- Acting with intention pertaining to positive care for the LGBTQ+ and PLWH communities
- Increasing diversity
- Improving organizational infrastructure (intake forms, trainings)
- Use of more inclusive language
- Use of privilege to promote equity
- Include stimulating activities (play doh, markers, etc) for patients/clients

What part(s) of the conference should be changed to improve learning?

From the answers provided to this question, the following themes and categories were gleaned:

- CEU process
- Registration Process (slow/congested)
 - Do not open it right after Labor Day
- Better survey evaluation needed
- Accessibility (closed captioning in videos, more slide deck availability, emphasize importance of microphone usage, increased ASL interpretation if conference is being promoted as deaf-inclusive)
- Clearer signage
- Round table session for providers
- More distributed materials for later use/reading
- More room/space, bigger facility
- More diversity in presenters, fewer cisgender/straight/white presenters
 - Cultural Diversity presentation should be by PoC
- Mix breakouts for consumer-based stuff
- Repeat some more popular sessions, two-part sessions



- Lunch process, better dietary accommodation, better signage
- Not enough refreshments throughout the day
- Offering longer sessions
- Not putting breakout sessions in the theater
- Healthcare professional-specific information/subject matter
- Timekeeping
- Review presentations prior to conference
- Standardize PowerPoint formats for presentations
- Time specifically for Q&A built into sessions
- Trigger warnings for heavier subject matter
- Provide notepads/paper for attendees
- Expand to 3 days
- Pharmacy CE's
- Add volunteer recognition award
- U=U session
- Increase focus in Appalachian culture and accessibility
- HIV test counselor training
- MI training as Full day institutes
- Dance performances need bigger stage/space
- Increase supportive tools to help folks construct abstracts

What topics or speakers would you like to see at next year's conference?

From the answers provided to this question, the following themes and categories were gleaned:

- Continue Elevate Your Voice
- Mark Byrd for a plenary speaker
- Mental health
- Religion
- Rural communities
- Implement agency changes when not in management
- LGBTQ+ Elders
- Self-care
- Motivational/impactful keynotes
- Drug use
- Disability Justice
- HIV mortality
- LGBTQ+ and the Black Church
- Adrienne Erby as a plenary
- Scott Leibowitz as a plenary
- HIV/PrEP – nuanced presentation, cure research
- Timothy Ray Brown
- Laverne Cox
- Consumer-driven presentations
- STIs
- Long-term HIV/AIDS survivors
- Pre-Forum Sessions
- SGM cancer disparities
- Organ donation for patient population



We are approaching the need to move to a bigger venue. There are many considerations involved in moving the conference. Please check the box of the implications that you are *willing* to accept to move to a bigger venue. Note, we are exploring many options, and will communicate any changes in the future.

From the answers provided by 50 respondents to this question, the following themes and categories were gleaned:

- Increase in Registration Fee (21)
- Inclusion of a Parking Fee (24)
- Moving the Conference to a Different Time of Year (43)
- Moving the Conference to Another City (16)
- Any other thoughts about a possible venue change? (21)
 - Cleveland
 - Don't schedule too close to the Philadelphia Trans Wellness conference
 - Don't schedule too close to Pride for possible conflicts
 - Keep same venue (2)
 - Host in summer for accessibility for educators (2)
 - Keep in Central Ohio (3)
 - Keep prices accessible to the community (3)
 - OSU Newark, multiple buildings
 - Keep close, free parking
 - Keep staff spots for attendance
 - "Kalahari Convention Center, located in Sandusky, Ohio. Central location between Toledo, Cleveland, and Columbus."
 - "Look at retreat centers around Ohio. Make it a Summer Weekend Camping Event at a State Park."
 - "More seating that accommodates those with ample hips and backside. :D"
 - "The Blackwell"
 - "The convention center would be such a better venue for a multitude of reasons: it's bigger; it's newer; it's closer to higher quality hotels for out of towners; it's closer to more restaurants; closer to more shopping; closer to more nightlife; it would be better for local business; it encourages future tourism to the city from attendees"

Please provide any additional feedback | 50 respondents:

- Overall Positive Conference experience (11)
- Positive experience with conference staff (2)
- Positive response to conference theme (1)
- Lunches need improvement (2)
- Positive responses to awards ceremony (2)
- Positive responses to respite room (1)
- Accessibility needs
 - Deaf/hard of hearing, closed-captioning for videos (1)
- More diversity of presenters (1)
- Acknowledgement of privilege and how it impacts presentations (1)
- Trigger warnings for presentations (1)
- Fact sheet with training information
- Venue change suggested (2)
- Evaluation results should be sent to guest speakers and presenters (1)
- Positive response to Elevate Your Voice (1)
- Further exploration of policy and research sessions (1)
- Suggested adjustment to length of presentations (1)



Transforming Care

Conference on LGBTQ+ and HIV Health Equity

Closing Comments

The previous three years of the Transforming Care Conference set an incredible precedent for the 2019 conference, but with the help of many along the way, we have once again created an excellent conference comprised of compelling content, engaging speakers, and an overarching sense of community amongst care providers and the populations they serve. Already, we find ourselves planning for our 2020 conference. Through incorporating feedback from staff and attendees alike, we are confident that our conference, through promoting health equity for the LGBTQ+ community and for people living with HIV, will continue to live up to its name and *truly transform care*.

We hope to see you again at...



Transforming Care

Conference on LGBTQ+ and HIV Health Equity

October 13-15, 2020

