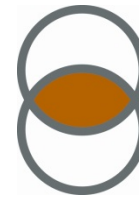




NATIONAL LGBT HEALTH
EDUCATION CENTER

A PROGRAM OF THE FENWAY INSTITUTE



FAMILY
EQUALITY
COUNCIL



LGBT FAMILIES: IMPROVING ACCESS TO BETTER HEALTH CARE

April 9, 2014

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How Providers Can Provide Inclusive, Culturally Competent
Care to all Families

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CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION DISCLOSURE

- Program Faculty: Michael Porcello, Esq
- Current Position: Legislative Counsel, Family Equality Council
- Disclosure: No relevant financial relationships. Content of presentation contains no use of unlabeled and/or investigational uses of products.

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LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this webinar, participants will be able to:

1. Describe the types and characteristics of LGBT families in the U.S.
2. Identify issues that affect access to health care for LGBT families, including the Affordable Care Act
3. Explain ways that health care organizations and providers can help ensure better quality and better access to care for LGBT families



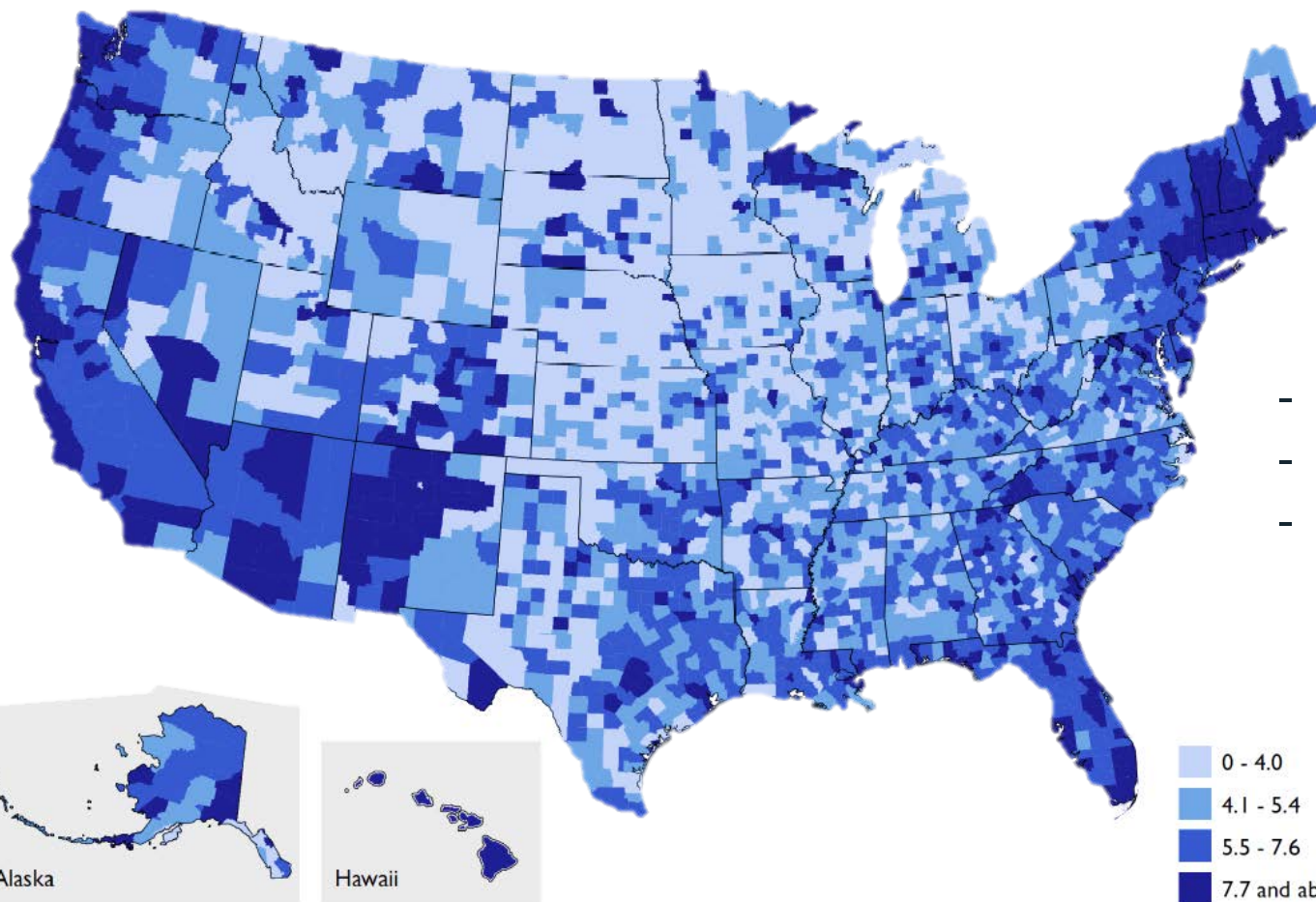
WHO ARE LGBTQ FAMILIES?

- 152,000 same-sex spouses
 - 70,000 with legally-recognized marriages
 - 90,000 with non-marital legal recognition
- 429,179 unmarried partners

Gates, 2009.

- **Of Note:** Presidential memo on visitation and inclusive definition of “family”

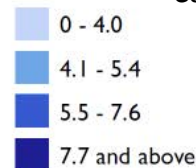
SAME-SEX COUPLES PER 1000 HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTY: 2010 CENSUS



Living in:

- 93% of counties
- 100% of states
- Rural, suburban, and urban areas

Retrieved from *United States – Census Snapshot 2010* by Gary Gates and The Williams Institute, September 2011



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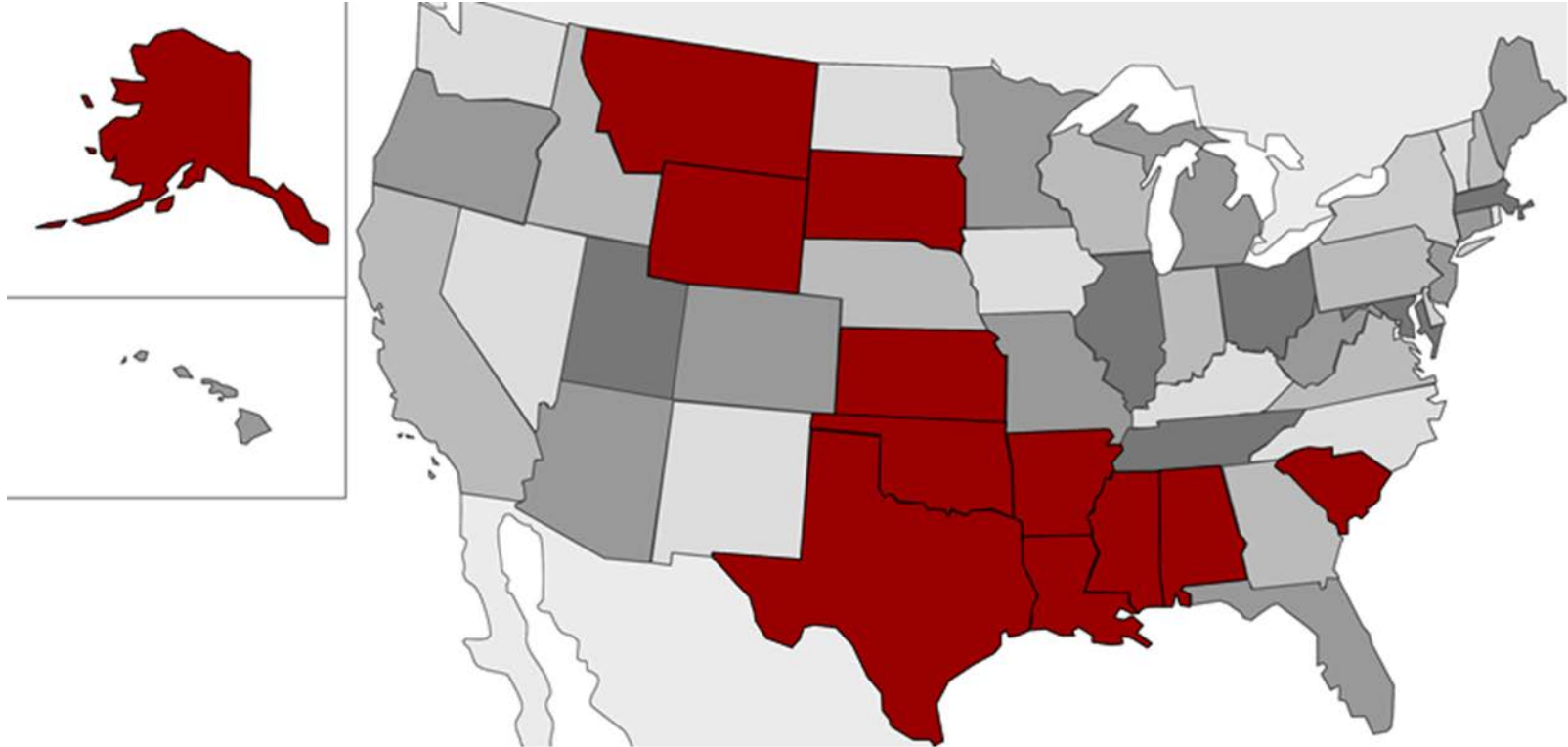
LGBTQ COUPLES RAISING CHILDREN

- 3 million LGBTQ parents raising or having raised 6 million kids
- 19% of same-sex **couples** are raising children
 - 73% of these are biological children; 21% are adopted or stepchildren
- Same-sex couple parents and their children are more likely to be racial and ethnic minorities

US Census and ACS data



THE HIGHEST PROPORTION OF LGBTQ ADULTS RAISING CHILDREN IS IN THE TEN STATES IN RED:



MAP, FEC, CAP, 2011

WHAT MAKES A FAMILY?

- *U.S. v. Windsor* & Defense of Marriage Act
 - Struck down federal definition of marriage
- 2010-2011 Presidential Memo on Hospital Visitation
 - Patients determine visitor access in any hospital receiving Medicaid or Medicare funding
 - Followed by Health & Human Services Regulation
 - Focused on couples, **not children**

WHAT MAKES A FAMILY?

- Two same-sex parents raising two kids
 - Couples conceiving through donor
 - Relative sperm donor
 - Anonymous sperm donor
 - Surrogate with egg donor and one partner's sperm



Joint Parent
Adoption

Second Parent
Adoption

WHAT MAKES A FAMILY?

- 1 LGBT Parent with children
- Foster Parents
- Blended families with children from previous relationship
- Families with trans parents or children



Foster
Parenting

Stepparent
Recognition

WHAT DOES ADOPTION ENSURE?

- Ensures parents' rights to make medical decisions for children at a doctor's office, hospital, or during an emergency
- Allows child to access employee and governmental healthcare benefits, programs and services through both parents
- Protects both parents and child from being kept apart in the event of hospitalization



v.



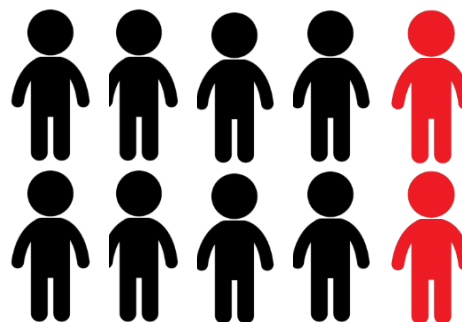


LGBTQ FAMILIES AND POVERTY

15% of gay couples and 24% lesbian couples in live in poverty



1 in 10 of all U.S. children live in poverty



1 in 5 of U.S. children raised by a same-sex parent live in poverty

Albelda et al, 2009, The Williams Institute



RESEARCH ON CHILDREN WITH SAME-SEX PARENTS

- Same-sex parents more likely to volunteer at school (67% v. 42% of all parents)
 - More participation in PTAs (41% v. 26% of all)
- 40% of children harassed by kids
 - 23% by other parents
 - 15% by teachers or staff
- 23% of children felt unsafe at school because of parents because LGBT

Kosciw et al, 2011, GLSEN



RESEARCH ON CHILDREN WITH SAME-SEX PARENTS

- Children of LGBT parents experience heightened rates of teasing and bullying because their parents are LGBT, but the children are resilient
- However, according to the **American Academy of Pediatrics** and many other professional associations of pediatricians and scientists, children with same-sex parents have the same social, behavioral, and cognitive outcomes as children with heterosexual parents.
 - Do not report no higher rates of depression, anxiety, stress, etc.

Kosciw et al, 2011, GLSEN



DISCRIMINATION & HEALTHCARE: TRANSGENDER PATIENTS

- 19% refused healthcare
- 28% faced discriminatory treatment in doctor's office
- 90% said doctors in area lacked cultural competency to care for trans patients
- 50% report having to teach provider about health needs and services

Grant et al, 2010, National
Transgender Discrimination
Survey Report



DISCRIMINATION & HEALTHCARE: LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL PATIENTS

- 8% refused healthcare
- 50% said doctors in area lacked cultural competency to care for LGB patients
- If not seeking healthcare insurance as a family, LGBTQ families spend \$3100 more
- Same sex couples are 2 to 3 times more likely to not have health insurance than their heterosexual counterparts

Grant et al, 2010, National
Transgender Discrimination
Survey Report

LGBTQ FAMILIES AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

- Prohibits discrimination in the exchange, but not necessarily by providers
- LGBTQ Partners and Families are covered
 - Includes marriage, civil unions, domestic partners
- No exclusion for being transgender, but coverage of trans health needs not required
 - Majority of employer plans also provide limited to no trans healthcare coverage

HRC'S HEALTHCARE EQUALITY INDEX'S "CORE FOUR" PRACTICES

1. Patient Non-Discrimination
2. Equal Visitation
3. Employment Non-Discrimination
4. Training in LGBTQ Patient-Centered Care

BEST PRACTICES – APA

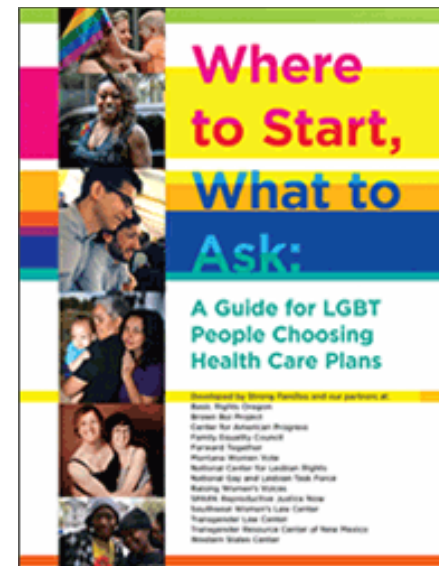
- Educating staff to foster inclusive behaviors toward LGBTQ families
- Addressing harassment and intolerance of patients and families by medical and support staff, as well as other patients
- Developing program policies that recognize the needs of LGBT patients and their families
- Acknowledging the emotional and sexual lives of LGBT patients

BEST PRACTICES

- Allow for different family structures on registration forms
- Encourage completing advance directives

RESOURCES

- What to Start, What to Ask
 - <http://strongfamiliesmovement.org/lgbt-health-care-guide>
- The Affordable Care Act and LGBT Families: Everything You Need to Know
 - www.familyequality.org/_asset/5gqpft/FEC-CAP-LGBT-ACA-Families-Guide.pdf
- SAMHSA LGBT Healthcare Kit
 - http://www.familyequality.org/_asset/bg19d2/Top-Health-Issues-for-LGBT-Populations-Information--Resource-Kit.pdf



RESOURCES

Webinar “on demand”: Creating Inclusive Health Care Environments for LGBT Patients and Staff



<http://www.lgbthealtheducation.org/training/on-demand-webinars/>