



2013 Annual Report

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AskFORGE@forge-forward.org



**Vice President
Joe Biden said
transgender
discrimination is
"the civil rights
issue of our
time."**

"Once I saw that I was not only accepted, but supported, I felt like I could exhale for the first time in a month. It was a gift to have this safe place where I did not have to worry about anybody's judgment, and I was among people who had some level of deeper understanding of who [my trans loved one] was. It has become one of my safe places."

"Thanks much for all your hard work and encouraging manner of support for service providers! I really love these webinars because they provide ongoing education that I could not acquire without your cutting edge work and this free-to-user webinar resource. It makes all the difference in my work in providing the much needed support and technical assistance for service providers in making health and human services accessible for ALL folks in need."

"I have a pebble on my desk at work (I work in primary health care as an RN). The pebble is the one posted to me when I was in the last writing to heal group. I pick it up often just to connect."

"I wanted to say your words were with me many times over the past days. Thank you for your sincere compassion."

"I wrote you a long letter last week about how much I appreciated the webinar and the fact that someone is doing really great work in this subject area and intersection. I'm a person with disabilities and I'm queer, and I've been really looking for anything out there that acknowledges how important it is to recognize marginalized communities within other marginalized communities. I also really appreciated the trauma informed and compassionate approach that you all took to this topic. I'm looking forward to connecting in the future. Thanks again so much for having this webinar."

"Thank you for everything you provide for the community – you have a truly healing presence and energy about you that makes a world of difference to the people you work with."

"Thank you. One of the best webinars I've ever participated in. You have a gift of bringing together fragmented pieces of knowledge into an amazing and coherent whole. Re-energized me to keep doing the work!"

Snapshot

We've come a long way in 20 years! (p1)

As FORGE celebrates its 20-year anniversary in 2014, we recognize the stunning progress that has occurred both on a global level and within our organization.

20 years ago, Americans knew about transgender people through the sensationalistic and stigmatizing frame of daytime talk shows, and an occasional news story. Today -- literally every day -- there are positive portrayals of transgender individuals in the media - from the Rolling Stones article on 6 year old Coy Mathis; to Janet Mock and Laverne Cox who are able to bring critical messages to the masses; to Chaz Bono on Dancing with the Stars; and to countless activists like Mara Keisling, Masen Davis, Harper Jean Tobin, Kellan Baker, Lisa Mottet, Diego Sanchez, Kylar Broadus, Bamby Salcedo, and so many more who work every day to increase the rights of trans and gender non-conforming people through policy and tireless advocacy.

FORGE has come a long way too. Starting 20 years ago as a support group for those in the FTM+ sphere and SOFFAs (Significant Others, Friends, Family and Allies) in the Milwaukee/Chicago area, we have grown...

- from a 100% volunteer-run organization to one that is 100% funded with two full time staff, a cadre of consultants, and key partner agencies across the country;

Snapshot

We've come a long way in 20 years! (p2)

- from a trans-masculine-focus to one that addresses all gender identities within the diverse trans/gender non-conforming (GNC) community;
- from working completely with and for trans/GNC/SOFFA individuals/communities to expanding our energies and efforts to serving providers and professionals who work with and for our community;
- from scrambling to scrape together resources/referrals one person at a time to helping shape policy on a national level;
- from adhering to the rules and restrictions enforced by others to creating a vision for the future, an agenda with clear goals, objectives, and strategies that empower, heal and connect us.

We are proud we have been part of the past 20 years of support, education, and advocacy.

There is still much work yet to be done to ensure that transgender/gender non-conforming individuals and loved ones have equal access to services and support; are not pathologized, stigmatized, or victimized because of their gender identity or expression; and are able to live healthy lives filled with respect, dignity, and love.

We are committed to continue working towards these goals.... because all of our lives matter.

Snapshot

Staff, Board & Consultants

Staff:



michael munson
Executive Director



Loree Cook-Daniels
Policy and Program Director

Board:

Karen Taylor, Chair

Mul K. Kim, Esq

K. Abel Knochel, PhD, MSW, LCSW

Shannon Price Minter, Esq.

Barbara Richards

Neela R. Taub

michael munson (non-voting)

Loree Cook-Daniels (non-voting)

Key Consultants:

Dan Brophy, Lori Saquer, Jody Strupp - Reilly, Penner & Benton, LLP

lore m. dickey, PhD

Eli R. Green, MA, MEd

Georgia Henry

LeAnn Locher & Associates

Dan Mouer

Mia Nakano Photography

Dawn Sword - Serendipity Creative, LLC

Mary Woodruff

Kris Bein - IowaCASA

Chris Daley, Esq. - Just Detention International

Bamby Salcedo - Trans-Latin@ Coalition

Valerie Spencer

Snapshot

Funding

We are grateful for the continued support of funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, in addition to key foundations and generous individual donors. Since 2009, FORGE staff and most project-specific operating expenses have been 100% supported through federal funds. We continue to appreciate the supplementary funds that allow us to fill local service gaps and initiatives, as well as to enable federal policy work that is not allowed under our federal grants.

Federal funders and subcontracts

Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime
Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women

National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, Office on Violence Against Women [Consultant]

National Resource Center on LGBT Aging,
Administration for Community Living [Consultant]

Foundations & Corporate Donors

Cream City Foundation

BMO Harris Bank

Birch Lodge Fund

Individual Donors

Bart and Celeste Munson

Multiple anonymous individual donors

Snapshot

2013 Profit and Loss

Income:

Donations	\$36,415.19
Grant Income	\$240,198.19
Services	\$2,435.01
Total Income	\$ 279,048.39

Expense:

Bank Charges	\$1,283.36
Conference	\$4,554.50
Consultants	\$11,870.38
Dues, Subscriptions & Training	\$6,337.83
Insurance	\$2,607.39
Donations to other organizations	\$962.00
Nutritional Incentives	\$711.94
Payroll Wages and Taxes Expenses	\$169,050.09
Pension & Healthcare	\$37,028.11
Postage & Printing	\$759.68
Space Rental & Lease	\$8,512.83
Supplies & Equipment	\$14,165.47
Taxes & Licenses	\$414.87
Travel	\$15,401.76
Utilities	\$ 5,464.44
Total Expenses	\$278,123.65

Mission

FORGE is a progressive organization whose mission is to support, educate and advocate for the rights and lives of transgender individuals and SOFFAs (Significant Others, Friends, Family, and Allies). FORGE is dedicated to helping move fragmented communities beyond identity politics and forge a movement that embraces and empowers our diverse complexities.

Snapshot

What we've accomplished

In 2013, we wrapped up projects under two grants awarded in 2009. Here is a quick recap:

Office for Victims of Crime (2009-2013)

- Four demonstration pilot sites (Boulder, CO; Iowa City, IA; Boston, MA; state of Maine) to help bridge the gap between sexual assault service providers and local trans communities
- 1 national survey of sexual assault providers on training needs and current policies/practices (n=310)
- 1 national survey of trans* survivors and loved ones on their knowledge of, willingness to, and barriers in access to post-sexual assault services (n=1005)
- 1 four-region assessment of providers and trans community members to assess attitudes and beliefs around sexual assault service systems and trans communities/individuals (n=189)
- Development of 11 publications (over 450 pages!) in the process of being reformatted into an online toolkit
- 3 webinars for victim service providers
- Technical assistance for providers serving transgender survivors of sexual assault

Office on Violence Against Women: Sexual Assault Services Program (2009 - 2013)

- Direct service to trans and gender non-conforming survivors of sexual assault and loved ones
- Writing to Heal online course for trans survivors of sexual violence and loved ones
- Conferences (specifically to increase knowledge, awareness, and healing for trans survivors of sexual assault and loved ones)
- Informational guides about sexual assault for trans survivors and loved ones

Please see later sections of this report for additional work with transgender survivors of sexual assault, work with victim service providers, transgender aging initiatives, public policy work, as well as Wisconsin-based activities.

Snapshot

Staying Connected



/FORGE.trans

Anti-Violence	+
Trans Aging	+
Wisconsin	+
About Us	+
Trainings & Events	+
Publications & Resources	+
News	+



@FORGEforward

Much of the transgender community (and the rest of the world!) has shifted its communication platforms from email listservs to social media, and FORGE has, too. In 2013, we posted 253 Facebook messages of news articles, profiles of trans people, useful resources, and notifications of FORGE events and services. You can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/FORGE.trans.

We used our Twitter feed almost 1000 times (@FORGEforward) to host Trans 101 chats for victim service providers. In addition, we live-Tweeted important events such as the 2013 Trans 100 celebration, 2013 Creating Change plenary sessions, @TDORUnite's streamed Transgender Day of Remembrance Unite, White House Briefing on the Affordable Care Act and the LGBT Community, and other breaking news. Follow us and contribute to these dialogues!

You may also want to visit our website - like the 58,535 unique visitors who did in 2013. (www.forge-forward.org)

You can always stay connected by email, by joining one of our social marketing email lists. (8,000 other people have!) Sign up at forge-forward.org/about/subscribe/



www.forge-forward.org

Partners and Policy

Collaborations: Working hand in hand



FORGE is actively involved in several key national coalitions that are working to improve the lives of trans people and families. In the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, FORGE co-chairs the Policy Committee, which headed up the effort to eliminate discrimination in Violence Against Women Act-funded services and which is working closely with the Departments of Justice and Health and Human Services to ensure that trans survivors of violence receive the best possible care and services. We are also very active in the New Beginning Initiative (NBI), a coalition of leading national LGBT organizations coordinating policy improvements with the Obama Administration. FORGE provided extensive and detailed consultation on one such effort, a training module for long-term care facility staff on working with LGBT residents, and contributed to numerous comments and policy requests regarding other federal efforts. For instance, we joined the National Center for Transgender Equality, the Transgender Law Center, and the Sylvia Rivera Law Project in filing an amicus brief supporting an effort to get Medicare coverage for gender affirmation surgeries. In another acknowledgement of our leadership, FORGE received an invitation to attend the first-ever meeting of bisexual advocates with White House and Administration officials. We also worked with Just Detention International on their newly released "Hope Behind Bars: An Advocate's Guide to Helping Survivors of Sexual Abuse in Detention."

Partners and Policy

National Resource Center on LGBT Aging



FORGE's Transgender Aging Network received international attention when the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced who would run its groundbreaking National Resource Center on LGBT Aging: we were the only Midwest and the only trans-specific organization among the 14 original partners, lead by SAGE USA. We helped ensure that the consensus national training curricula for aging services providers on LGBT elders and for LGBT organizations on aging issues were truly inclusive of the specific needs and concerns of trans elders and families, and contributed several new publications to the online Resource Center at <http://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/>.

In 2014 we are contributing two webinars that will be available upon request: a Trans Aging 101 and another on Creating Bias-Free Services.

Partners and Policy

Violence Against Women Act



In a move that surprised many advocates (we thought we were laying groundwork for the future), in March 2013 Congress approved an amendment to the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) that explicitly prohibits VAWA-funded services from discriminating against any survivor based on their sexual orientation and/or gender identity (the first such prohibition ever in federal law!).

FORGE is grateful to have continued opportunities to work with OVW-funded agencies to increase their cultural competency to more fully and respectfully serve transgender and gender non-conforming survivors.

Partners and Policy

Federal Policy Involvement



Over the past few years, FORGE has carefully positioned itself to be part of many efforts to influence policies that affect trans people and families, particularly at the federal level. Here are some of the 2013 policy efforts we participated in:

- First ever White House meeting on Bisexual Policy Issues
- Advocates' advisory letter to the Office on Violence Against Women on implementation of the new LGBT non-discrimination law, and public education pieces about the new law
- Review of a training video by the Department of Justice's Community Relations Service on how law enforcement should work with transgender people
- Feedback on new American Psychological Association guidelines on treating transgender people
- Response to media coverage of the transition of Chelsea Manning
- An amicus brief with other leading transgender organizations about the need to remove Medicare's refusal to cover gender affirmation surgeries
- Publicity for new trans-inclusive guidelines in the National Sexual Assault Exam Protocol
- Implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act, particularly as it applies to incarcerated trans people
- Milwaukee police accountability committee
- Joint LGBT letters to various federal agencies concerning:
 - o UN attention to those 50+ living with HIV;
 - o New Victims of Crime Act regulations;
 - o Collection of LGBT identity information in electronic medical records;
 - o LGBT provisions of the Affordable Care Act;
 - o Trans detainee and immigration issues;
 - o The Department of Health and Human Services' strategic plan; and
 - o Efforts to oppose human trafficking.

Wisconsin

Support and Information



Since our inception in 1994, we have held monthly social support and informational meetings. Meetings contain both unstructured time for participant-directed support, as well as a focused topic, presentation, or skills-building activities. Some of the 2013 topics and speakers included:

- Coming out: Breakthrough conversations
- Where did binary sex come from, and where should it go? (Guest speaker: Dr. Cary Costello)
- Trans parenting panel
- Street violence, safety and dealing with the police (Guest speaker: Laura Sette)
- Safe dating (and relationships!)
- Making the most of my time (Guest speaker: Craig Bodoh)
- Trans* Pride
- Federal and State trans* policy advancements (Loree Cook-Daniels and Katie Belanger)
- Films: "The Aggressives" and "A Self-Made Man"

241 people attended monthly meetings (an average of around 20 per meeting), driving in from within Milwaukee, from Madison, Green Bay, Chicago, and the northern tip of Wisconsin and beyond.

We received requests from 98 Wisconsin trans* individuals and loved ones seeking referrals and information. Additionally, we responded to 79 Wisconsin providers who were serving trans* clients and needed additional support or resources.

Wisconsin

Valentine Road



In September we thought we were filling a routine request to be on a Milwaukee Film Festival (MFF) discussion panel after the showing of *Valentine Road*, a documentary about a 14-year-old gender non-conforming California student murdered in class by a peer. After previewing the video, FORGE staff worked with MFF staff to create a set of handouts and in-person support options to help minimize and address possible trauma responses at the documentary's general screenings and those scheduled for students. Several high school students and adults took full advantage of these resources; others left knowing how to access local resources supporting LGBTQ youth.

You can access one of the several handouts we created for the Milwaukee screenings at: <http://forge-forward.org/2013/10/valentine-road-resources-for-viewers/>

The panel discussion following one screening was facilitated by Wisconsin Public Radio's Mitch Teich, with a statement of welcome by Cream City Foundation's Paul Fairchild. Panelists included Syd Robinson, Tina Owen, michael munson, and Loree Cook-Daniels. Educational school screenings were organized by Milwaukee Film Festival staff Cara Ogburn.

The film later aired on HBO and continues to be screened at Film Festivals and in schools across the country.

Wisconsin

Transgender Day of Remembrance



Joining with much of the world, Milwaukee marked the Transgender Day of Remembrance in November 2013. Collaborating with many community partners, we came together to remember, to hold space for memories and emotions, to reflect, and to individually and collectively contribute to a world where violence against trans people and loved ones no longer exists.

We were pleased to be able to share a letter from President Obama to the Milwaukee trans community, marking the importance of the Transgender Day of Remembrance.

One of the speeches that evening was Loree Cook-Daniels' "TDOR 2013: Bridge to the Future," which is available at <http://forge-forward.org/2013/11/tdor-2013-bridge-to-the-future/>

The over 75 attendees also connected in friendship and peace following the event -- sharing food and conversation -- reminding us all of the strengths within ourselves and our community(ies).

Wisconsin

PrideFest



In 2013 we again co-sponsored the Health and Wellness area at PrideFest, in partnership with Diverse and Resilient, the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, BeSTD, and the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. The goal of this area is to create a community norm of taking care of our own and each others' physical and mental health.

FORGE's booth slogan for 2013 was "Do your hugs come with strings attached?" [See how many meanings you can find in that question!] We launched a logo design contest, resulting in a fantastic design around which we created educational materials about intimate partner violence/healthy relationships. All volunteers also sported festive purple t-shirts with the same logo and slogan.

As we've done for years, Free Hugs stickers were distributed within the PrideFest grounds and outside the gates -- over 8,000 of them! 32 volunteers worked hard to literally reach out to as many people as possible. In addition to the coveted stickers, PrideFest attendees could design and make their own buttons (over 2,000 buttons were made and distributed).

Trans* Survivors

The Espavo Project

"I reclaim my power.
I reclaim my life."
~ Ilya Parker



Sexual abuse and assault, by its very nature, often leaves survivors feeling hopeless and disempowered. Healing takes time and persistence -- and often a lot of creativity.

The Espavo Project supports transgender and gender non-conforming survivors and loved ones take another step in their healing process by capturing their current, vibrant aliveness through an image taken by a professional photographer, coupled with a self-generated statement of resilience.

Survivors can choose to have their photos included on the FORGE website, traveling gallery, in PowerPoint slides for workshops, and/or in other public venues to increase personal healing through visibility and inspire other survivors and the professionals who serve them.

In 2013, we held photo sessions at the Philadelphia Trans Health Conference and in Bethesda, Maryland. 2014 will offer survivors and loved ones many additional opportunities to participate and heal.

Espavo: Thank you for taking your power back

Learn more:

forge-forward.org/anti-violence/for-survivors/espavo-project/

Trans* Survivors

Writing to Heal Online



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PHOTOGRAPHER: MIA NAKANO

Transgender and gender non-conforming survivors of sexual violence often have limited access to healing services in their own communities due to providers who are not culturally competent in working with trans survivors or programs that are sex-segregated. Some survivors don't live near larger metropolitan areas that might have in-person services that would be available to them.

Writing to Heal offers survivors the opportunity to connect with other trans survivors and loved ones, and gain applicable skills that will encourage personal healing. Each 6 week course includes weekly phone calls (webinar-style, with both didactic segments and active writing, reflection and sharing), weekly topic-based assignments, daily quotes related to that week's topic, and dialogue opportunities through a closed Facebook group. Survivors are able to engage in ways that feel safe and most comfortable to them, and in ways that align with their healing goals.

We offered 3 trauma-informed courses in 2013, with the next round of courses slated to begin in March 2014.

Learn more:

<http://forge-forward.org/anti-violence/for-survivors/writing-to-heal/>

Trans* Survivors

Publications In Press



Trans* and gender non-conforming survivors of sexual assault and loved ones will soon have three substantial, content-heavy, and practical Guides to help them better understand trauma, the intersections of transness and sexual assault, and self-help strategies which will instill hope that healing is possible.

The Guides share the key results from FORGE's 2004-2005 national survey of transgender sexual assault survivors, in addition to trauma-informed techniques and strategies that promote empowerment and healing.

1. Transgender Sexual Violence Survivors: A Self Help Guide to Healing and Understanding
2. A Guide for Partners and Loved Ones of Trans* Sexual Violence Survivors
3. Let's Talk About It! A Transgender Survivor's Guide to Accessing Therapy

Guides will be available in early Spring 2014, pending funder approval, on FORGE's website:
<http://forge-forward.org/anti-violence/for-survivors/guides-for-survivors/>

Providers

Webinars for Victim Service Providers

Working with trans survivors of sexual assault in detention

Webinar

July 11, 2013
2:00 - 3:30 CT



Chris Daley



Bamby Salcedo



Valerie Spencer



We were pleased to offer another year of free monthly webinars for victim service providers.

Over 2398 individuals participated in 9 live webinars. Webinar content covered:

- Safety planning with transgender clients
- Creating a trans-welcoming environment
- Power and control tactics specific to trans people
- Disability and transgender survivors
- Working with transgender survivors of sexual abuse in detention
- Anti-transgender hate violence: Mobilizing communities after high profile crimes
- Transgender 101 for victim service providers
- Working with rural trans survivors
- Trans-specific barriers to accessing health care

All webinars are recorded and available for later viewing. Learn more:
forge-forward.org/trainings-events/recorded-webinars/

In addition to webinars, we also hosted 3 #Trans101 Twitter Chats for victim service providers. (Find us on Twitter @FORGEForward to engage with us through social media.)

Some of the 2014 webinars include:

- Transgender sexuality and trauma
- New laws and policies improving transgender survivors' lives
- Forensic exams
- Stalking
- Law enforcement
- Therapists working with transgender survivors

Providers

Technical Assistance



In 2011 FORGE became an official training and technical assistance provider for the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), focusing on improving victim service providers' ability to deliver respectful and appropriate services to transgender and gender non-conforming survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking. The volume of training and technical assistance requests has steadily increased in the past two years.

Although large scale trainings can be an effective way to impart knowledge to a substantial number of trainees, direct technical assistance often helps professionals reach a deeper understanding that will allow them to more fully integrate learned concepts. FORGE staff works with individual providers, agencies, multi-disciplinary teams, universities, large institutions and more to assist them in finding solutions to small or large challenges related to more effectively and respectfully serving transgender survivors and loved ones.

In 2013, we processed just under 3,000 technical assistance interactions.

Providers

Where We've Been: Conferences



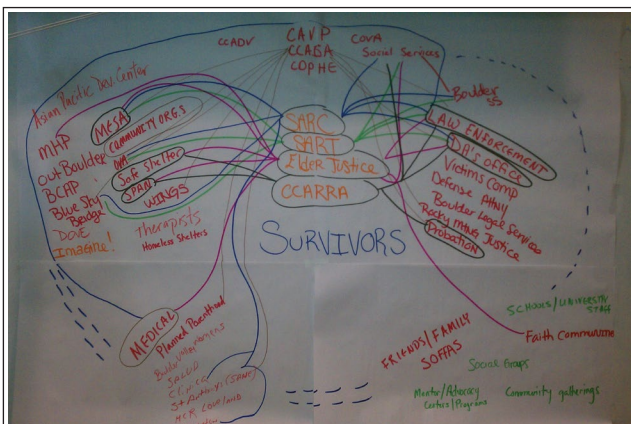
In 2013 we conducted 34 in-person trainings in 16 cities within 13 states. Trainings were a pleasant mix of conferences -- both victim service, anti-violence, and aging, as well as trans-focused -- and privately arranged trainings for specific agencies or communities. Select 2013 conferences included:

- National Sexual Assault Conference
- National Center for Victims of Crime Conference
- Family Violence Prevention and Services Program Annual Grantee Meeting
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence's LGBT Committee
- American Society on Aging Conference
- Tennessee Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence Conference
- Annual TAASA (Texas Association Against Sexual Assault) Conference
- Gender Odyssey Conference
- Trans Ohio Symposium
- Creating Change Conference
- Philadelphia Trans Health Conference
- National Transgender Health Summit



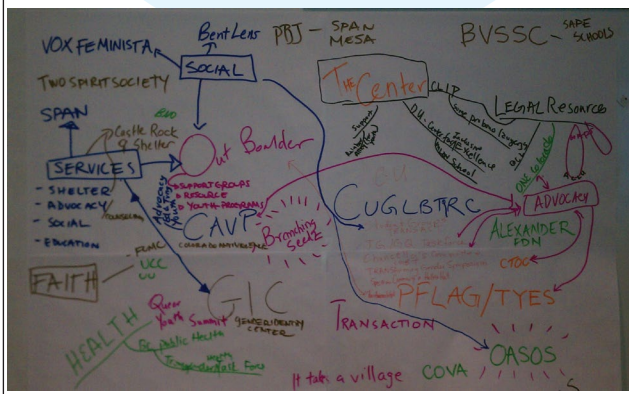
Providers

Demonstration Project to Dedicated Teams



A multi-year project involved conducting intensive work with a small number of pilot sites. An initial primary goal was to help bridge the gap between sexual assault service providers and trans* communities/survivors.

Twenty-seven communities applied to be selected; four sites were ultimately chosen: Boston, MA; the State of Maine; Boulder, CO; and Iowa City, IA. FORGE conducted intensive surveying and telephone interviews with key stakeholders in each community and compared their answers to what we had found in the national surveys. We worked with each community to design very targeted and individualized agendas for a 1 or 2 day intensive training and planning session. Each community had unique strengths and challenges. All communities had dedicated individuals who cared deeply about better serving trans survivors. All four communities have continued to meet regularly or show their active commitment to working with and improving their services to transgender survivors of sexual assault.



Providers

And the Survey Says...

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PHOTOGRAPHER: MIA NAKANO



Two years after the initial assessments, FORGE continues to mine data from three content-rich surveys we conducted in 2011. With the help of lore dickey, Ph.D., FORGE created two national survey tools and received Institutional Review Board approval from the Morehouse School of Medicine. (The third survey was less formal and did not require IRB approval.)

The "Transgender Individuals' Knowledge of and Willingness to Use Sexual Assault Programs" survey resulted in 1005 valid respondents, exploring their knowledge of types of services a victim of sexual assault may want to access, what barriers they have experienced or anticipate, as well as concerns and experiences they have had in working with agencies. The "Assessment of Sexual Assault Programs' Efforts to Welcome Transgender Survivors and Appropriately Serve Them, Including Training Preferences" surveyed sexual assault agencies (n = 310) about their work with trans survivors, policies and existing structures, as well as their preferences around training.

A third survey was developed to support the workplan development of the four demonstration sites. The "Attitudes and Beliefs" survey (n=189) examined myths and assumptions that both trans community members and sexual assault service providers make which can negatively impact communication and services.

All three surveys produced invaluable insights that FORGE has built upon in its subsequent work to improve victim service agencies' ability to respectfully and appropriately serve trans and gender non-conforming victims of crime.

Providers

Online Toolkit

SERVING TRANSGENDER VICTIMS of Sexual Assault

Tips for Those Who Serve Victims

Transgender 101

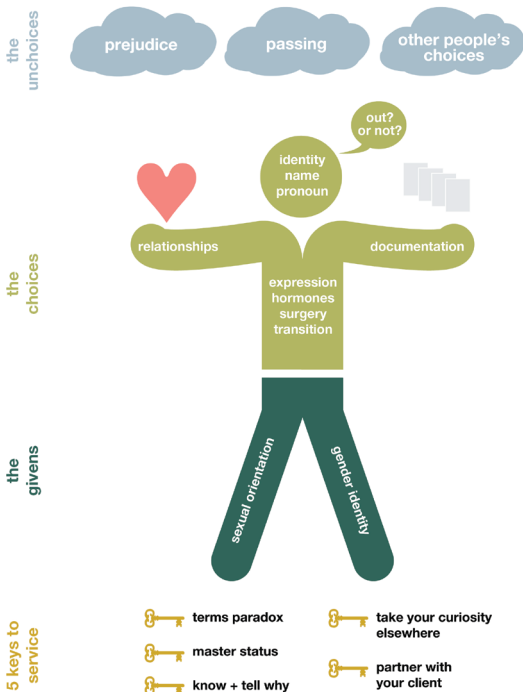
Sexual Assault in the
Transgender Community

Month 2013

Text size: [Send](#)
 Printer-Friendly Option

What started out as six modest articles for victim service providers working with transgender survivors of sexual assault, morphed into 11 lengthy publications. The 450 pages within those 11 documents are now in the process of being transformed into an online, interactive toolkit which will be launched in Spring of 2014.

The publications (now toolkit) are designed for sexual assault advocates, emergency medical personnel, health care providers, law enforcement, support group facilitators, and therapists. The citation-rich toolkit allows providers to easily access additional information. Content ranges from generalized trans101 concepts, to an overview of statistics and trends observed for transgender survivors, and specific guidance for providers in interacting with trans survivors.



Providers

Key (additional) New Publications



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PHOTOGRAPHER: MIA NAKANO

FORGE is constantly publishing new materials as stand-alone documents, as well as to supplement trainings and curriculums. In 2013 we developed a one-of-a-kind safety planning tool specifically addressing transgender and gender non-conforming people in or leaving abusive relationships. This tool has practical uses both for trans individuals themselves who might be experiencing abusive behavior and for providers, who can use the tool to guide their clients. The highly downloaded Trans-Specific Power and Control handout was updated and expanded. We also issued a checklist for victim service agencies to help them assess how ready they are to serve transgender survivors.

Additional publications can be accessed online at <http://forge-forward.org/publications-resources/anti-violence-publications/>

FORGE's Policy and Program Director, Loree Cook-Daniels, continued what is now sixteen years' service as a contributing editor of *Victimization of the Elderly and Disabled*, publishing articles on the beginnings of emergency shelters for abuse victims, sexual assault of people with disabilities, the Partner Abuse State of Knowledge study, elder abuse screening tools for use by physicians, and how to use social media for elder abuse prevention. Several of her articles were republished in the journal *Family and Intimate Partner Violence Quarterly*. Her chapter, "Trans Aging: What Practitioners Should Know," will be published in 2014 in the American Psychological Association book *The Lives of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Older Adults: Understanding Challenges and Resilience*.

What's Next

Continuations / Funding Extensions



We are grateful to have applied for and received additional funding under both the Sexual Assault Services Program grant (OVW) and OVW's Training and Technical Assistance grant programs. The following are just a few highlights of work in progress (and yet to come):

For Survivors

Support from Office on Violence Against Women: Sexual Assault Services Program (2012 - 2015)

- Writing to Heal online
- Espavo Project
- Local organizing kit for Trans* support group leaders
- Survey of trans-focused therapists on their level of trauma awareness and skill
- Online, interactive directory of providers who are both trauma and trans knowledgeable

For Victim Service Providers

Support from Office on Violence Against Women: Training and Technical Assistance (2011 - 2014, with continuation funding through 2016)

- Monthly webinars for victim service providers
- Fact sheets and other publications for victim service providers
- Conferences, trainings, and direct technical assistance for victim service providers
- Baseline attitudinal barriers assessment of sexual assault and intimate partner violence agencies
- 3 pilot sites - intensive training, technical assistance and tool development, as part of a workplan designed during pilot site visits
- Synthesis of assessment and pilot sites to develop specific tools to assist providers better change internal policies and serve trans* survivors

What's Next

More Action in 2014



In addition to our continued work for and with trans* survivors and victim service providers, we remain highly invested in national policy issues, transgender aging, and sustaining the needed support and resources for trans* people, loved ones, and allied communities in Wisconsin.

Aging

- In partnership with the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging, we will contribute two online trainings:
 - o Trans Aging 101
 - o Creating Bias-Free Services.
- ElderTG and TAN listservs will remain vibrant and supportive for their members.
- GrayPrideParade blog on LGBT aging will continue to provide relevant information on advancements, points of interest, and areas of concern.

Wisconsin

The following are just a few of FORGE's continuing or new initiatives within Wisconsin:

- Monthly support meetings will offer community, information, and skills - including guest speakers, Kortney Ryan Ziegler, Helen Boyd, Dr. Paul Steinwald, and many others.
- Parents of trans/gender non-conforming/questioning children support group.
- Fellows trans* leadership program, developing stronger Wisconsin leaders.
- Active involvement with Fair Wisconsin's T-Fair.
- Support in organizing the first Medical College of Wisconsin Transgender Health Symposium.
- Screening and talk back of the film Diagnosing Difference, specifically geared towards health care providers.
- PrideFest Health and Wellness.
- Transgender Day of Remembrance

What's Next

Your donation counts!



Your Gift Makes a Difference!

Your donation will help sustain FORGE's progressive services, publications, and viability in serving transgender and SOFFA individuals. Your contribution is 100% tax deductible.

Where can we contact you?

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donation Amount

___ \$<25

___ \$26-100

___ \$101-500

___ \$501-1000

___ \$1001+

Payment Method

___ Check (make checks payable to FORGE)

___ Credit card

Amount approved to charge credit card: \$ _____

Name on credit card: _____

Visa/Mastercard #: _____

Expiration date: _____ 3-digit code: _____

Signature: _____

Thank you!