



## MA LGBTQ Aging Commission

### Quarterly Meeting

September 13, 2022

### Minutes

Commissioners Present: Senator Pat Jehlen, Bill Bogdanovich, Sean Cahill, Kevin Cranston, Chris Erchull, Val Frias, Paul Glass, Dave Gott, Lisa Krinsky, Margaux LeClair, Tanya Neslusan,  
Commissioners Excused: Lenny Alberts, Barrie Atkin, Michelle LaPointe, Stacey Minchello, Representative Tom Stanley

Guests: Alex Coleman, Jessica Constantino, Samantha Coetzee, Sam Drysdale, Alice Fisher, Elizabeth Ganz, Anna Guaracao, Vicki Halal, Amanda Leahy, Alejandro Marcel, Nino Mtchedlishvili, Kristin Moccia, Gabi Morgan, Joseph Russo, Susan Ryan Vollmer, Susan Trotz, Lynn Vidler, Deb Winters

#### Commission Business:

- June 2022 Minutes: Bill Bogdanovich motions to approve, Paul Glass seconds motion. All Commissioners approve minutes.
- FY 23 Budget: \$50,000 for LGBTQIA+ Aging Project to provide organizational/administrative support to MA LGBTQ Aging Commission
  - Continue: scheduling, hosting, agendas, minutes and follow up for all meetings
  - Expand: Commission infrastructure, procedures; Public visibility- social media, website, resource to LGBTQ aging community and other state/local LGBTQ Aging Commissions.
  - Suggested: Promote/Host LGBTQ Aging Community Listening Session (via Zoom)
  - LGBTQIA+ Aging Project/Fenway Health staffing reduction in Summer 2022 will not negatively impact capacity to support the Commission.
- Biannual Report: 2021-2022 due December 2022. Draft will be shared with Commissioners for review before submission.

SPECIAL  
LEGISLATIVE  
COMMISSION ON  
LESBIAN, GAY,  
BISexual AND  
TRANSGENDER  
AGING



Workgroup Reports, Priorities and Discussion:

- Housing: LGBTQIA+ Aging Project will present "Best Practices for Welcoming and Inclusive Housing for LGBTQ+ Older Adults" at NE Resident Service Coordinators Conference in November.
- Legal Issues: Reviewing NJ LGBTQ LTC bill of rights and MA and National Nursing Home Rights
- Long Term Services and Supports: Expanding SOGI demographics in EOEAs programs.
- Public Health: Requesting DPH promote HIV/STI prevention to LGBTQ older adults.
- Senior Centers/Engagement: Assessing COA/Senior Center LGBTQ programming.

Open Meeting/Discussion:

- Perspectives from Long Term Care – Alejandro Marcel
  - Residing in LTC on Cape for about 1.5 years. No overt LGBTQ discrimination but staff response times slow, concern about CNAs assisting with personal care. Staffing shortages mean travel nurses or short-term workers, no ongoing relationships or trust between residents and staff. Can't ensure that travel nurses have had any LGBTQ training.
  - Alejandro recommends addendum to DPH Nursing Home QA to address LGBTQ inclusion – more than training need for implementation (individual and organizational) and then accountability. Quality of Care means Quality of Life
  - LTC Ombudsman program – overseen by EOEAs – resident must feel safe enough to come out to Ombuds. If/when Ombuds addresses issue with LTC is the resident outed? What is risk? Benefit?
  - Need for LGBTQ Ombuds – this was in original Commission recommendations so that LGBTQ older adults have a dedicated contact to address issues.

Upcoming 2022 meeting schedules for Commission

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month 11am -1pm **December 13, 2022** ALL MEETINGS REMAIN ON ZOOM