Meeting the Needs of LGBTQ+ People During COVID-19 and Beyond

Actions for Public Health professionals to ensure that no community suffers disproportionately from the COVID-19 crisis

Ensure That Health Care Staff are Trained to Care for LGBTQ+ Patients
- Distribute extant training materials and resources rapidly
- Prioritize the creation of a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment for care related to COVID-19 or otherwise

Immediately Update Demographic Data Capture to Include LGBTQ+ Populations
- No morbidity or mortality surveillance currently includes LGBTQ+ people, creating major barriers to public health response
- Comprehensive reporting of sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity across U.S. health systems is necessary

Rapidly Advance Research on LGBTQ+ People's Experiences During COVID-19
- Partner with community and academic experts to ensure new research is responsive to community needs
- Create new, rapid funding opportunities for LGBTQ+ research during COVID-19

Create and Implement Equitable Disaster Preparedness Plans
- Tailor to local context to ensure marginalized communities are not allowed to suffer disproportionately from the current crisis, and are not left behind by the crisis response

Speak Out as a Proponent of LGBTQ+ Health
- Position yourself as an advocate for equitable rights and protections for LGBTQ+ people
- Use your voice personally and professionally to uplift and support marginalized communities

Created by the Evaluation, Data Integration, and Technical Assistance (EDIT) Program Team at Northwestern University’s Institute for Sexual and Gender Minority Health and Wellbeing