The Persistence to Engage LGBTQ Latinx Communities to Reduce Health Disparities

SALIS 40th Anniversary / SALIS & AMHL 3rd Joint Conference
Never Neutral: Resistance, Persistence, Insistence
May 3, 2018 ~ Berkeley, CA

Juan Carlos Vega, MLS
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator
LGBT HealthLink: A program of CenterLink
To Barbara Seitz de Martinez

Hispanic/Latino Portal for the Prevention of Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug Abuse

Indiana Prevention Resource Center at Indiana University.
http://www.latino.prev.info/

The Indiana Prevention Resource Center (IPRC) was established in 1987 to assist Indiana-based alcohol, tobacco and other drug (ATOD) prevention programs improve the quality of their services. The IPRC’s primary mission is to support programs through the provision of information, materials, consultation and a wide range of high-level technical assistance.
Roadmap to engage Latinx LGBTQ communities

About LGBTQ

About Latinx LGBTQ Communities

LGBTQ Health Disparities

Where to Engage Latinx LGBTQ Communities

Resources & Strategies

www.LGBTCenters.org • 954-765-6024 • information@LGBTCenters.org
BEING LGBTQ+

SEXUAL ORIENTATION
• LESBIAN
• GAY
• BISEXUAL

GENDER IDENTITY
• TRANSGENDER
• QUEER
+ SELF-IDENTIFICATION
Latinx Cultural competency

Pronounced "La-teen-ex" it's a gender-neutral alternative to Latino and Latina
Here is Giselle's story!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQzL2Z0Guwo
LGBTQ Health Disparities

- LGBTQ+ people face isolation, violence, overt discrimination and inequitable benefits/policies, among many other challenges related to health care access. LGBTQ+ communities tend to lack trust with institutions and government.\textsuperscript{1,2}

- Diversity within LGBTQ+ communities
Sexual orientation and gender identity data collection on the 2015 BRFSS

- No SOGI data collection
- Used the SOGI module to collect SOGI data
- Did not use the module to collect SOGI data
- Used the SOGI module in 2014 but discontinued it in 2015

Who collects SOGI data in the USA?

Note: Micronesia and Samoa do not currently field BRFSS. Palau did not respond to inquiries and is excluded from this analysis.
Risk factors affecting LGBTQ communities

LGBT youth face elevated rates of suicide and frequently face bullying influencing their mental health.³

Others
- HIV/STI’s
- Alcohol and Drugs
- Cancer screenings
- National and local policies
- Lack of competent services
- Lack of insurance
Tobacco Use Among LGBTQ communities

Smoking results in significant health disparities and kills 30,000+ LGBT people per year.(6)

Transgender smoking rates have been reported as high as 83%.(4)

LGB Hispanic youth are twice as likely to smoke cigarettes and 60% more likely to smoke hookah than heterosexual Hispanics.(5)
8 Ways Tobacco Affects Vulnerable People

Tobacco use is higher among adults with mental illness (71%).

Tobacco use is over 50% higher among LGBT adults.

Asian American men smoke at a rate of 215%, which is higher than Asian American women.

Tobacco use is 1.5 times higher among Hispanic middle school students compared to other middle school students.

Tobacco use is 310% higher among homeless adults compared to the general population.

African Americans smoke menthol-flavored cigarettes at nearly 3 times the rate of Whites, and are more likely to die from smoking-related illness.

Supported by the Grant Number 5 U58DP004399-23-00 funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention or the Department of Health and Human Services.
LGBT People of Color and People of Color Living with HIV: Results from Lambda Legal’s Health Care Fairness Survey

The results of this survey overall show that disturbing numbers of LGBT respondents as well as those living with HIV have experienced significant health care discrimination. Most notable, in nearly every category of discrimination covered in this survey, people of color respondents were more likely than their white counterparts to experience discrimination and substandard care.

Latino/a LGB respondents were the most likely of all LGB respondents to experience the refusal of providers to touch them or to have providers use excessive precautions.
Where are LGBTQ Latinx communities?
How can you support LGBTQ Latinx inclusion in your library, AHEC or research center?

Think of:
• **Language** (staff, partner vs wife/husband; do you use Spanish?, move away from male-female binary)
• **Physical settings** (signage, rainbow flag, gender neutral bathrooms)
• **Events and programs** (celebrate Pride month; Latinx Pride events; inclusive social media)
• **Staff** (is your staff diverse? cultural competency trainings?)
• **Policies** (non-discrimination policies protecting SGM, coming out?)
• **Collections** (Do you include Sylvia Rivera in your Stonewall collection?)
• **Administration** (forms include SOGI and self id options?)
I got really into board games and spent my time nerding out.  
— shar, former smoker

Smoking is a barrier to trans affirming surgery as it affects the vascular system which is crucial for healing.  
— Jada, former smoker

I now use my social smoking time to actually get fresh air.  
— Corey, former smoker

Tobacco Use Among LGBT Youth

#TobaccoFreeQuit  
1-800-QUIT-NOW

Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids®

www.LGBTCenters.org  •  954-765-6024  •  information@LGBTCenters.org
LGBT HealthLink

- One of eight CDC-funded cancer and tobacco disparity networks
- Advance LGBT wellness by addressing LGBT tobacco and cancer health disparities
- Link people with information and promote adoption of best practices
- We promote tobacco prevention & cessation, decreased second-hand smoke exposure, cancer prevention and screening and improved quality of life for those with cancer

Become a member at
www.MyLGBTHealthLink.org
LGBT HealthLink Provides:

- Technical Assistance
- Trainings/Webinars/Presentations
- Needs Assessment Tool
- Sample non-discrimination policies
- Other resources such as educational materials
- Tobacco Census (and soon to be Cancer Assessment)
- Cross-sectoral connections between health systems, providers, community centers, and departments of health
- Linkages for information and best and promising practices
JOIN THE MOVEMENT TO ACHIEVE LGBT HEALTH EQUITY!

www.myLGBTHealthlink.org

HealthLink members have access to:

- Weekly LGBT Health News Roundup
- Scholarships to help support and promote leadership in LGBT health
- Members-only online networking groups
- Exclusive webinars and resources available for download
- Co-branding opportunities
Join us for our webinar series addressing:

• Emerging trends in reducing LGBTQ health disparities
• Advancing LGBTQ health in a changing national climate
• Increase understanding of SGM's lived experiences, collaborative efforts, and solutions related to the many intersectional issues that impact LGBTQ health
• Address barriers to care for LGBTQ people
• and more…

www.myLGBThealthlink.org
Contact me for support!

Juan Carlos Vega, MLS
Community Education & Outreach Coordinator
LGBT HealthLink, A program of CenterLink
juancarlos@lgbtcenters.org  |  (954) 765-6024

SALIS Members since 2002
President, ACPS-LGBTTA
Information Access & Community Engagement Specialist
www.activistlibrarian.com
ActivisitLibrarian@gmail.com  |  (787) 565-2696

I avoided other smokers, “smoky” places, and even asked local bars for smoke free nights.
– Juan Carlos, former smoker