



Oregon

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TO: Community Based Care:
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FROM: Safety, Oversight and Quality

RE: June is Pride Month

The month of June is Pride Month in Oregon and across the Nation.

Many of us are unaware that Pride events sprang up in 1969 in response to the Stonewall Riots. The Stonewall Inn, New York, was commonly referred to as a gay bar by law enforcement. At that time, being homosexual was considered a crime, and was even wrongly listed as an official “mental health disorder.” On June 28, 1969, police conducted a routine raid of the Inn. However, this time the patrons fought back, thus sparking the beginning of the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender and Queer Communities’ (LGBTQ) civil rights movement. A year after the Stonewall Riots, Pride Parades and events were organized to protest the discrimination.

Today, we recognize these achievements during Pride Month. Each year, during the month of June, Pride events of all types occur to celebrate, honor, and increase advocacy awareness of LGBTQ civil rights.

As care providers, each day we offer support and assistance to many people who identify as LGBTQ. These consumers may avoid medical care due to discrimination or uncomfortable provider interactions from their past. Pride Month offers a chance to remind us all that an essential function of our jobs is to provide respectful services, care and support to all people, regardless of their gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation.

The [Transgender Law Center](#) located in Oakland, California offers tips for providers on how best to serve and support transgender individuals. Resources and events geared specifically towards older adults such as [Gay and Grey](#) will also help connect providers with educational opportunities that can assist with care planning, communication and offering support.

Please make Pride Month an opportunity to share this and other resource information and consider how best to support LGBTQ people within your facilities.

For general information contact the DHS Safety, Oversight, and Quality or visit the DHS Web site at www.oregon.gov/DHS.

To contact Community Based Care Licensing Unit directly please email us at: CBC.Team@state.or.us