

Observing Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Transgender Pride Month

June is observed as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) history month in remembrance of the Stonewall riots of 1969. While the range of identities and experiences within the LGBTQ community is extremely varied, many members face significant health disparities due to their sexual orientation and gender identity. These health disparities are compounded for people of color.

The Oregon-based study, "[Sexual Orientation in Adult Chronic Conditions, Health Risk Factors, and Protective Health Practices](#)," describes how these disparities are deepened by the lack of cultural competence among health care workers and institutions. A Jackson County LGBTQ Disparity Report, published last month by our Southern Oregon [Regional Health Equity Coalition](#) echoes these findings.



Leann Johnson
Interim Director, Office of
Equity and Inclusion

The Office of Equity and Inclusion (OEI) continues to work to reduce these avoidable health disparities by tackling many of these obstacles, including improving the cultural competency of health care providers. This past January our office staffed the Cultural Competency Continuing Education Curriculum Approval Committee. This committee advises the Oregon Health Authority on the development of criteria and a process to approve cultural competence continuing education opportunities for health care professionals.

Engaging and partnering with community members, advocates, and stakeholders experiencing these disparities is another important step towards improving health outcomes. Throughout the state of Oregon there are a variety of Pride community gatherings, lectures, and events for the public to participate in during the month of June. The Office of Equity and Inclusion is a proud sponsor of [Portland Black Pride](#), which will occur from June 17th - June 22nd and include a forum for Black LGBTQ community members and a Youth Summit.

As always, our office is available to you as a resource and I am always open to exploring opportunities for engagement and partnership. Thank you for continuing to work towards equity, inclusion, and a healthy Oregon.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leann R. Johnson".

OEI News and Updates

Highlighting Culturally Specific Community Health Worker Programs in Oregon - July 13th at 10:00 a.m. - Health Equity Researchers of Oregon (HERO)

The [next HERO meeting](#) will be held on Monday, July 13, 2015 at the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization (IRCO) at 10301 NE Glisan Street, Portland, Oregon 97220. The meeting will highlight the work and data of two culturally-specific Community Health Worker (CHW) programs, the Urban League's "We are Health Movement" (WAHM) and Kaiser Permanente's Warriors of Wellness (WOW).

For more information on how to join the HERO listserv or to learn how your organization can host a HERO meeting, please contact Charniece.tisdale@state.or.us. You can also visit the HERO website by [clicking here](#).

NEW: OEI Training, Resources and Technical Assistance Webpage

OEI is excited to announce the launch of its "Training, Resources and Technical Assistance" [webpage](#). OEI provides training and support to OHA employees, Coordinated Care Organizations (CCOs), multiple stakeholders and community partners across the state.

This [new webpage](#) serves as place to learn more about in-person and online trainings, training and certification programs, webinars, national resources and more.

SAVE-THE-DATE: OEI's 1st Health Equity Conference

The Oregon Health Authority - Office of Equity and Inclusion is hosting our first Health Equity Conference on Monday, November 16th from 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Oregon Convention Center. More information is to follow.

Southern Oregon Health Equity Coalition of Jackson County produces three new health equity reports!

The Regional Health Equity Coalitions (RHECs) are coordinated, community-driven, collaborative groups organized at a regional level to identify policy, system and environmental changes, and craft and implement strategies and polices to increase health equity, reduce health disparities and address the social determinants of health.

This past month, the Southern Oregon Health Equity Coalition produced three new health equity reports on General Health Equity, LGBTQ Health Equity, and Educational Disparities.

To learn more about Regional Health Equity Coalitions and read the reports, [visit the Southern Oregon Health Equity Coalition webpage](#).

Community Events

[Familias en Accion | 2015 Latino Health Equity Conference](#)

Date: June 18th

Time: 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.

Location: Portland State University - Smith Ballroom - 1825 SW Broadway, Portland, OR 97201

[Voz Workers Rights | 15th Anniversary Dinner](#)

Date: June 18th

Time: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Location: Eliot Center - 1226 SW Salmon Street

[An Evening with Wisdom of the Elders](#)

Date: June 19th

Time: 6:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.

Location: The Melody Ballroom - 614 SE Alder St., Portland, Oregon 97214

[Portland Queer Youth Summit](#)

Date: June 20th

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Metropolitan Learning Center - 2033 NW Glisan Street, Portland, Oregon 97209

[Oregon Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence "Intersections of Change: Health, Equity, Advocacy"](#)

Date: June 22 - June 24th

Time: 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Location: Sunriver Resort - 17600 Center Drive, Sunriver, Oregon 97707

[Good in the Hood Festival](#)

Date: June 28th - June 30th

Time: Varies

Location: Lillis Albina Park/ Harriet Tubman Middle School (N Flint & N Russell St)

Job Postings, Internships, and Opportunities

External Positions

[Bradley Angle - Healing Roots Advocate](#)

[Cascade AIDS Project - African American Services Case Manager](#)

[North by Northeast Community Center – Clinic Coordinator/Medical Assistant](#)

[The Native American Youth and Family Center - Youth Engagement Coordinator](#)

[United Way of the Columbia Willamette - Community Account Manager](#)

[Legacy Health - VP of Marketing and Community Relations](#)

Community Partner Resources

[Health Disparities among Pacific Islanders in Multnomah County \(released April 30, 2015\)](#)

The Multnomah County Health Department analyzed health and social data for Pacific Islanders living in Multnomah County. The report, Health Disparities among Pacific Islanders in Multnomah County (2015), highlights that members of the Pacific Islander community experience serious disparities in areas critical to leading healthy, happy and productive lives.

The Health Department worked closely with the Pacific Islander community to produce this report, the first of its kind specific to this community.

We are committed to addressing these serious disparities, and have identified several strategies that hold promise for improving the health and happiness of communities of color in Multnomah County.

[State of Black Oregon 2015 \(released May 5, 2015\)](#)

The State of Black Oregon 2015, the result of a two-year program of research, provides an updated look at how Black Oregonians are doing - in schools, jobs, and both urban and rural communities throughout the state. The first State of Black Oregon report was released in 2009.

The 200 page report features 18 essays from leaders throughout Oregon on issues including universal childcare, health equity, gentrification and entrepreneurship. There are 21 case studies from across the state, from Medford in the south, to rural Pendleton in the east to Astoria and the central gentrifying urban centers. It includes 12 pages of detailed data tables.

Taken together, the report is a roadmap to address longstanding inequities in employment, education, housing, health, criminal justice and wealth creation - and to pave the way for success.

Get Involved with OEI!

[Join the Traditional Health Workers \(THW\) Commission](#)

The THW Commission promotes the traditional health workforce in Oregon's Health Care Delivery System to achieve Oregon's Triple Aim of better health, better care, and lower costs. The Commission advises and makes recommendations to the OHA, with the intent to ensure the THW program is responsive to consumer and community health needs, while delivering high quality and culturally competent care. For more information or to apply, visit the [THW Commission webpage](#).

[Participate in the Health Equity Policy Committee \(HEPC\)](#)

HEPC aims to proactively explore, develop, evaluate, recommend, and coordinate stakeholder engagement in advancing cross-cutting, cross-community policy improvements to inform State Health Policy Leadership. For more information, visit the [HEPC webpage](#).

[Join the Health Equity Researchers of Oregon \(HERO\)](#)

HERO is a network of health equity researchers from across the state, working together to inform policy and community-based efforts to improve health in Oregon for culturally diverse communities, while ensuring that policy agendas and community members inform Oregon's research agenda. For more information, visit the [HERO webpage](#).

Connect with us!

To learn more about OEI or send newsletter submissions, please email Rebecca Naga at Rebecca.A.Naga@state.or.us.

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