OUR VISION IN *Action*

Through training, resources, summits, and policy advocacy, we are creating sustainable change that benefits LGBTQ patients across Florida. Health Equity is more than just a program, it's a lifeline for the community, advancing access to high quality care and improving lives statewide.

KEY INITIATIVES:

IN-PERSON TRAINING
Empowering healthcare teams with hands-on, trauma-informed training with thousands of providers now equipped to deliver LGBTQ-affirming care statewide.

REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SUMMITS
Dynamic, full-day convenings connecting hundreds of allied professionals to advance learning, spark collaboration, and drive real mental health equity.

HEALTH EQUITY TOOLKIT
A practical, cutting-edge guide for hospitals and systems with strategies, tools, and resources to transform policies, practices, and LGBTQ patient-centered care.

POLICY ADVOCACY
Partnering with healthcare leaders to reform policies, expand HIV-inclusive services, and accelerate LGBTQ-inclusive practices across Florida.

JOIN US IN ADVANCING LGBTQ *Health Equity*

Your support helps expand programs, provide critical training, and ensure every LGBTQ Floridian can access affirming care. If you're interested in learning more or want to support our work advancing LGBTQ health equity, we'd love to hear from you.

Contact Us:

Together, we can ensure that healthcare works for everyone.
No Exceptions.

EQUALITY FLORIDA
Equality Florida Institute
P.O. Box 20786
Tampa, FL 33622-0786

For more information, please email hr@equalityflorida.org, visit www.equalityflorida.org, or call (813) 870-3735

@equalityfl

EQUALITY FLORIDA

EQUALITY FLORIDA'S LGBTQ HEALTH EQUITY INITIATIVE:

Health Equity

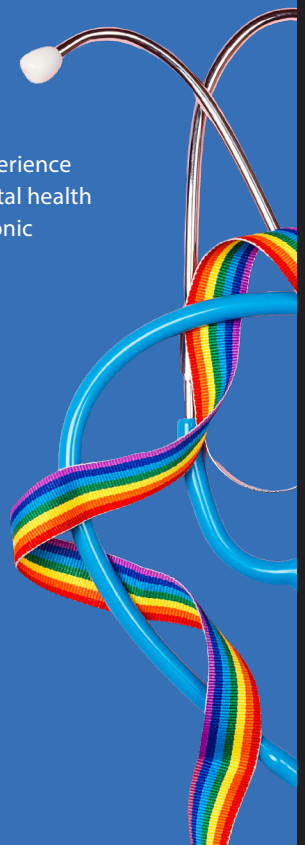
Building a world where every LGBTQ individual can access compassionate, affirming, and high-quality healthcare—without fear of discrimination or stigma.

A VISION FOR *Equitable Healthcare*

LGBTQ INDIVIDUALS IMAGINE A HEALTHCARE SYSTEM WHERE EVERY INTERACTION IS AFFIRMING, INCLUSIVE, AND RESPECTFUL. YET, MANY FACE BARRIERS, DISCRIMINATION, AND STIGMA THAT PREVENT THEM FROM GETTING THE CARE THEY NEED.

Recent legislative actions, a lack of provider education, and ongoing societal challenges have increased disparities in both mental and physical health, making access to inclusive healthcare more critical than ever.

WHY THIS MATTERS



LGBTQ patients experience higher rates of mental health challenges and chronic conditions.

Many healthcare facilities lack policies and practices that meet the needs of LGBTQ patients.

These barriers can prevent timely, effective care, worsening health outcomes.

ALLIES IN HEALTH *Our Approach*

OUR STATEWIDE AUDIT & MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY
We conducted a comprehensive audit of ~150 healthcare systems across Florida. The results were clear: most facilities lack LGBTQ-inclusive policies, practices, and patient services. Additionally, a statewide survey of mental health professionals revealed that 55% of providers did not receive any coursework or practical experiences that focused on best practices for LGBTQ clients.

OUR RESPONSE: THE HEALTH EQUITY PROGRAM
Health Equity is designed to transform healthcare systems and create measurable improvements for LGBTQ patients. We are implementing strategic actions to enhance equity and inclusivity.

ALLIES IN HEALTH WORKS TO:

DISMANTLE BARRIERS to care and ensure LGBTQ patients receive equitable treatment.

STRENGTHEN CONNECTIONS across healthcare systems to improve patient outcomes.

EXPAND PROVIDERS' ABILITY to deliver culturally competent, trauma-informed care.

CHAMPION FOR *Children*

Equality Florida Institute was deeply honored to receive the 2025 Champion for Children Award by National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)—one of the nation's leading organizations dedicated to advancing the educational and mental health needs of children and youth. This prestigious award recognizes organizations that have demonstrated outstanding advocacy in improving education and mental health services for children, youth, and their families.

This recognition underscores the importance of providing affirming, trauma-informed care and advocating for best practices that ensure every child has access to safe schools, supportive homes, and quality care—so they can truly thrive.