



State Advocacy Toolkit

The goal of this toolkit is to be a one-stop-shop for resources as you advocate for HIV-inclusive aging policies and aging-inclusive HIV policies with state policy makers.

Resources

[CDC's HIV and Older Americans](#)

- HIV and aging – by the numbers.

[AIDSVu.org](#)

- HIV and aging infographics.

[HRSA's HIV/AIDS Bureau](#)

- Aging with HIV Reference Guides

[Emerging Issues in HIV and Aging 2020 Data Report](#)

- Prepared by Mark Brennan-Ing for the HIV and Aging Policy Action Coalition

[LGBTQ+ Aging: A Review of Research Findings, Needs, and Policy Implications](#)

- Soon Kyu Choi and Ilan H. Meyer, The Williams Institute, August 2016
- This report is a review of the existing literature of LGBTQ+ older people and provides recommendations for future research and policy needs.

[GMHC's National Resource Center on HIV & Aging](#)

- The National Resource Center on HIV and Aging targets the growing populations of older adults living with HIV including Long Term Survivors. The Center's goal is to inform the health choices of these older adults, together with those who provide them with needed supportive services as they age. The vetted information offered by the Center reflects the cumulative expertise of community advisors and staff from across the country.

[Association of Nurses in AIDS Care](#)

- ANAC's resources on HIV and aging.

[SAGE's National Resource Center on LGBTQ+ Aging](#)

- The National Resource Center on LGBTQ+ Aging is the country's first and only technical assistance resource center aimed at improving the quality of services and supports offered to LGBTQ+ older people.

State HIV and LGBTQ+/Aging Policy Recommendations

Designate LGBTQ+ Older People and Older People Living with HIV as Target Populations in Aging Programs

- A number of states have designated LGBTQ+ older people and older people living with HIV as populations of "greatest social need" (target populations) under the Older Americans Act, the nation's primary vehicle for the organization and delivery of social

and nutrition programs, like Meals on Wheels. Your state can follow the lead of [Vermont](#), [Illinois](#) and [Washington, DC](#) in designating LGBTQ+ older people and older people living with HIV as populations of greatest social need through legislation. [California](#) was the first state to legislatively designate LGBTQ+ older people as a greatest social needs population in 2018 followed by [Virginia](#) in 2021. California added [older people living with HIV](#) in 2021. Massachusetts was the very first state to designate LGBTQ+ older people as a greatest social needs population in 2012 and it did so administratively. [Pennsylvania](#) followed suit in 2021.

Protect LGBTQ+ Older People and Older People Living with HIV from Discrimination in Long-Term Care

- There are a number of examples from across the country, which protect people from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and sometimes HIV status, in long-term care settings.
- [San Francisco](#) passed the first such ordinance in 2015. [California](#) followed in 2017. [Washington, DC](#) passed its law in 2020 passed its law in 2020, as did [Montgomery County, Maryland](#). [New Jersey](#) passed its law in 2021.
- All models that we have seen have been legislatively implemented. It's unclear if there is an administrative route, but it's something you might explore if better suited for your state, county, city, or other jurisdiction.

Establish a State-wide Commission on LGBTQ+ Aging

- Follow the lead of [Massachusetts](#) and establish a state-wide Commission on LGBTQ+ Aging to [prioritize the needs of LGBTQ+ older people](#) in your state.

Mandate Cultural Competency Training for Aging Providers and LTC Workers

- Follow the lead of [California](#) and mandate [LGBTQ+ cultural competency training](#) as part of certification for long term care institutions.
- Follow the lead of [Massachusetts](#) and mandate LGBTQ+ cultural competency training for all state-funded or licensed aging providers.
- Follow the lead of [Washington, DC](#), which requires that staff employed by long-term care facilities be trained on serving LGBTQ+ older people and older people living with HIV.

Create LGBTQ+ and HIV-inclusive State and Local Aging Plans

- Follow the lead of [many states and localities](#) – from New York State to Detroit, Michigan and Jacksonville, Florida - and ask that your State or Area Agency on Aging plans account for the unique needs of LGBTQ+ older people and older people living with HIV