

## **SAGE's National LGBTQ+ Elder Housing Initiative (NHI)**

Quarterly Newsletter: February 2023

*SAGE's NHI is dedicated to providing information that helps LGBTQ+ elders and allies make informed decisions when it comes to housing. For LGBTQ+ older people, finding a place that's welcoming—where they can feel free to be themselves and be treated respectfully and compassionately—is a mainstay of our program.*

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### **Access the NHI's New Resource Hub Today!**

As we usher in 2023, SAGE and the National LGBTQ+ Elder Housing Initiative (NHI) are thrilled to launch [a new online resource hub!](#) With generous support from Wells Fargo, this hub will serve as a comprehensive, user-friendly repository of the multi-media assets, publications, and resources developed by the NHI. Over the past seven years, the NHI has generated and convened dozens of resources for developers on how to build LGBTQ+-affirming, affordable elder housing in the U.S. This rich archive of content is now housed in a clearly accessible hub to help even more builders, service providers, and community-based organizations across the country to build LGBTQ+-affirming elder housing.

#### **What's Inside the New Hub:**

**A robust training series for housing developers on topics like fair housing law, LGBTQ+ cultural competencies, and trauma-informed design.** With Wells Fargo's support, this series of nine trainings (two that are highly interactive) are available in an asynchronous online format and free for developers, social service providers, and any interested stakeholders to complete at their own pace.

**Free access to valuable panel discussions and keynotes from national leaders in the housing sphere** from past NHI virtual symposia.

**Nine modules of the Housing Development Toolkit**, designed for developers and CBOs to distill the development process and gain tools around community buy-in, affirming marketing, financing, and community outreach strategies.

**An interactive map of housing policies and resources by state** and more, such as developer surveys, links to studies and publications, and many more training and educational materials.

## **New Step-by-Step Resources for Building LGBTQ+ Friendly Housing**

One particularly exciting new tool in this resource hub is the launch of SAGE's housing development process [case study](#). With deep reflection on the lessons learned in the development of Stonewall House and Crotona Pride House, the NHI has developed a detailed archive of SAGE's housing development process from ideation through lease-up, identifying benchmarks, successes, challenges, and key considerations for future projects. This map of historical knowledge is shared as an interactive web experience, drawing on the input of multiple internal and external stakeholders involved along each step of SAGE's housing development process. This tool includes a downloadable report of SAGE's case study with more specific details for stakeholders to best inform their own housing development visioning and processes.

SAGE is excited to synthesize these important resources in one location to better support the work of advocates and leaders and the housing field. By building out a more user-friendly and easily accessible online repository of NHI resources, we hope to grow a wider reach for key stakeholders. This dynamic online resource hub functions as a robust repository, increasing access to resources and the production of LGBTQ+-welcoming elder housing in the long-term.

## **Updates in Cincinnati: Opening of the John Arthur Flats**

John Arthur Flats, the first LGBTQ+ affirming 55+ senior affordable housing development in Cincinnati, is now open! This new apartment community contains 57 newly constructed studio, 1-, and 2-bedroom apartments affordable to seniors with annual household incomes ranging from 30% AMI to 60% AMI.

The community is named in recognition of the late John Montgomery Arthur, a Cincinnati native and husband of the plaintiff in the Supreme Court case that legalized same-sex marriage in the United States. [Click here to watch a video on the development.](#)

The brand-new apartments feature modern kitchens with electric range and dishwasher, spacious closets, ceramic-tiled baths, and central A/C. The development is pet-friendly. For more information, please visit [JohnArthurFlats.com](http://JohnArthurFlats.com).

## **Williams Institute: Study of COVID's Impact on LGBTQ+ Elders**

LGBTQ+ older adults, defined in [this study](#) as those over 50 years old, face significant and unique challenges to health and well-being as they age. They are more likely than their straight/cisgender peers to experience social and economic barriers that prevent healthy aging. Research has shown that the COVID-19 pandemic has increased economic and social instability for LGBT people of all ages. However, precarity is not new for LGBT older adults and COVID-19 may be viewed as part of a continuum of disruptive events that impact the aging experiences of LGBT older adults. See the full report and key findings [here](#).

## **Pennsylvania Regional Roundtable**

With generous support from the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and our partners in Pennsylvania, the NHI hosted a virtual regional roundtable in November 2022 – **Creating Home: A Roundtable to Discuss LGBTQ+ Elder Housing in Pennsylvania**. This conversation focused on the specific housing needs of LGBTQ+ elders in Pennsylvania. Housing advocates and statewide service providers explored innovative solutions to housing insecurity experienced by LGBTQ+ elders. Speakers and panelists included Ed Miller of the William Way LGBTQ Center, Ephraim Getahun of Openhouse, Kimberly Krauter of The Walters Group, and Ronnessa Edwards of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

## **Apply for a National Council on Aging COVID and Flu Vaccine Grant!**

The National Council on Aging received \$50 million from the Administration on Community Living for a campaign to promote COVID and Flu vaccinations for older people and people living with disabilities. Community organizations serving older adults and people with disabilities will have the opportunity to apply for a grant through NCOA for efforts on the ground. SAGE is working to inform our LGBTQ+ networks about this opportunity. Eligible applicants include senior centers, community centers, governmental orgs, federally recognized nonprofits, and local community and faith-based orgs that serve, support, and include older adults and people living with disabilities. [See more details or apply here.](#)

## **Reminder: NHI Housing Development Toolkit Modules 8 and 9 are Live!**

SAGE has launched the final two modules of the [Housing Development Toolkit](#), a guide featuring strategies for developers, nonprofits, and community-based organizations to develop LGBTQ+ affirming, affordable housing. This resource addresses various components of outreach, design, financing, marketing, and cultural competency along various stages of the housing development process. The first seven modules, focused on community engagement and buy-in, reaching tenants in need, developing affirmative marketing, vetting partnerships with mission alignment, using data as evidence, defining roles and expectations, and intentional design are [all available here!](#) These final two modules focus on intersectional LGBTQ+ aging cultural competency meeting challenges with flexible solutions.

## **Reminder: Register for Free Housing Developer Trainings Today!**

Last summer, the NHI launched [free trainings](#) for affordable housing developers, property managers, and service providers! These self-administered trainings focus on the development, management, and service provision needs specific to LGBTQ+ affirming, affordable elder housing. Topics include fair housing regulations, trauma-informed design, role definition, community engagement, establishing key partnerships, culturally relevant service provision, marketing tools, and more!

The 9 modules are **free** for anyone interested, and registrants can take the online trainings at their convenience. We developed this training series through an online platform to easily reach housing stakeholders interested in developing affordable housing to fit the needs of LGBTQ+ aging communities. [Learn more and register here.](#) Please reach out if you have any questions!

*For any questions, feedback, or communication, reach out to Sydney Kopp-Richardson at [skopprichardson@sageusa.org](mailto:skopprichardson@sageusa.org) or Thomas Godwin at [tgodwin@sageusa.org](mailto:tgodwin@sageusa.org).  
Be well, friends!*