



**We refuse to be invisible®**

**SAGE's National LGBTQ+ Elder Housing Initiative (NHI) Baltimore Monthly Newsletter: Feb. 2024**

*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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**Welcome**

We are so thrilled to bring you our newsletter about SAGE's housing work in Baltimore. This monthly newsletter will provide information and updates about the project, as well as opportunities to get involved. Thank you for joining us on this journey!

**Black History Month**

February is Black History Month, and during this month, we celebrate and recognize the ways that black, LGBTQ+ activists have paved the way for many monumental civil rights victories across the nation. Here are a few black, LGBTQ+ leaders who have helped advocate for the rights of many:

- Bayard Rustin – a black, LGBTQ+ activist who organized the 1963 March on Washington
- Audre Lorde – a black, lesbian activist, poet, and educator, who taught on the intersections of race, gender, and sexuality
- Marsha P. Johnson – a black, transgender activist who is well known for her leadership in the Stonewall uprising of 1969. She also helped house queer youth and sex workers in Manhattan, and she advocated for disability rights by fighting against institutionalization
- Reverend Magora Kennedy – a lesbian, Black Panther activist, self-proclaimed crone goddess, storyteller, and minister who was an integral part of the Stonewall uprising and of SAGE's elder community in New York City
- Jazzie Collins – a black, transgender activist who is well known for her work at the intersections of race, gender, age, and disability justice
- Angela Davis – a black, lesbian activist and author, whose teachings on intersectionality, feminism, race, and abolition have radically impacted modern theory
- Miss Major Griffin-Gracy – a black, transgender activist who has made a legacy fighting for black, transgender, and incarcerated individuals

These are just several black, LGBTQ+ activists who helped carve out many of the rights that we have today. We offer deep appreciation for these influential advocates and for all the black, LGBTQ+ elders who contributed much to the culture and access of the LGBTQ+ community today.

There are still a number of black, LGBTQ+ leaders at the forefront of activism today. Black, transgender, gender non-conforming, and disabled individuals often still fight tirelessly for the right to live peacefully and authentically in our country. If you would like to donate to and learn about organizations in Baltimore that are black-led and fighting for LGBTQ+ rights, please consider visiting the websites of the organizations below:

- Maryland Safe Haven, Baltimore offices: <https://www.baltimoresafehaven.org>
- Freestate Justice: <https://freestate-justice.org/>
- Pride Center of Maryland: <https://www.pridecentermd.org/>
- Blaq Equity Baltimore: <https://www.cbebaltimore.org/index.html>
- Hearts and Ears: <https://www.heartsandears.org/>
- Black Men's Xchange, Baltimore Chapter: <http://www.bmxnational.org/chapters/>

*\*If you are a black-led, LGBTQ+ organization in Baltimore and you would like to be added to this list, please contact [tgodwin@sageusa.org](mailto:tgodwin@sageusa.org)*

### **Upcoming SAGE Baltimore Events**

With the first month of 2024 behind us, we are excited to move forward in building safe, affordable, and LGBTQ+ affirming housing for older adults in Baltimore. We are planning several events to connect with you and the broader Baltimore LGBTQ+ community about this housing development. Be on the lookout for more information about these upcoming events:

- Community Town Hall: LGBTQ+ Affirming Elder Housing and Services -- Spring, 2024  
*\*Exact date to be shared in our March Newsletter Issue*
- Attendance at Baltimore Pride and Baltimore Trans Pride – June, 2024
- Community Town Hall: Building Design – September, 2024

We are excited to connect with you about this LGBTQ+ affirming, affordable housing for older adults in Baltimore. We will share more information about the time and location of our Spring town hall in our next newsletter issue. Please encourage your community to sign up for our newsletter to receive information about these events. They can sign up for our newsletter by following the link below:

[SIGN UP FOR THIS MONTHLY NEWSLETTER](#)

### **Reunion Project Baltimore Town Hall: Feb. 23-24**

Founded in 2015 by activists living with HIV, The Reunion Project is the national alliance of long-term survivors of HIV, collaborating with local and national HIV advocates, providers, and researchers. Together, they convene and connect individuals and communities, share experiences of survival and loss, while honoring the past and developing successful strategies for living and supporting one another—today and into the future.

The Reunion Project hosts two-day summits around the country in collaboration with the National Working Positive Coalition. The summits consist of a mix of facilitated discussions, panels, and presentations led by key researchers, advocates, and long-term survivors of HIV and AIDS. The next summit will take place this month on February 23 and 24, in Baltimore, Maryland. [Check out the attached flyer to learn more about this Baltimore Town Hall.](#) Click the link below to learn more.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Thank you all for being a part of our efforts to bring LGBTQ+ affirming, affordable housing for older adults to Baltimore. If you would like to contact us, please use the contact information below; we would love to hear from you! We hope that you all have a lovely February. We look forward to connecting with you more in the months to come!

Thomas Godwin (they/them)  
Assistant Director, National LGBTQ+  
Elder Housing Initiative  
[tgodwin@sageusa.org](mailto:tgodwin@sageusa.org)

Sydney Kopp-Richardson (she/her)  
Director, National LGBTQ+ Elder  
Housing Initiative  
[skopprichardson@sageusa.org](mailto:skopprichardson@sageusa.org)

Missed the other issues of our Baltimore Housing newsletter? Find them [HERE](#).

Know someone who might be interested in this project?  
Please **SHARE** this newsletter, and invite them to [SIGN UP](#) to receive future updates.