

#### We refuse to be invisible

### **NATIONAL LGBTQ+ ELDER HOUSING INITIATIVE**

## Are You Looking for LGBTQ+ **Affirming Elder Housing?**







#### WHAT DO YOU NEED?

First, identify what type of housing resources you need and reach out to get information in your local areas. Here are a few examples of different types of housing across the country. You can find similar agencies in your communities through Area Agencies on Aging and other local resources.

- Home ownership support and foreclosure prevention
  - African American Alliance for Home Ownership Portland, Oregon
- Affordable rental housing
  - Full Circle Communities' Milwaukee Avenue Apartments - Chicago, Illinois
- **Homesharing** 
  - <u>Silvernest</u> National network
- Affirming retirement community
  - <u>LivingOut</u> Palm Springs, California
- Transitional housing
  - The Bridge New York, New York
- LGBTQ+ affirming affordable rental housing with supportive social services
  - <u>Law Harrington Senior Living Center</u> Houston, Texas
- **Assisted Living** 
  - Aldersbridge Communities Providence, Rhode Island



#### WHAT SHOULD YOU WATCH OUT FOR?

In your housing search, look for welcoming signs, language, and policy.

- Are there rainbow or trans flags on the website or building?
- What images are displayed on brochures or websites? Are there depictions of LGBTQ+ people or families?
- What language does staff use when talking about individuals, partners, or family members?
- Are there affirming intake forms? What language is used to talk about expansive gender identities?

- What does the agency's non-discrimination policy encompass? Is it widely available to the public?
- Does anti-harassment or anti-discrimination language include LGBTQ+ identities?
- Does the agency have an official <u>SAGECare</u> or <u>Long-Term Care Equality Index</u> credential, demonstrating the team has done the work to create a culturally competent environment for LGBTQ+ elders?



For more, see <u>LGBTO+ Affirming Housing Self-Advocacy Tips</u> for key considerations for accessing affirming housing.

# IDENTIFY AND UTILIZE RESOURCES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

These are the best places to find local or national advocates and experts that can help you navigate the landscape of housing access in your local area



- LGBTQ+ center: Where is the closest LGBTQ+ center? Reach out and ask about programming or services they provide for LGBTQ+ elders
- Local Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)
- Nearby aging providers
- Local housing agencies or housing authorities
- SAGE x HearMe Mental Wellness App
- HUD-approved housing counseling agencies

#### Rural Resources: National USDA Housing Support

- Multi-Family, Rental, Single Family, and Home Ownership Resources
- Single Family Housing Direct Program
- Single Family Housing Guaranteed
  Loan Program
- State Office Directory

#### **Quick Links**

- LGBTQ+ Affirming Housing Self-Advocacy Tips
- 10 Tips on Finding LGBTQ+ Affirming Services
- Long-Term Care Equality Index
- HUD's LGBTOIA+ Fair Housing Toolkit



If you need support, use the SAGE x HearMe Wellness app, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Sign up at <u>sageusa.org/hearme</u>.

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