

sage

Advocacy &  
Services for  
LGBTQ+ Elders

**We refuse to be invisible®**

# SAGE's Mission

- ✔ Founded in 1978, SAGE is the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ older people.
- ✔ SAGE's mission is to lead in addressing issues related to LGBTQ+ aging. In partnership with its constituents and allies, SAGE works to achieve a high quality of life for LGBTQ+ older adults, supports and advocates for their rights, fosters a greater understanding of aging in all communities, and promotes positive images of LGBTQ+ life in later years.
- ✔ We fulfill our mission through advocacy, direct services, education, training and technical assistance programs, locally, nationally and internationally.

# National LGBTQ+ Elder Housing Initiative (NHI): Five Interlocking Strategies



Building Housing



Training Providers



Changing Policy



Educating Consumers

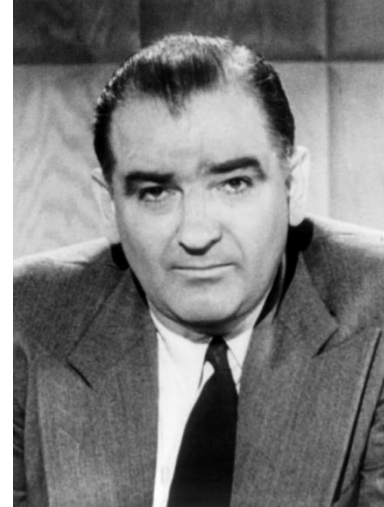


Expanding Services



# HISTORY IMPACTS LGBTQ+ ELDERS TODAY

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**Homes should be our havens – shelters safe enough to be ourselves as LGBTQ+ people. Especially as we age.**

## **CHALLENGES**

**Economic  
Insecurity**

**Housing  
Discrimination**

**Lack of Legal  
Protections**

**Racial and  
Gender  
Disparities**

# What is LGBTQ+ Affirming Elder Housing?

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- Housing that provides a welcoming environment of community, peers, and allies, often including voluntary culturally competent services for LGBTQ+ elders.



*SAGE's Role in  
Developing LGBTQ+  
Affirming Elder Housing*

# **Stonewall House & Crotona Pride House**

New York City



# Cultural Competency

- Protocols and procedures
- Understanding of unique needs
- Opportunities to break isolation
- Onboarding and culture building





# Practical Tools:

## Affirming intake forms, community agreements, signage and programming

**Box II.1. Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Questions on Agency Forms and in RHYMIS**

Agency A: Emergency Shelter Intake Form

**Gender**

Male     Female

Transgender male to female

Transgender female to male

Other

Don't Know

Refused

**Sexual Orientation**

Heterosexual

Bisexual

Gay

Lesbian

Questioning

Self-Identified Orientation

Agency B: Health Risk Assessment Form

**What is your sexual orientation and/or gender identity?**

Heterosexual (straight)

Homosexual (gay or lesbian)

Bisexual

Transgender

Gender confused

Agency C: Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing Intake Forms

**Gender options:**

Female

Male

Transgendered (female to male)

Transgendered (male to female)

Client does not know

Client refused

Other

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RHYMIS Basic Center and Transitional Living Entrance Reports

**Gender: Choose one code indicating how the youth describes his/her gender identity.**

Male

Female

Transgender female to male

Transgender male to female

Other

Not known or not determined

**Sexual Orientation: Choose one code indicating how the youth describes his/her sexual orientation.**

Heterosexual

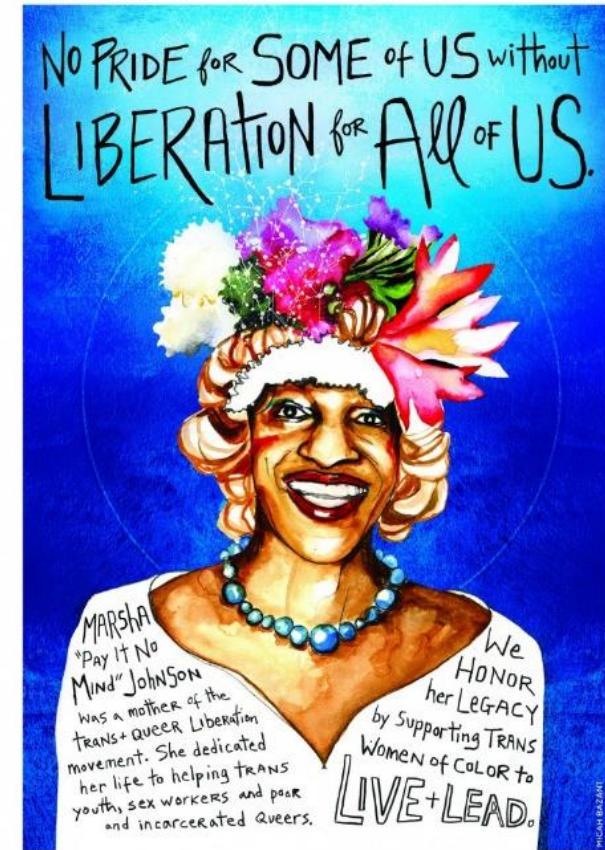
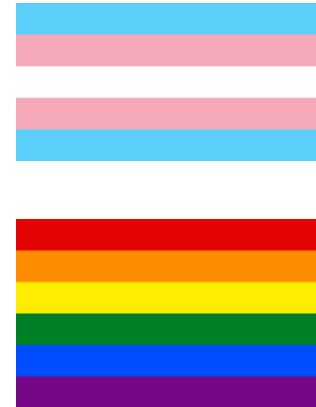
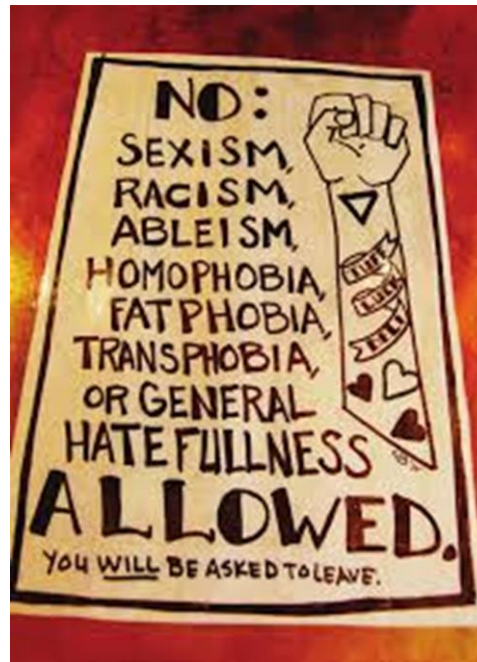
Gay

Lesbian

Bisexual

Questioning/Unsure

Not known or not determined



**Marsha P. Johnson artist: Micah Bazant**



# Thank you!

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# Jericho Project: Walton House



- Walton House opened in the Summer of 2018 and is located in the Fordham Heights section of the Bronx. Walton House is the newest of Jericho's 7 Supportive Housing Programs\*
- We serve:
  - 33 – Young Adults: 15/15 Young Adult Supportive Housing
    - *Funded by the Department of Health & Mental Health*
    - *Referrals are from HRA – CAP System*
  - 56 – Veterans: HUDVASH
    - Referred by the VA (BX/Manhattan)
- Programming:
  - Art Therapy
  - Horticultural Therapy
  - Zen Hour
  - Bingo
  - Independent Living Skills