

CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD

Transgender

RESOURCE GUIDE





The City of West Hollywood is proud to support the transgender community

and this resource guide serves
to enhance and improve its health and well-being.

weho.org | [@wehocity](https://twitter.com/wehocity) | (323) 848-6400
[@wehocares](https://twitter.com/wehocares)

WEST HOLLYWOOD CITY COUNCIL

Chelsea Lee Byers, Mayor
John Heilman, Vice Mayor
John M. Erickson
Danny Hang
Lauren Meister

The City of West Hollywood's **Transgender Advisory Board (TAB)** meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 6:00 PM. TAB advocates for transgender rights by focusing on education, community awareness, and empowerment. The Board also provides recommendations to the City Council on programs, policies, and ordinances that support and benefit the transgender community.

To view the current agenda packet, please visit: go.weho.org/tab.

Special Thanks: Drian Juarez, Eden Anai Luna, Mariana Marroquin, and April Saravia

For more copies of the **Transgender Resource Guide**, contact the West Hollywood Human Services Division at (323) 848-6510 or email wehocares@weho.org

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Revised 04/2025

Photos by Rakeem Cunningham
Design by Cynthia Tan

Understanding Gender Identity

GENDER IDENTITY is how a person feels about their own gender. This could be female, male, or something else. It is a natural part of who they are and does not change. Some people do not fit into the usual idea of being just male or female.

A **TRANSGENDER** person has a gender identity that is different from the sex they were given at birth. A **CISGENDER** person's gender identity matches the sex they were assigned at birth.

INTERSEX people are born with physical traits that don't fit typical male or female definitions. These traits might be in their chromosomes, hormones, or body.

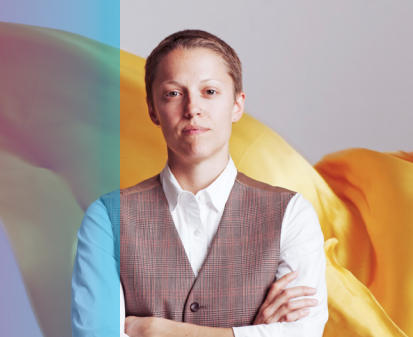
NONBINARY people do not see themselves as only male or female. **GENDER NONCONFORMING PEOPLE** express their gender in ways that may be different from what society expects.



Pronouns help people feel included. For example, if Jordan is a nonbinary person who uses they/them pronouns, you would say, "They went to the store" or "They will meet us at the dog park." If you don't know which pronoun to use, it's okay to ask. This shows respect and helps people feel valued.

It's important to use the words people choose for themselves. Some transgender people use terms like trans, nonbinary, genderqueer, genderfluid, or gender nonconforming to describe themselves. We contribute to creating a more inclusive and affirming community for all people by respecting each other's identity and language preferences.

Part of the information above is from the GLAAD website and additional educational information can be found at www.glaad.org/transgender.



Comprehensive Services

La mayoría de los servicios están disponibles en español, por favor llame a las agencias para obtener más información.

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER'S LEGAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT can help navigate the process of changing legal names and gender markers. This organization can also assist in connecting individuals with can also assist in connecting you with an attorney or trans-friendly legal resource to help guide you through cases such as employment discrimination, reporting hate crimes/incidents, intimate partner violence/abuse, immigration, asylum applications, and preparation of various legal documents. For more information, please call (323) 993-7670 or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/legal-services>.

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER'S TRANSGENDER SERVICES offers primary care services, hormone therapy, pre- and post-surgical care, Trans-sensitive pap smears, pelvic exams, and prostate exams, and many other services. The program accepts Medi-Cal, Medicare, most major insurance plans, and some HMOs. If you are uninsured, we can help you get insurance through Covered California or determine your eligibility for medical and drug assistance programs. Please visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/legal-services/> for additional information.

- **Trans* Lounge** is the Los Angeles LGBT Center's groundbreaking empowerment and community-building program for social connection and support, serving the TGI/ENBY+ (trans, gender nonconforming, intersex, nonbinary, gender expansive) communities. With over 20 virtual and in-person groups and classes each month, there is always something fun and engaging happening at Trans* Lounge. Join for free today at <https://translounge.org/trans-lounge-membership>.

“I walk through halls pillared with the strength and grace of trans pioneers who had the audacity to be their authentic selves. Just imagine how far ‘audacity’ and ‘solidarity’ can take us today.”

– KIM COCO IWAMOTO,
HAWAII CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

ST. JOHN'S COMMUNITY HEALTH TRANSGENDER HEALTH PROGRAM

welcomes all patients regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, and/or presentation. Services include trans-specific services, including hormone replacement therapy and referrals for gender-confirming surgeries, referrals to transgender advocates, legal support, and other services including assistance with name and/or gender marker changes, primary and preventive care – medical, dental, and pharmacy, behavioral and mental health care – individual counseling, family counseling, and support groups, HIV and STI testing, counseling, and treatment and health insurance enrollment. Please visit us at <https://www.wellchild.org/transgender-health-program/> or to make an appointment call (323) 541-1411. <https://sjch.org/transgender-health-program>.

THE TRANSLATIN@ COALITION

is committed to providing vital services and programs to support transgender, gender expansive, and intersex individuals. The program offers a drop-in center that provides daily food distribution and clothing. The Economic and Workforce Development program provides intensive case management, internship partnerships, resume building, job search assistance, and skills-building related to entrepreneurship. The HOPE House provides six-month transitional housing. In addition, they offer HIV prevention and testing, legal services, reentry programs, victim advocacy, and leadership development. For more information, please call (833) 847-2331 or visit www.translatinacoalition.org.



TRANS WELLNESS CENTER (TWC)

offers a wide range of resources and services for transgender and non-binary individuals, all conveniently located under one roof. Spanning 3,000 square feet, the center is the first of its kind in the United States, established through the collaboration of six local organizations. Conceived and brought to life by community leaders and allies, the TWC reflects their enduring commitment to raising awareness of the needs and contributions of the transgender community. Please visit <https://mytranswellness.org> for more information.

“For me, personally and politically, there’s no separating my womanness, my blackness, my transness from my me-ness.”

**- JANET MOCK,
WRITER AND TRANS ACTIVIST**

Employment

TRANS CAN WORK provides workforce development programs for transgender individuals, offering education, training, experience, and employment connections. The organization also helps employers create inclusive workplaces through culture evaluations and consultation.

www.TransCanWork.org
(323) 206-6827

TRANSGENER ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM (TEEP) provides a wide range of services to help trans, gender diverse, and intersex (TGI) people reach economic stability. TEEP offers job readiness and career development services and can connect community to inclusive employers for a fruitful and accepting career that allows you to show up as your authentic self. TEEP also offers training to organizations on how to be more



gender inclusive and consult on procedures and forms for maximum inclusivity. For more information, please call (323) 860-5887, e-mail teep@lalgbtcenter.org or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/transgender-services/employment-assistance>.

TRANSLATIN@ COALITION has an employment and workforce development program. For more information, see the TransLatin@ Coalition listing in this brochure in the Comprehensive Services section.

WEHO WORKS is a JVS SoCal partnership with the City of West Hollywood providing free Career Services for West Hollywood community members who are looking for employment. Services include customized Career Coaching, Planning, Workshops, Training, and Job Matching. WeHoWorks also collaborates with local employers to host Hiring Events and is located in the West Hollywood Public Library. Please visit www.jvs-socal.org/program/wehoworks/ or call (310) 652-6378 for more information.



Health & HIV Prevention Programs

APAIT offers HEART, a peer-led, skills building intervention designed to reduce HIV risk behaviors among Asian and Pacific Islander transgender women in LA County. The multi-session program seeks to empower transgender women to negotiate safer sex with their partners as well as to enhance their self-esteem and self-worth. For more information, call (213) 375-3830 or visit <https://apaitonline.squarespace.com>.

- **Casa de Zulma** is a 16 bed Enhanced Bridged Housing program for transgender women and residents receive supportive services provided by APAIT LA.

“I am here because when I was young, I wanted very badly to be a writer, I wanted to be a filmmaker, but I couldn’t find anyone like me in the world and it felt like my dreams were foreclosed simply because my gender was less typical than others. If I can be that person for someone else then the sacrifice of my private civic life may have value.”

– LANA WACHOWSKI

DIRECTOR/SCREENWRITER/PRODUCER

Excerpted from her speech upon accepting the Human Rights Campaign’s Visibility Award.

BEING ALIVE’S HARM REDUCTION CENTER – Syringe exchange and disposal is an evidence-based public health program designed to reduce the spread of HIV, Hepatitis C and other blood-borne infections among people who inject drugs. The Syringe Servicing Program operates Tuesday – Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. at 7976 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood. This program has a focus on people who inject drugs, but persons who use insulin, hormones or other injectable treatments are welcome to exchange and dispose of needles at Being Alive LA.

BIENESTAR provides a variety of free programs for transgender Latina women which provide health, education, mental health services, HIV testing, referrals and CRCS Counseling (Comprehensive Risk Counseling and Services). CRCS is one-on-one counseling that focuses on HIV prevention

and creating positive improvement in overall well-being. For more information call (866) 590-6411 or visit bienestar.org.

CEDARS-SINAI TRANSGENDER SURGERY AND HEALTH PROGRAM offers individualized care for all patients seeking gender-affirming surgery and transition-related care to all patients seeking gender-affirming surgery and



healthcare, including those covered by Medi-Cal and Medicare. For more information call (310) 423-1500 or (800) 233-2771 or visit <https://www.cedars-sinai.org/programs/transgender-surgery-health.html>.

FRIENDS COMMUNITY CENTER

has a number of different programs for HIV and substance abuse prevention. For more information, see the Friends Community Center listing in this brochure in the Substance Use/ Abuse section.

MEN'S HEALTH FOUNDATION

provides trans inclusive and informed care for HIV and STI testing and treatment and many other services:

- Low or no cost medical services from public programs
- Wellness classes and events for gay and trans youth of color
- Hormone replacement therapy for trans individuals
- Serving as a liaison for trans patients who might be looking for gender affirming surgery or other specific services they do not specifically offer
- Help trans patients navigate insurance policies and link them with the appropriate practices and providers



- Refer our trans patients to the LGBT Center, St. John's, and UCLA
- Promote relevant services provided at the Trans Wellness Center and work closely with FLUX
- PrEP and PEP access for HIV prevention

Call (310) 550-1010 or email menshealth@menshealthfound.org for more information.



MINORITY AIDS PROJECT

is dedicated to empowering and enriching the lives of individuals surviving with HIV/AIDS and other health disparities by offering medical, mental health, spiritual, and physical health service to all underserved populations by making health-related services and education available and accessible to everyone. They also have a community food pantry. For more information, call (323) 936-4949 or visit minorityaidsproject.org.

TRANS CONNECTIONS is a prevention program for trans people of color, ages 18-29. In addition to free HIV and STD testing, one-on-one goal setting support sessions, and monthly community events are also provided. Club Triangle meets every Thursday from 6pm - 8pm where issues affecting the trans community and how to get involved to help are discussed. <https://invisiblemen.wordpress.com/advocacy/program-highlight-trans-connections/>

TRANSGENDER WELLNESS PROGRAM AT APLA HEALTH provides comprehensive, affirming healthcare and support services for transgender, non-binary, and gender-diverse individuals. The goal is to offer a safe, inclusive environment where patients can access gender-affirming care, primary care, mental health services, and community resources. Main website and contact are www.aplahealth.org or (213) 201-1600.

“Imagine...you feel great about yourself, but when you look down, your body is the opposite sex from who you know yourself to be. Imagine what it would feel like to live with that discrepancy.”

**- JAMISON GREEN,
AUTHOR OF
*BECOMING A VISIBLE MAN***

HIV/STD Testing

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION

(213) 405-5800

aidshealth.org

- **Out of the Closet**
8224 Santa Monica Blvd.
10am – 7pm
- **AHF Healthcare Center – Westside**
99 N. La Cienega Blvd.
Suite 200, 8:30am – 5:30pm
- **Mobile Testing Unit**
8921 Santa Monica Blvd.
West Hollywood, CA 90069
Monday through Sunday,
7 pm – 2:30 am

BIENESTAR

4955 W. Sunset Blvd.

Monday & Wednesday

10am – 2 pm, 3 – 6:30pm

(866) 590-6411, ext. 200

bienestar.org

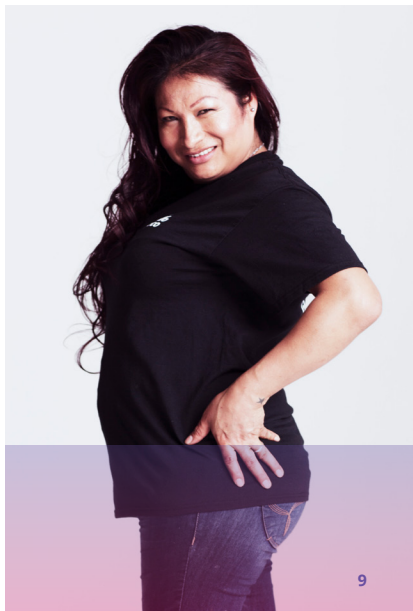
<https://www.bienestar.org/clinica-bienestar/hiv-health/>

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER

(323) 860-5855

lalgbtcenter.org

- **McDonald/Wright Building Health and Medical Center**
1625 N. Schrader Blvd.
Monday – Friday
10am – 2pm, 3 – 7pm
(Please call before visiting if possible)
- **Center – WeHo**
8745 Santa Monica Blvd.
2nd Floor
Monday – Friday
10am – 2pm, 3 – 7pm



LAW ENFORCEMENT: SOME BASIC RIGHTS

Adapted from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)

- **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to remain silent (including when asked about immigration or citizenship status with police, immigration agents or any other officials). If you wish to remain silent, say that out loud.
- **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to refuse to consent to a search of yourself, car or home.
- **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to calmly leave if you are not under arrest.
- **YOU HAVE THE RIGHT** to a lawyer if you are arrested. Ask for one immediately.

For additional basic rights regarding law enforcement, visit the ACLU website at <https://www.aclusocal.org/en/know-your-rights>.

MEN'S HEALTH FOUNDATION RAPID RESULTS – WEHO

(424) 245-3486

8280 Santa Monica Blvd.

Monday – Thursday

11 am – 2:45pm, 4 – 7:45pm and

Friday & Saturday

9am – 12:45pm, 2 – 5:45pm

THE SABAN COMMUNITY CLINIC

Various locations

(323) 653-1990

sabancommunityclinic.org

Legal Issues

Most sections of California law prohibit discrimination based on a long list of protected classes, including sexual orientation, gender and gender identity. LGBT+ Californians are protected from discrimination in securing employment and housing, accessing government services and participating in state-funded activities. LGBT+ people are also protected under the state's hate crime law.

Go to the Equality California website at eqca.org for more information.



BATHROOM USAGE – Everyone should use the restroom that matches their gender identity, regardless of whether they are making a gender transition or appear gender-nonconforming. An informative fact sheet titled, “Equal Access to Public Bathrooms,” is available as part of the Transgender Rights Toolbox located on the Lambda Legal website at <https://legacy.lambdalegal.org/know-your-rights>.

BET TZEDEK LEGAL SERVICES provides legal services for community members, with emphasis on benefits advocacy and landlord/tenant issues. For more information, call (323) 939-0506 (West Hollywood residents call 323-549-5841) or visit bettzedek.org.

LEGAL AID FOUNDATION OF LOS ANGELES (LAFLA)

provides free civil legal services related to eviction defense, homelessness, domestic violence, family law, public benefits, and immigration for low-income Los Angeles County residents. Visit www.lafla.org or call (800) 399-4529.

TRANSGENDER LAW CENTER (TLC)

is the largest national transgender organization advocating for a world in which all people are free to define themselves and their futures. Grounded in legal expertise and committed to racial justice, TLC employs a variety of community-driven strategies to keep transgender and gender nonconforming people alive, thriving, and fighting for liberation. <https://transgenderlawcenter.org>

“We were all born with special gifts, and we can develop our own unique identities without labels and achieve greatness in a society that aspires to embrace individual differences.”

– KARINA SAMALA,
WEST HOLLYWOOD TRANSGENDER
ADVISORY BOARD

Mental Health and Support Groups

BEING ALIVE

All of our peer groups provide a non-judgmental, safe, and confidential space where individuals truly express themselves in an atmosphere of mutual respect and encouragement. All groups are open/drop-in for anyone who has been diagnosed with HIV, whether or not they are client-members of Being Alive. Call or email Being Alive for details on any support group. Email becky@beingalivelva.org or (323) 874-4322.

BIENESTAR provides support and HIV risk reduction services for the transgender community, including support groups in Spanish. The

Transgéneros Unidas (TU) program provides services to the Latina transgender community including support groups, education and intervention programs, educational forums and social events. For more information, call (866) 590-6411.

TRANSGENDER SUPPORT AND EMPOWERMENT GROUPS

The Trans Behavior Health (TBH) program offers a range of therapy groups to build community, process, and engage in healing conversations with members of our trans and gender diverse family through three process groups (Nonbinary+, Trans Femme and Trans Masculine). They also offer space for our allies and family members to process in an affirming environment, with facilitators who are experts in trans care and the trans experience. For more information, call (323) 860-5806. Or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/transgender-services/group-therapy>.

Recreation

TRANS CHORUS OF LOS ANGELES (TCLA) is the first all Trans-Identified Chorus in America, consisting of Transgender, Non-Binary, Intersex, Gender-Non-

Conforming and Gender-Fluid individuals. TCLA celebrates diversity and acceptance in appearance and vocal presentation so that others can see and feel the joy shared. Through the music, the world increases awareness, understanding, power and victory for the Trans Community. To sing or volunteer for TCLA visit www.transchorusla.org.

Shelter

EMERGENCY SHELTER HELPLINE

To be referred to a shelter near you, call (800) 548-6047 or 2-1-1.

ASCENCIA

(818) 246-7900, ext. 100

ascenciaca.org

Monday – Wednesday & Friday
7am – 4pm, Thursday 7am – 2pm
Closed last Friday of the month.
Their services include case management, benefits assistance, shelter, and housing.

CASA DE ZULMA is an Enhanced Bridge Housing project for transgender women in Los Angeles County. Reach out to (213) 375-3830 for more information.

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER'S YOUTH TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

offers a one-of-a-kind transitional residence in the heart of Hollywood for LGBT Youth who don't have a home of their own or have been turned away from their families. While you're living here, our staff will help you find and maintain a job, enroll in school, and manage your savings so you can succeed once you are living on your own. Call (323) 860-2280 or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/youth-services/housing>. Drop in address and hours: 1118 N. McCadden Place Los Angeles
Monday – Friday 7:30am – 3:30pm
Saturday – Sunday 7:30am – 1:30pm





Substance Use/ Abuse

FRIENDS COMMUNITY CENTER is located on the border of Hollywood and West Hollywood at 6910 Santa Monica Blvd, which is the primary sex-work district for gay men and transgender women. Several service programs and research studies run out of Friends Community Center, including HIV and substance abuse prevention services to out-of-treatment substance users, as well as methamphetamine abuse treatment. For more information, call (323) 463-1601 or visit friendscommunitycenter.org.

This program includes:

- **TransAction** is designed to reduce high-risk sexual and drug behaviors among moderate to high-risk transgender women. Through client-centered goal planning with behavioral health counselors and daily group meetings, TransAction participants can learn skills and knowledge to help protect themselves and build a strong community. Office hours are 9am – 5:30pm, and groups meet Monday - Friday from 6pm – 7pm.

PEOPLE ASSISTING THE HOMELESS (PATH) has two shelter locations in Hollywood and also provides full-service case management to assist in finding housing, food, clothing, health and mental health services. For more information email pathlosangeles@epath.org or visit epath.org.

WEST HOLLYWOOD HOMELESS INITIATIVE For more information visit weho.org/homeless or call (323) 848-6510.

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER'S SUBSTANCE USE AND RECOVERY SERVICES

offers a variety of options to help with substance abuse—from one-on-one counseling, to medication-assisted treatment, to support groups specially created for female-identified individuals. Whether you're ready to manage your usage safely or stop altogether, we're here to provide stigma-free, competent care to help you achieve your goals. Our wide range of expertise spans harm reduction, therapy, entering recovery, managing recovery, and medication-assisted treatment. Call (323) 993-7500 or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/substance-use-recovery-services>.

TARZANA TREATMENT CENTERS

is a behavioral healthcare organization that provides high quality, cost-effective substance abuse and mental health treatment to adults and youth. Their programs include medical detox (alcohol and drug), residential rehab, outpatient alcohol and drug treatment services. For more information, call (888) 777-8565 or visit tarzanatc.org.

WEST HOLLYWOOD RECOVERY CENTER

hosts 12-step recovery meetings on a daily basis at 626 N. Robertson Blvd. and at the Log Cabin at 621 N. Robertson Blvd. There are also Zoom and Hybrid meetings. For a list of meetings visit thewhrc.org, email info@thewhrc.org or call/text (310) 849-3777.



Youth

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, LOS ANGELES – CENTER FOR TRANSYOUTH HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT is dedicated to providing affirming care for transgender and gender diverse children, adolescents, young adults and their families. As one of the oldest and largest transyouth programs, the Center partners with youth and their families to advance the field through innovative practice, training and research. For more information, please visit <https://www.chla.org/adolescent-and-young-adult-medicine/center-transyouth-health-and-development> or call (323) 361-2153.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES – LGBTQ+ YOUTH is committed to providing a safe and affirming environment that uplifts your sexual orientation, gender-identity and expression so that you can thrive. For more information, please visit <https://dcfs.lacounty.gov/youth/lgbtq-youth/> or call (323) 900-2390 to be connected with someone at the West Los Angeles office.

THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER'S YOUTH SERVICES, a program of the Los Angeles LGBT Center, is a drop-in center for LGBTQ youth that provides temporary housing or housing referrals, meals, showers, clothing and laundry services, counseling and support groups, addiction recovery services, and much more.

Drop in address and hours:

1118 N. McCadden Place
Los Angeles

Monday – Friday 7:30am – 3:30pm

Saturday – Sunday 7:30am – 1:30pm

For more information, call (323) 860-2280, email youthservices@lalgbtcenter.org or visit <https://lalgbtcenter.org/services/youth-services>.



WEST HOLLYWOOD IS HERE FOR YOU



**WE SUPPORT YOU & WE WILL
ALWAYS FIGHT FOR YOUR HUMAN RIGHTS.**



City of West Hollywood
California 1984



“Our likeness is no longer invisible and our history must not be forgotten, our bodies transcend the limitations of sex and gender and our legacy will continue in the spirits of the youth.”

- EDEN ANAÏ LUNA



weho.org
@wehocity
@wehocares