

KNOWLEDGE IS KEY TO PROVIDING CARE TO LGBT+ PEOPLE

The vast majority of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) older adults have lived through discrimination, social stigma, and the effects of prejudice both past and present, including a history of being labeled as criminals, sinners, and mentally ill. For some, this fear and social stigma has disrupted their lives, their connections with their families of origin, their lifetime earnings and their opportunities to save for retirement. It has also made many of them apprehensive of health care professionals and aging service providers.

Aging service providers should be aware that the effects of a lifetime of stigma, discrimination, rejection, ridicule and victimization puts LGBT older adults at greater risk for physical and mental illnesses, and other issues including social isolation, depression and anxiety, poverty, chronic illnesses, delayed care-seeking, poor nutrition, and premature mortality.

While LGBT older adults may be at risk for poorer health outcomes, research suggests that they are less likely than heterosexual elders to access aging network services and providers, senior centers, meal programs, and other entitlement programs because they fear discrimination or harassment if their sexual orientations or gender identities become known. Some LGBT older adults may access aging service agencies but may choose to remain closeted or private about their sexual orientation or gender identity, and may refer to partners, significant others, or loved ones as a “friend,” “roommate,” or “sibling.” Other LGBT older adults may resist accessing aging services and agencies altogether and may only seek assistance for emergency care.

The special challenges facing many LGBT older adults must be kept in mind and adequately addressed when designing and providing services to the aging.

Source: https://www.lgbtagingcenter.org/resources/pdfs/Sage_GuidebookFINAL1.pdf

CULTURAL COMPETENCE IN PROVIDING PATIENT-CENTRED CARE

One of the key components of patient-centred care is cultural competence. It is having the ability to listen and be empathetic and attentive to the client's unique individual needs, respecting their values, beliefs, preferences, and making them feel safe which in turn improve patient outcome and reduces health disparities. And the key to achieving this skill set is self-awareness. As a care provider, becoming self-aware of our own culture, values and biases will help us deliver quality and effective care.

The way you start your day, the way you approach a situation at work, the way you communicate to your clients and colleagues, your attitude and behaviour is greatly influenced by your environment and culture. Reflect and be willing to learn and know more about yourself and others. - Marizen Leoncio, HCA Program Instructor

WORDS OF INSPIRATION FROM MARIANNE GARFERIO, ESL-HCA STUDENT



My goal in studying at Drake Medox College is to finish my HCA diploma and get a better job. At first, I hesitated if I could complete this course, but I asked myself "Why not try?"

Over the past several months, I have matured and learned a lot about myself and how I can handle my struggles in life. I have become a more organized, independent and successful student. In addition, my English skills have improved, and I am now ready for my future as an HCA.

Through my ESL classes, I was able to meet other students who helped me become more confident in my English skills. I have become a better active listener and communicator and am thankful to be an ESL-HCA student of Drake Medox College!

GRADUATION HIGHLIGHTS

On May 19, Drake Medox College hosted 485 graduates and guests to an evening of celebration and fun. Congratulations to the new graduates!

We look forward to staying in touch with you in the years ahead. Remember to refer your family and friends to take advantage of our awesome referral program, and never hesitate to reach out to us if you ever need any job search support.

**Next grad is scheduled for November 3, 2023



FAREWELL & THANK YOU HARJEET

At the end of June we will bid farewell to our long-time HCA instructor Harjeet who is moving to the UK. We are grateful for her many years of service and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

"It has been a great pleasure to work with Drake Medox and the team. I will definitely miss all of you. I have so many great memories working with the students in both classroom and clinical settings."

FATHER'S DAY CONTEST

Father's Day is dedicated to honoring our fathers or father figures who give us so much to be grateful for throughout the years.



Visit our Facebook or Instagram to share what you "want to thank your dad for" and automatically be entered in our random draw to win 1 of 2 Amazon gift cards valued at \$75 each.