



What is The Transgender Response Team?

The purpose of the Transgender Response Team (TRT) is to launch and sustain a linked framework of culturally competent, evidence-based HIV prevention services for transgender communities and individuals in the state of Maryland.

The TRT will accomplish this work by focusing on efforts that:

- reduce the stigma and oppression that fuel risk and risk-taking behavior;
- facilitate power-sharing between consumers and providers, and;
- promote solution-based dialogues and actions.

The Transgender Response Team was convened by the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration (then known as the Maryland AIDS Administration) in response to input received at the Transgender Health Forums held during the summer of 2007. The forums revealed a common desire among transgender consumers, health and human services providers, and other stakeholders, for the creation of a stable venue to engage in activities to tackle the many barriers transgender Marylanders face to full and equal inclusion in society, which collectively contribute to heightened risk for HIV for transgender people.

Membership in the Transgender Response Team is open to local members of transgender communities, their allies, service providers, and others interested in improving the health of transgender Marylanders.

The Transgender Response Team is asked to:

- identify and engage in opportunities to create structural/environmental change that contribute to reducing and/or eliminating HIV/STD and other health risks for transgender consumers.
- consider analyses of available data and how to apply it to the design and improvement of programs serving transgender consumers.
- assist in identifying and engaging partners outside of the traditional circle of HIV/AIDS prevention and care services, who can help move efforts forward to attain equal access and cultural competency in services for transgender consumers.
- advise the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration (PHPA) and other members of the TRT by identifying gaps in transgender health and human services and suggesting solutions.
- provide information about local projects such that other participants can make informed service referrals of transgender consumers into these projects.
- assist in raising the visibility of transgender communities, their needs and assets, to stakeholders in positions to contribute to positive change for transgender consumers.
- assist in raising the visibility of local projects represented on the TRT.
- identify and engage in advocacy efforts intended to support civil rights protections for transgender consumers.
- offer feedback on new programmatic initiatives designed to improve the health of transgender consumers.
- identify and overcome barriers to the realization of a linked framework of local health and human services for transgender Marylanders.

Transgender Response Team What We Are Working on Now

The Transgender Response Team voted on priorities in April 2020 via an online process. These priorities will be our focus until the next Priority Setting. The Team selected three top priorities from among 46 items generated at the January 2020 meeting and refined to a priority list in March. These priorities are:

Establish an Anti-Violence project centered in LGBTQ experience in Maryland.

Improve sex ed for trans and nonbinary students in Maryland.

Improve and expand employment linkages and relationships with employment programs and employers for trans and nonbinary Marylanders.

The TRT meets every month (except August and December) on the first Friday of the month from 12:00 – 1:30 PM at the Prevention and Health Promotion Administration, 500 N. Calvert Street, Baltimore, MD 21202. Meetings are held in the 2nd Floor Training Room.

To learn more about the Transgender Response Team, please visit us online at <http://trtnetwork.weebly.com/> or call Jean-Michel Brevelle at (410) 767-5016.