

The background of the entire image consists of diagonal stripes in various colors of the rainbow, including purple, pink, blue, green, yellow, orange, and red, creating a vibrant and inclusive visual theme.

# **LGBTQIA+**

## **Workgroup Report**

# LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

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# LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

Prince George's County  
LGBTQIA+ Workgroup  
Wayne K. Curry Administration Building  
Largo, Maryland 20774

July 18, 2025

Dear County Executive Aisha Braveboy  
Council Chair Edward Burroughs:

We are pleased to present the final report of the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup, established under Council Resolution CR-77-2023. The Workgroup was established to examine the challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ residents in Prince George's County and to explore how the County can expand and improve services for these communities.

Over the past year, the Workgroup has engaged in meaningful conversations, research, and collaboration to better understand and address the needs, priorities, and lived experiences of LGBTQIA+ residents in Prince George's County. As a part of this effort, the Workgroup convened public meetings and engaged with residents, community-based organizations, and government partners to ensure a collaborative and inclusive process. This report summarizes our findings and the insights gained through community engagement, with the goal of advancing equity, inclusion, and support for LGBTQIA+ residents across the County.

The final report focused on several key areas, identified as priorities through input from community stakeholders and informed assessment:

- Mental Health, Support Networks, and Ally Outreach
- Public Education, Safety, and Cross-Agency Collaboration
- Support for LGBTQIA+ Individuals Affected by Domestic Violence
- Support for Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender Diverse Residents

These focus areas directly shaped the development of the Workgroup's recommendations. The report outlines actionable policy and funding recommendations specifically developed to address the disparities and barriers highlighted through our work.

We want to thank the Council for its leadership in creating this Workgroup and for recognizing the importance of advancing equity and inclusion in our County. We also extend our sincere gratitude to the residents, advocates, and agencies who contributed their time, expertise, and lived experiences to inform this important work.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

We hope this report serves as a foundation for sustained action and meaningful progress toward a more inclusive Prince George's County for all.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Krystal Oriadha', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

The Honorable Krystal Oriadha  
Vice Chair, Prince George's County Council  
LGBTQIA+ Workgroup Co-Chair

***Courtney E. Mariette***

Courtney E. Mariette, Former Deputy Director  
Office of Community Relations  
LGBTQIA+ Workgroup, Co-Chair

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT



Krystal Oriadha, Vice-Chair  
Prince George's County Council  
LGBTQIA+ Workgroup, Co-Chair

As a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ Committee, it has been my passion to ensure my community is not left out. I wanted this work group to help come up with solutions that will bring more resources, awareness, and understanding to the needs of the LGBTQIA+ community and actually make things happen. I look forward to the great things that will come from this! – Councilmember Krystal Oriadha



Courtney Mariette, Former Deputy Director  
Office of Community Relations  
LGBTQIA+ Workgroup, Co-Chair

As a person who loves, lives, and thrives as part of the LGBTQIA+ Prince George's County community, this Workgroup has been luminous in acknowledging the importance of advocacy, representation, inclusivity, resource development, education, and awareness. A huge thanks is

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

owed to the courage of Prince George's County Government leadership to not only explore but also take action. Thank you - let's get to work! - Courtney Elizabeth Mariette

### **BACKGROUND**

The LGBTQIA+ Workgroup was established under Council Resolution CR-77-2023 to examine the needs, challenges, and barriers experienced by LGBTQIA+ residents in Prince George's County. The resolution acknowledged that despite progress at various levels of government, disparities persist in healthcare access, housing stability, public safety, economic opportunity, and mental health support for LGBTQIA+ individuals.

The Workgroup was tasked with identifying areas where the County can strengthen services, promote inclusivity, and adopt policies that affirm and protect all residents, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

### **Membership**

The Workgroup included a diverse mix of members, community leaders, nonprofit service providers, healthcare professionals, advocates, and government agency representatives. Each member brought valuable experience and professional expertise. Together, they ensured the Workgroup efforts were informed by community needs and aligned with actionable steps the County Council could take.

### **Meeting Timeline and Presentations**

The Workgroup held monthly virtual meetings from June 2024 through June 2025 to support accessibility and sustained participation. Each meeting included robust discussions and strategy planning. The Workgroup also received in-depth presentations from:

- Health Department
- Department of Family Services
- Nonprofit organizations and LGBTQIA+ advocates

These presentations provided valuable insights into existing services, gaps in support, and best practices for affirming care and programming. They also helped shape the Workgroup's final recommendations by grounding its work in current data, policy realities, and direct community experience.

### **Key Focus Areas**

The Focus areas emerged from recurring themes and gaps identified during the Workgroup discussion, stakeholder input, community feedback, and a review of local and national best practices. These categories represent the most pressing needs and systemic barriers affecting LGBTQIA+ individuals in relation to safety, access, and support. Throughout its meetings and deliberations, the Workgroup identified four central areas of focus:

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

- Mental Health, Support Networks, and Ally Outreach

LGBTQIA+ residents face unique mental health challenges due to stigma, discrimination, and social isolation. The Workgroup highlighted the importance of culturally competent mental health services, expanded peer support networks, and ally training to ensure affirming spaces across schools, workplaces, and community settings.

- Public Education, Public Safety, and Cross-Agency Coordination

There is a continued need for greater public understanding and inclusivity. The Workgroup recommended launching public education campaigns and improving training across agencies, especially in law enforcement and emergency services, to foster safer and more respectful engagement with LGBTQIA+ residents.

- Support for LGBTQIA+ Individuals Affected by Domestic Violence

Domestic violence within LGBTQIA+ relationships often goes underrecognized. The Workgroup called for expanding safe, affirming housing options and ensuring domestic violence response systems, including shelters, law enforcement, and crisis services, are inclusive and accessible to all survivors.

- Support for Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender-Diverse Residents

A critical area of concern was the availability of gender-affirming care and services. The Workgroup focused on increasing access to appropriate healthcare, addressing employment and housing discrimination, and ensuring that County systems uphold the rights and dignity of transgender and non-binary individuals.

### Summary

Each area helped shape targeted and meaningful recommendations that reflect the needs and priorities of the LGBTQIA+ community. Through sustained collaboration, data-informed discussions, and direct engagement with agency leaders and advocates, the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup has developed a series of actionable recommendations to make Prince George's County a more inclusive, safe, and affirming place for all residents.

This report marks the culmination of our work, but it is not the end. We hope it serves as a foundation for long-term progress and continued partnership with LGBTQIA+ communities throughout the County.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Mental Health Support Groups and Allyship Outreach** are as follows:

- **Creation of an Emergency Shelter Program**

The Emergency Shelter Program aims to provide immediate relief for homeless LGBTQIA+ youth. The proposal focuses on preventing exposure to unsafe environments and offering a foundation for stability. It suggests partnering with local organizations to establish shelters exclusively for LGBTQIA+ youth, providing safe and affirming spaces with accommodations for up to six months.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: High, due to facility setup, staff wages, and utilities.

Impact: Immediate relief for homeless youth, preventing exposure to an unsafe environment, and offering a foundation for stability.

- **Establish Mobile Health Clinics**

This initiative is aimed at reducing barriers to healthcare, encouraging early diagnosis and treatment, and building trust within the LGBTQIA+ community. The proposal includes deploying mobile units in underserved areas to provide free HIV/AIDS testing, counseling, and basic healthcare tailored to LGBTQIA+ needs. While some nonprofits previously operated mobile units, those services have since ended; this recommendation seeks to revive and expand mobile outreach to better serve high-need areas. Despite the southern part of the county having the highest HIV/AIDS rates, clinic access remains concentrated in the north, underscoring the need for mobile clinics to reach underserved areas.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: Moderate, covering vehicle operation, medical supplies, and staffing.

Impact: Reduces barriers to healthcare, improves early diagnosis and treatment, and builds trust within the community.

- **Establishment of Peer Support Groups**

The peer support group would promote resilience, reduce isolation, and address stigma. These groups would be peer-led and focus on mental health, discrimination, and coping strategies for individuals living with HIV/AIDS, caregivers, and family members. The proposal suggests partnering with county libraries and recreation centers to host these groups using existing government facilities.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: Low, relying on volunteers and donated space.

Impact: Builds resilience and community connection while addressing isolation and stigma.



## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Legal Aid Clinics**

The Legal Aid Clinics would empower LGBTQIA+ youth to address systemic discrimination. The clinics would offer free or low-cost legal services related to housing, employment, and healthcare discrimination. The initiative would involve developing a specialized grant in collaboration with existing partners like Community Legal Aid and creating a dedicated legal support network for LGBTQIA individuals.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: Moderate, covering lawyer fees and administrative costs.

Impact: Empower youth to challenge systemic discrimination and foster long-term systemic changes.

- **Job Training Programs**

Develop job Training Programs designed to promote long-term economic stability and reduce homelessness. These initiatives would specifically support LGBTQIA+ youth and individuals by partnering with affirming businesses. The importance of connecting participants with employers known for inclusive practices is emphasized. Existing partnerships with agencies like Employ Prince George's could be leveraged to develop intentional pathways into affirming work environments.

Time Frame: Long-term

Cost: High, depending on the scale of the program.

Impact: Long-term economic stability for participants, reducing the risk of homelessness.

- **LGBTQIA+ Youth Housing Vouchers**

Partner with government and non-profit organizations to provide housing vouchers specifically for LGBTQIA homeless youth. These vouchers can offer critical stability and a safer alternative to shelters, where youth may face discrimination or unsafe conditions.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: High, depending on the scale of the program.

Impact: Immediate reduction in youth homelessness, providing a shelter foundation for recovery and growth.

- **Cultural Competency Training for Service Providers**

This initiative involves mandatory training for government staff and nonprofit service providers who work directly with constituents, including healthcare, shelter, and social service providers. The goal is to reduce discriminatory practices and improve service delivery to LGBTQIA+ individuals. This training would be a requirement for nonprofits with county contracts, particularly those providing shelter services, ensuring these organizations meet standards for culturally competent care.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: Low, covering training materials and facilitators.

Impact: Ensure better service delivery and reduce discriminatory practices.

- **Community Mentorship Programs**

These programs aim to build confidence and provide sustained support by connecting LGBTQIA+ youth with mentors who can guide them in areas such as career planning, healthcare access, and personal development. The recommendation emphasized potential collaboration with the school system, which has already initiated efforts to create safe spaces for LGBTQIA+ students, as well as expanding mentorship opportunities through government, corporate, and nonprofit partnerships.

Time Frame: Long-term

Cost: Moderate, for background checks and program management.

Impact: Builds confidence and provides a long-term support network for participants.

- **Inclusive Sex Education Campaigns**

This proposal is designed to reduce HIV transmission rates and promote healthy relationships. These programs would be implemented in schools and community centers, ensuring content is representative of all sexual orientations and gender identities. A key point raised was the need to address the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS solely with the LGBTQIA+ community, especially given the rise in HIV cases among heterosexual women. The goal is to create comprehensive, inclusive campaigns that serve all populations.

Time Frame: Long-term

Cost: Moderate, covering curriculum development and training.

Impact: Reduces HIV transmission rates and promotes healthy relationships.

- **LGBTQIA+ Safe Spaces and Community Centers**

These centers would serve as centralized hubs for counseling, health services, job training, and social connections. While a long-term vision includes dedicated standalone centers, an initial and more immediate step would involve partnering with libraries and recreation centers to designate safe, affirming spaces. These could host regular office hours and offer services like PrEP and PEP education, mental health counseling, and employment resources, all within existing county facilities.

Time Frame: Long-term

Cost: High, due to construction, staffing, and maintenance.

Impact: Serves as a hub for comprehensive support, fostering community cohesion and long-term success.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Public Education Campaign, Public Safety, and Cross-Agency Coordination** are as follows:

- **Integrating an Inclusive LGBTQIA+ Curriculum into the Public School System K-12**

This proposal recommends mandating the integration of LGBTQIA+ history, contributions, and identity topics into the K-12 public school curriculum. This inclusive curriculum should be supported by comprehensive teacher training and the provision of respectful, accurate instructional materials to ensure that LGBTQIA+ topics are represented appropriately in the classroom.

Time Frame: Short-term

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- **Anti-Bullying & Safe Schools Policies**

Create safer school environments by strengthening anti-bullying and harassment policies, specifically those addressing sexual orientation and gender identity. These enhanced policies should include clear reporting mechanisms and accessible support systems not only for LGBTQIA+ students but also for staff members who identify as part of the LGBTQIA+ community. This recommendation promotes the existing Welcoming Schools policy to increase awareness and effectiveness.

Time Frame: Short-term (1-2 Years)

Cost: Low

Impact: High

- **Comprehensive Teacher Training on LGBTQIA+ Issues**

The Workgroup recommends implementing mandatory, LGBTQIA+-inclusive training for all educators. These training programs would equip teachers with the knowledge and skills to support LGBTQIA+ students and foster inclusive classroom environments.

Time Frame: Short-term (1-2 years)

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

- **LGBTQIA+ Mental Health Support In Schools**

Increase funding for tailored mental health services within the school system, acknowledging the unique mental health challenges faced by LGBTQIA+ youth. This includes access to affirming counselors and peer support programs. Providers such as Hazel Health play a key role in offering specialized support for LGBTQIA+ students, and all on-site school counselors receive appropriate training to effectively meet these needs.

Time Frame: Medium-term (3-5 years)

Cost: Moderate to high

Impact: High

- **LGBTQIA+ Sensitivity Training for Law Enforcement**

Designate LGBTQIA+ liaison officers within the Police Department to respond to incidents involving LGBTQIA+ individuals and build stronger community trust. Formalized roles are needed to improve communication, ensure affirming responses, particularly in cases of sexual assault or hate crimes, and address the under-reporting of such incidents through increased safety and trust.

Time Frame: Short-term (1-2 years)

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High

- **Improving Hate Crime Reporting and Response System**

Improve hate crime reporting and response systems by establishing clear, accessible mechanisms for reporting incidents and strengthening coordination between law enforcement and community-based organizations to ensure timely support and accountability.

Time Frame: Medium-term (3-5 years)

Cost: High

Impact: High

- **Creation of Long-term, Interagency LGBTQIA+ Workgroup**

Establish a permanent interagency LGBTQIA+ Workgroup. Unlike the current short-term Workgroup, this body would bring together various government agencies to communicate regularly about LGBTQIA+ services and initiatives, creating a more coordinated and sustained approach to meeting community needs.

Time Frame: Short-term (1-2 Years)

Cost: Low

Impact: High

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- **LGBTQIA+ Inclusive Housing and Homelessness Programs**

Expand LGBTQIA+-inclusive housing and homelessness programs, with a focus on both youth and seniors. This includes implementing non-discriminatory shelter policies, funding affirming housing options, and recognizing the unique vulnerabilities of transgender individuals and LGBTQIA+ seniors. True safety requires intentionality in the design of spaces and programs, especially in communal shelters where respect among residents cannot always be guaranteed.

Time Frame: Medium-term (3-5 years)

Cost: High

Impact: High

- **Healthcare Access and Non-Discrimination Protections**

Strengthen protections against healthcare discrimination for LGBTQIA+ individuals, ensure access to gender-affirming care, and fund training for medical professionals for LGBTQIA+ health needs. Expand outreach and support services to reduce barriers to care and improve health outcomes within LGBTQIA+ communities.

Time Frame: Long-term (5+ years)

Cost: High

Impact: High

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **LGBTQIA+ Individuals Affected by Domestic Violence** are as follows:

- **Mandate LGBTQIA+ Cultural Competency Training for First Responders, Within Domestic Violence Response Protocols**

Mandating LGBTQIA+ cultural competency training for first responders ensures they can respond to domestic violence situations with sensitivity and awareness of the unique challenges LGBTQIA+ individuals may face. This training helps build trust, reduce harm, and improve safety outcomes for survivors.

Time Frame: Short-term (goal of 6 months)

Cost: moderate cost, primarily for trainers or contracts

Impact: High impact by fostering respectful, informed, and appropriate responses to LGBTQIA+ domestic violence cases.

- **Launch a Public Education Campaign to Promote Healthy Relationships with the LGBTQIA+ Community**

Through inclusive messaging, the campaign would work to shift perceptions, recognize signs of abuse, normalize conversations about domestic violence across all relationship types, and ensure LGBTQIA+ individuals are represented in prevention and support efforts. Integrating this content into existing health dating workshops would be a natural and effective extension of current outreach.

- **Inclusivity of Domestic Violence Hotline Services**

This recommendation emphasizes the need to assess domestic violence hotline services to ensure they are inclusive and responsive to the unique needs of LGBTQIA+ individuals. Require that hotline staff receive mandatory training on inclusive language and ensure they have access to a comprehensive resource database that includes support services specific to the LGBTQIA+ community.

- **Free Legal Clinics Specifically for LGBTQIA+ Individuals, Focused on Domestic Violence, Potentially Expanding to Housing and Employment Discrimination**

LGBTQIA+ individuals facing domestic violence often encounter additional legal barriers, including discrimination in housing and employment. Free legal clinics tailored to their specific needs would provide critical support, ensure access to justice, and help address the broader systemic challenges they may face.

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Time Frame: Short-term (implemented within 6 months) by partnering with existing nonprofits that offer legal services.

Cost: Moderate expense (if funded through grants)

Impact: High – Increasing access to justice for marginalized survivors.

- **Expand LGBTQIA+ Domestic Violence Services Through Mobile Outreach and Strategic Event Partnerships**

Expand LGBTQIA+ domestic violence services through mobile outreach and strategic partnerships with D.C.-based LGBTQIA+ venues and events. Given the limited nightlife and gathering spaces in Prince George's County, collaborating with events where local LGBTQIA+ residents already convene can help raise awareness and connect individuals to available services within the County.

Time Frame: Short-term (approximately 6 months)

Cost: Low to moderate (depending on whether the county organizes its events or participates through tabling and sponsorship).

Impact: High – Expanded service accessibility in trusted spaces.

- **Expand Trauma-Informed Mental Health Services Specifically Tailored to LGBTQIA+ Survivors of Domestic Violence**

Expand trauma-informed mental health services specifically tailored to LGBTQIA+ survivors of domestic violence by partnering with county health care providers to increase access. Services should include free or sliding-scale therapy options to help address the broader shortage of long-term, affordable mental health care in Prince George's County.

Time Frame: Medium to long-term

Cost: Moderate to high associated cost

Impact: High – Stronger mental health infrastructure for LGBTQIA+ communities.

- **Emergency Phones and Transit Access for LGBTQIA+ Survivors**

Improve access to emergency communication and transportation for LGBTQIA+ domestic violence survivors by providing prepaid phones and transit cards to support their safety, mobility, and ability to seek help during a crisis.

Time Frame: Short-term (3-month implementation timeline)

Cost: Low – utilize targeted grants and focused service providers.

Impact: High – Increased survivor safety and mobility.

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- **LGBTQIA+ Domestic Violence Youth Prevention Workshops**

This initiative aligns closely with existing healthy dating programs for teens, but would intentionally incorporate an LGBTQIA+ component to ensure inclusivity across all gender identities and sexual orientations.

Time Frame: 6-12 months

Cost: Moderate

Impact: High – Increased trust between law enforcement and LGBTQIA+ communities.

- **LGBTQIA+ Domestic Violence Guide**

The proposed county-wide LGBTQIA+ domestic violence resource guide would be multilingual, easy to navigate, and available electronically and as a flyer. The flyer would direct individuals to a website or digital platform where the full guide could be accessed.

Time Frame: Short-term (six months)

Cost:

Impact: High – Improved access to affirming resources.



## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Recommendations

Recommendations related to **Transgender and Nonbinary Gender-Affirming Care** are as follows:

- **Gender Affirming Care Support Fund**

Establish a support fund through the County Health Department to provide grants or vouchers for services not typically covered, such as voice therapy and travel costs to out-of-area surgeons, specifically for low-income residents.

- **Inclusive Health Coverage for County Employees**

Collaborate with Human Resources to revise county employees' benefits so that all medically necessary gender-affirming care is fully covered, without arbitrary limits, aligned with Maryland Medicaid standards. This aims to create a “gold standard” model and enhance recruitment and retention.

- **Care Navigation & Peer Support Programs**

Fund two to three care navigator positions and trained peer supporters through the Health Department (or via nonprofit grants) to assist with Medicaid enrollment, finding affirming providers, and resolving insurance issues. Identified as a top community need based on other jurisdictions' assessments and emphasized as a highly beneficial and frequently requested service.

- **Targeted Grants & Expedited Permitting for Clinics**

Offer \$50,000-\$100,000 startup grants and fast-track permitting to clinics that commit to offering transgender and non-binary services (e.g., hormone therapy, top/voice surgeries). This would reduce the need for out-of-county travel and grow the local trans-affirming healthcare workforce.

- **Tele-Mental Health Expansion**

To promote culturally competent care for mental health care, this recommendation proposes contracting with telehealth vendors specializing in trans-competent counseling and subsidizing up to 10 sessions per resident annually. It would address mental health disparities, including depression and suicide rates among trans individuals. The Tele-Mental Health expansion would serve as a complement to the existing 9-8-8 services.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

- **Privacy and SHIELD Ordinance**

Enact a local ordinance mirroring Maryland's SHIELD law to prohibit county agencies from cooperating with out-of-state entities pursuing criminal actions related to gender-affirming care, thereby protecting clinics and families from hostile jurisdictions.

- **Comprehensive Cultural Competency Training**

Require annual trans-inclusive training for all first responders, detention staff, healthcare contractors, and school nurses. Training would include pronoun and gender identity protocols to reduce misgendering and improve safety in public-facing interactions.

- **Mobile Gender-Affirming Health Unit**

Expand existing mobile health clinics or create specialized ones to provide hormone therapy, STI screening, injection teaching, and binder distribution, especially in areas with transportation barriers.

- **Public Equity Dashboard and Data Review Board**

Develop a Health Department dashboard to publicly report on metrics like wait times and denials for gender-affirming care. Create a review board, including trans residents, to identify gaps and propose improvements.

- **Youth Family Support Initiative**

Partner with schools to host quarterly educational and peer support programs for families of transgender and non-binary youth. Early family engagement is key to improving youth mental health outcomes.

- **Peer-Led Mental Health Support Groups**

Establish community-based, peer-led support groups to foster mental health support specifically tailored for LGBTQIA+ residents. These groups provide a safe, affirming space for shared experiences, reducing isolation and promoting well-being through culturally competent, peer-driven support.

- **Affirming Administrative Practices**

Review and update hospital and clinic intake forms to reflect chosen names, pronouns, and gender identities. Also promote affirming environments by adding gender-neutral bathrooms, pronoun badges, inclusive signage, and visible non-discrimination policies.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### CONCLUSION

The LGBTQIA+ Workgroup has thoughtfully examined the critical issues impacting LGBTQIA+ residents in Prince George's County from the perspective of four key focus areas: Mental Health Support and Ally Outreach, Support for Individuals affected by Gun Violence, Support for Transgender, Non-Binary, and Gender-Diverse Residents, and Public Education, Public Safety, and Cross-Agency Coordination.

The recommendations presented reflect a collaborative effort based on lived experiences, professional insight, and a commitment to advancing equity and inclusion. Implementing these recommendations will require continued partnership across government agencies, community organizations, and residents to ensure that all LGBTQIA+ individuals are safe, supported, and empowered to thrive.

This work represents a meaningful step toward lasting change and a shared responsibility to build a more inclusive and just future for all.

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Members

Krystal Oriadha	County Council Vice Chair & Co-Chair
Courtney Mariette	Deputy Director, Office of Community Relations, Co-Chair
Euniesha Davis	Director, Office of Community Relations
Elana Belon-Butler	Director, Department of Family Services
Lauren N. Wethers-Coggins	AFFIRM Program Coordinator
Dr. Diane Young, PhD, MS, RN	Associate Director, Family Health Services Division Health Department
Jose Villegas	Deputy Director, Office of Human Rights
Khoury Lassiter	Advocates for Youth
Jason Jude	Chief of Teams, Us Helping Us
Dr. Jermaine Wyatt, LICSW	Director of Community Health & Health Equity Us Helping Us

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Staff Support

Sandra Eubanks	Health, Human Services & Public Safety Committee
Leroy Maddox	Legislative Officer
Rhonda Riddick	Committee Assistant
Tiffany Hannon,	Chief of Staff, Council Member Oriadha's Office

Melody M. Arrington	Committee Assistant
Nakia McBride	Committee Assistant

Communications	
Rita D. Lassiter	Communications Specialist, County Council

Technical Support	
Donna Brown	Clerk of the Council
Leonard Moses	Deputy Clerk of the Council
James T. Walker Bey	Associate Clerk of the Council
Douglas Pope	Administrative Aide

## LGBTQIA+ WORKGROUP REPORT

### Workgroup Meetings, Agendas, and Minutes

The LGBTQIA+ Workgroup met on the following dates:

June 28, 2024

September 20, 2024

October 18, 2024

November 15, 2024

January 17, 2025

February 21, 2025

March 21, 2025

April 18, 2025

May 16, 2025

June 20, 2025

The meeting agendas, minutes, and video recordings are available on the Council's LGBTQIA+ Workgroup webpage [here](#).

Additionally, the presentations provided during the meeting are also archived for viewing on the webpage.

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**2023 Legislative Session**

Resolution No. CR-077-2023

Proposed by Council Member Oriadha

Introduced by Council Members Oriadha, Dernoga, Fisher, Olson, Blegay, Burroughs and  
Hawkins

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction September 6, 2023

**RESOLUTION**

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Establishing a Workgroup to Study LGBTQIA+ Issues

3 For the purpose of establishing a LGBTQIA+ Workgroup; providing for the purpose of the  
 4 LGBTQIA+ Workgroup; providing for the composition of the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup; providing  
 5 for the staff and technical support for the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup; providing for the issuance of a  
 6 certain report with suggestions; and generally regarding the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup.

7 WHEREAS, the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup shall study current services and come up with  
 8 recommendations for programs or legislation to expand services for the LGBTQIA+  
 9 communities across the County, such as access to medical care, access to social services, access  
 10 to mental health services, economic opportunity, violence, employment discrimination, housing  
 11 discrimination, access to affordable housing, bathrooms, schools, and other public  
 12 accommodations, and discrimination in the criminal justice system.

13 WHEREAS, Section 506 of the Charter for Prince George's County provides that the  
 14 County Council or the County Executive may appoint, for designated periods, one or more  
 15 temporary advisory boards of citizens of the County who shall assist in the consideration of  
 16 County policies and programs.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County,  
 18 Maryland, that there is hereby established a LGBTQIA+ Workgroup to assist the County in  
 19 expanding services to communities in need:

- 20 (a) The LGBTQIA+ Workgroup ("Workgroup") shall research and analyze underserved  
 21 areas of need for residents within the LGBTQIA+ communities in Prince George's

County, to include access to medical care, social services and mental health services, housing and/or employment discrimination, violence, economic opportunities, public accommodations and judicial services and treatment; and

(b) The Workgroup shall be comprised of the following members:

- (1) One (1) Representative from the Prince George's County Council;
- (2) One (1) LGBTQIA+ Liaison from the Office of the County Executive;
- (3) The Director of the Office of Community Relations, or their designee;
- (4) The Director of Prince George's County Family Services, or their designee;
- (5) The Director of the Department of Social Services; or their designee;
- (6) The Director of the Department of Health, or their designee;
- (7) A Representative from the Office of Human Rights;
- (8) Two (2) Representatives from a community-based non-profit providing services to LGBTQIA+ communities.

(c) The Workgroup shall elect the Chair of the Workgroup by majority vote at the first meeting.

(d) The Workgroup shall meet a minimum of once a month.

(e) No member of the Workgroup shall receive compensation in exchange for their services rendered to the Workgroup; but they are entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations as provided by the County Budget.

(f) The Legislative Branch shall provide for the staff and technical support for the LGBTQIA+ Workgroup.

(g) The LGBTQIA+ Workgroup shall issue a report to be transmitted to the County Council no later than 1 year after the initial meeting.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October, 2023.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Thomas E. Dernoga  
Chair

ATTEST:



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Donna J. Brown  
Clerk of the Council