

Our Journey Toward Excellence in LGBTQ+ Healthcare

Chase Glenn, Director of LGBTQ+ Health Services and Enterprise Resources

August was a busy month and September promises to be even busier as we are leaning into our commitment to provide the highest quality care for LGBTQ+ individuals.

Here's the latest:

- We have formalized the Executive Steering Committee that will be developing the strategy to implement functionality in Epic and equip care team members to enable us to capture sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) patient information, thus improving our ability to care for LGBTQ+ patients. The committee will meet for the first time this month.
- I had the opportunity to present to several groups in August. One highlight was participating in the Summer Advocacy Lecture Series focused on LGBTQ+ advocacy and how to best support transgender youth. Is LGBTQ+ advocacy something you would like to discuss in your next team meeting and gathering? [Reach out](#) and we would be happy to help connect you with resources.
- We just submitted our application for the [HRC Healthcare Equality Index \(HEI\)](#). The HEI is a national LGBTQ benchmarking tool that evaluates healthcare facilities' policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of their LGBTQ patients, visitors and employees. The last time MUSC applied was in 2018. While this year's application was limited to the University Medical Center, our goal is to apply for all MUSC facilities in upcoming years.

Upcoming LGBTQ+ Educational Opportunities

October is LGBTQ+ History Month and the Safe Zone Advisory Council is organizing programs throughout the month. Keep an eye out for more details in MyQuest about programs featuring Brandon Wolf (nationally-recognized advocate for LGBTQ issues and survivor of the Pulse Nightclub shooting), Ryan Sallans (transgender speaker and author on DEI in healthcare settings), and a reprise of the popular "Call Me By My Pronouns and Preferred Name" panel discussion that was last hosted in June.

Out & About

The Department of Diversity Equity and Inclusion represented MUSC at a recent Riverdogs game. Rainbows Pride Night is an annual game in partnership with Charleston Pride and MUSC Health where the team dons their throwback Charleston Rainbows jerseys. Before the game, I had the opportunity to present an award to Charleston Black Pride for their accomplishments and contributions to the black LGBTQ+ community in the Charleston area.

Program Spotlight

Mark your calendars for the annual [Culturally Sensitive Care Workshop](#) taking place on Friday, October 1 and Friday, October 8, from 12:00-4:00pm. This year's keynote speaker will be [Dr. Jack Turban](#), chief child and adolescent psychiatry fellow at Stanford University School of

Medicine, with a research focus on the mental health of transgender youth. Other workshop sessions will feature guest speakers from community organizations, panel discussions, and student perspectives.

**Do you have any questions about our journey toward excellence in LGBTQ+ healthcare?
Would you like to be a part of this work? [Reach out to us today.](#)**