Problem Statement

Approximately 3.5% of Americans identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual and 0.3% of American adults are transgender, with distinct healthcare needs. In particular, men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender persons who have sex with men are at elevated risk for HIV and other sexually transmitted infections. Additionally, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning or queer (LGBTQ) persons can experience elevated rates of depression, sexual abuse, smoking, and other substance use. Stigma and lack of provider training and competency serve as barriers to providing consistent, high-quality medical care.

Aim

To align care delivery with existing evidence-based, culturally sensitive standard of care for LGBTQ people in Washington State while decreasing health disparities.

Purpose

To propose evidence-based recommendations to the full Bree Collaborative on:

- Age-appropriate screening and standard questions for clinicians to ask all patients about sexual behaviors, sexual orientation, and gender identity, with responses documented in medical records.
- An inventory of health equity practices and competencies that improve care of sexual and gender minorities.
- Protocols, policies, and practices to improve medical care, including receipt of preventive services, among LGBTQ patients.
- Implementation of Washington’s MSM STD Screening and PrEP Implementation Guidelines including for health care organizations, purchasers, payers, and medical professionals.
- Indicators and outcomes that health care organizations should monitor to evaluate success in improving the care of LGBTQ patients.
- Identifying other areas of focus or modifying areas, as needed.

Duties & Functions

The LGBTQ Health Care workgroup will:

- Research evidence-based guidelines and best practices (emerging and established).
- Consult relevant professional associations and other stakeholder organizations and subject matter experts for feedback, as appropriate.
- Meet for approximately nine months, as needed.
- Provide updates at Bree Collaborative meetings.

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- Post draft report(s) on the Bree Collaborative website for public comment prior to sending report to the Bree Collaborative for approval and adoption.
- Present findings and recommendations in a report.
- Recommend data-driven and practical implementation strategies.
- Create and oversee subsequent subgroups to help carry out the work, as needed.
- Revise this charter as necessary based on scope of work.

**Structure**

The workgroup will consist of individuals confirmed by Bree Collaborative members or appointed by the chair of the Bree Collaborative or the workgroup chair.

The chair of the workgroup will be appointed by the chair of the Bree Collaborative.

The Bree Collaborative program director will staff and provide management and support services for the workgroup.

Less than the full workgroup may convene to: gather and discuss information; conduct research; analyze relevant issues and facts; or draft recommendations for the deliberation of the full workgroup. A quorum shall be a simple majority and shall be required to accept and approve recommendations to send to the Bree Collaborative.

**Meetings**

The workgroup will hold meetings as necessary. The program director will conduct meetings along with the chair, arrange for the recording of each meeting, and distribute meeting agendas and other materials prior to each meeting. Additional workgroup members to be added at the discretion of the chair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dan Lessler, MD, MHA (Chair)</td>
<td>Chief Medical Officer</td>
<td>Washington State Health Care Authority</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olivia Arakawa, MSN, CNM, ARNP, RN</td>
<td>Parent Advocate</td>
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<td>Scott Bertani</td>
<td>Director of Policy</td>
<td>Lifelong AIDS Alliance</td>
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<td>Kathy Brown, MD</td>
<td>Provider</td>
<td>Kaiser Permanente</td>
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<tr>
<td>LuAnn Chen, MD, MHA, FAAFP</td>
<td>Medical Director</td>
<td>Community Health Plan of Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Garrett, MS, CCM, CVE, NCP</td>
<td>Principal</td>
<td>Mercer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Golden, MD</td>
<td>Professor, Director, PHSKC STD Control Program</td>
<td>University of Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamara Jones, MPH</td>
<td>End AIDS Washington Policy and Systems Coordinator</td>
<td>Department of Health</td>
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