

# LGBTQ SENIOR HOUSING



## 2017 Listening Sessions from LGBTQ Seniors on fixed income and People of Color in Seattle

### CHALLENGES WITH SERVICES THAT STABILIZE HOUSING



- LGBTQ direct services not geared towards seniors.
- Senior centers too heteronormative
- Housing and senior centers too politically/socially conservative

### LGBTQ SENIOR CHALLENGES TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- LGBTQ POC elders cannot not rely on bio family because they do not have children or their family is no longer with them
- Discrimination and stigma against LGBTQ people of color within POC communities
- Lack of tenant involvement in SHA facilities
- Lack of emotional safety (not safe to be out) in public housing (glares, smirks, ignoring)
- Rules in section 8 challenging and burdensome



### IMPACT OF HOUSING INSTABILITY FOR LGBTQ SENIORS



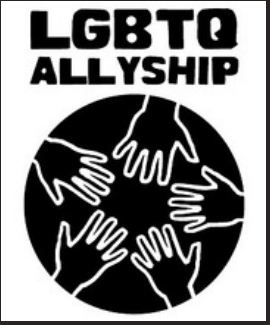
- Invisibility
- Not a lot of intergenerational community access
- Social isolation
- Loss of LGBTQ + community, history, culture and safe places
- Closing LGBTQ bars (social spaces)
- Lack of safety

### METHODOLOGIES AND OVERVIEW

LGBTQ Allyship gathered this information from 2 listening sessions. One listening session of 4 participants focused on LGBTQ seniors on a fixed income. The second listening session of 10 participants was co-sponsored by POCAAN and Entre Hermanos and focused on LGBTQ people of color seniors.

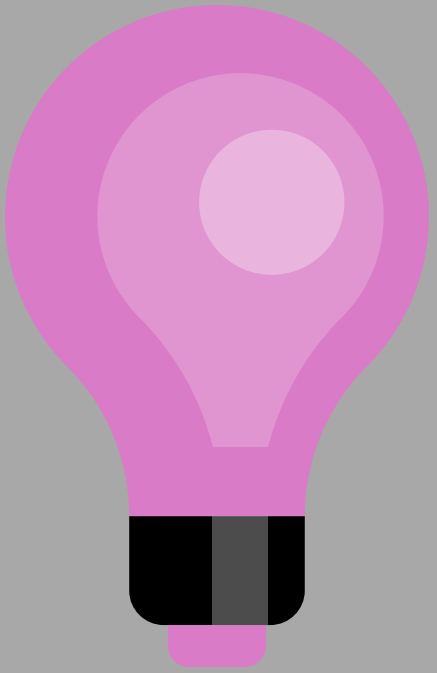
On the backside are community-led solutions to increase affordable housing and address challenges LGBTQ marginalized seniors face on a daily basis.

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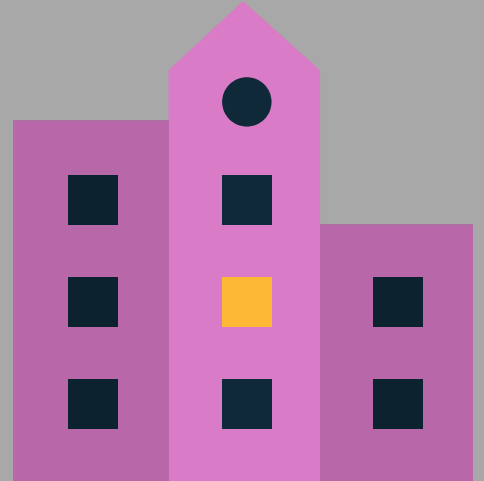
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### LGBTQ SENIOR COMMUNITY-LED SOLUTIONS



- Increase renters protections
- Fund LGBTQ Intergenerational housing. Younger queers moving into affordable housing with LGBTQ senior landlords. Younger LGBTQ individuals provide assistance to elders with disabilities in exchange for affordable housing.
- Provide trans and LGBTQ culturally competent trainings that are beyond the basics for care providers.
- Lower barriers to get affordable housing

- Provide more low-income LGBTQ friendly housing
- Increase housing with wrap around services
- Increase LGBTQ Intergenerational and health programming in public housing
- Create public/private funded LGBTQ co-housing
- Create an LGBTQ Senior Center
- Organize LGBTQ residents in public housing
- Ensure more queer/trans images in public housing buildings



- Ensure Seattle Housing Authority has queer-friendly guide and includes LGBTQ individuals in marketing materials
- Create a resource site for queer and trans friendly housing options
- Ensure low-income facilities are well staffed

**THANK YOU!**

LGBTQ Allyship would like to thank all the participants of our LGBTQ senior listening sessions., our co-sponsors POCAAN and Entre Hermanos, our Facilitators Jack Barker, Norma Timbang and Joel Aquirre, donors from our 2017Spring Campaign, Communities of Opportunity and Allyship staff for creating this important research.