## LGBTQIA+ The Social Injustice of Being Forced Back in the Closet, held April 13, 2022

While many LGBTQIA+ older people are living vibrant, full lives they face unique challenges as they age, often resulting in poorer outcomes than heterosexual older people. This session will discuss the experiences of a generation that was a force behind civil rights and gay pride, returning to the closet out of fears of discrimination and harassment as they age. Speaker/panel will highlight the barriers LGBTQIA+ older people experience in receiving formal health care and social supports as well as discuss what it means to provide culturally competent services for LGBTQIA+ older adults. Learn more about the unique disparities facing LGBTQIA+ older adults, and how to remedy them in this session.

## **Panelists:**



Lisa Krinsky, MSW, LICSW, Director of the LGBTQIA+ Aging Project, a program of the Fenway Institute at Fenway Health in Boston, works toward equity, inclusion, and community for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning older adults, ensuring that they can age with the dignity and respect they deserve. As a leader in the field of LGBTQIA+ aging, she presents nationally on LGBTQIA+ cultural competency for aging service providers, as well a variety of practice and policy issues impacting LGBTQ older adults. Krinsky has been instrumental in Massachusetts' leadership in advancing LGBTQIA+ aging policy, practice, and research at institutional, systemic, and interpersonal levels. Of note, Massachusetts' "first (and only) in the nation" LGBT aging legislation: creation of the statewide LGBT Aging Commission (she has been a member since its inception in 2013) and the LGBT

cultural competency training requirement for the Massachusetts' statewide network of 200,000 elder service providers (2018), for which she developed the interactive e-learning module ensuring training mandate compliance. Krinsky is also a subject expert in the award-winning LGBTQ aging documentary *Gen Silent*, and a founding board member of LGBTQ Senior Housing Inc., developing The Pryde, in Boston, New England's first LGBTQ friendly affordable senior housing. Krinsky earned her AB from Vassar College, her MSW from Simmons School of Social Work, and a Certificate in Non-Profit Management and Leadership from Boston University School of Management.



**Bobby Kelly, MD, MPH** is a Family Medicine and Preventive Medicine physician leader who has been working in New Hampshire since 2012. He currently works at Core Physicians in Exeter as physician project lead of several programs focused on quality, systems change, LGBTQ Health and Medication Assisted Treatment for people with Substance Use Disorder. Dr. Kelly also works as a per diem hospitalist at Exeter Hospital and is one of five attending physicians at Rockingham County Nursing Home in Brentwood. Dr. Kelly completed his undergraduate medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine in Philadelphia in 2012, and then his residency at the NH Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency at Concord Hospital and fellowship at the Leadership and Preventive Medicine program at Dartmouth-Hitchcock. While working at Exeter Hospital and Core Physicians, he has spearheaded the

organization's LGBTQ Health Advisory Committee, and earned several awards for his work including the Exeter Hospital Exemplary Community Service Award and the Noah Lord Patient & Family Engagement Award from the NH Foundation for Health Communities in 2019. In addition to his work in the medical field, Dr. Kelly also has an interest in non-profits in New Hampshire. He served two terms on the board of Equality Health Center in Concord, and is currently serving as a Clinical Board member of Core Physicians. He is also co-founder of a local non-profit Articine, whose mission is to connect healthcare professionals and artists to create wellness experiences (<a href="www.articine.org">www.articine.org</a>).



Micaela Cassily, Volunteer Coordinator, Maine Transgender Network, Inc, has worked most of her career, over 30 years, as a software engineer. She led project teams in the development of software products, winning awards at trade shows. She has worked for large companies, and she has been a principle in the formation of new startup companies. Micaela also has an extensive training background, having been a high school teacher for 3 years and an adjunct professor at an engineering university. She has also worked for several years as an instructor in tax law. Micaela has been a facilitator at MTN since 2019, and lives with her spouse on the southern seacoast.



Glendowlyn F Howard is happily retired from her thirty+ year career at IBM, where she held several positions related to program management, information systems and manufacturing engineering. Her career culminated with eight years on IBM's Corporate Information Office (CIO) headquarter's staff where she managed technology and innovation projects that advanced IBM's Smarter Infrastructure and Hybrid Cloud initiatives. Glendowlyn has been active in the GLBT community since her undergraduate years at Princeton in the 1980's. She was an active member of the IBM's Employee Alliance for Gay and Lesbian Empowerment (EAGLE) organization in Poughkeepsie, Boston and Burlington Vermont, where she helped to organize internal GLBT leadership events and group participation in external GLBT pride celebrations and equal rights marches. As a campus recruiting manager, in the late 1990's, she hosted recruiting events specifically aimed at

attracting GLBT and African American talent to IBM. Glendowlyn and her wife reside in the seacoast area of New Hampshire where she enjoys golf, gardening, going to the beach, and long walks in the woods with her dog Zola. She is currently involved with community gardening and growing food for local food pantries.