

sage

Advocacy &
Services for
LGBTQ+ Elders

We refuse to be invisible[®]

SAGE's Mission

- ✔ Founded in 1978, SAGE is the world's oldest and largest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ older people.
- ✔ SAGE's mission is to lead in addressing issues related to LGBTQ+ aging. In partnership with its constituents and allies, SAGE works to achieve a high quality of life for LGBTQ+ older adults, supports and advocates for their rights, fosters a greater understanding of aging in all communities, and promotes positive images of LGBTQ+ life in later years.
- ✔ We fulfill our mission through advocacy, direct services, education, training and technical assistance programs, locally, nationally and internationally.

A bit of data



- 48% of older same-sex couples applying for senior housing were subjected to discrimination
- 50% of single LGBTQ+ elders think they will need to work well beyond retirement age compared to 27% of their single, non-LGBTQ+ peers
- 51% of LGBTQ+ elders are very or extremely concerned about having enough money to live on, compared to 36% of non-LGBTQ+ peers
- 1 in 4 transgender elders reported discrimination when seeking housing
- 48% of same-sex older adults reported experiencing housing discrimination

GENE COMPTON'S CAFETERIA RIOT 1966

HERE MARKS THE SITE OF GENE COMPTON'S CAFETERIA WHERE A RIOT TOOK PLACE ONE AUGUST NIGHT WHEN TRANSGENDER WOMEN AND GAY MEN STOOD UP FOR THEIR RIGHTS AND FOUGHT AGAINST POLICE BRUTALITY, POVERTY, OPPRESSION AND DISCRIMINATION IN THE TENDERLOIN. WE, THE TRANSGENDER, GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL COMMUNITY, ARE DEDICATING THIS PLAQUE TO THESE HEROES OF OUR CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT.



HISTORY IMPACTS LGBTQ+ ELDERS TODAY



Homes should be our havens – shelters safe enough to be ourselves as LGBTQ+ people. Especially as we age.

CHALLENGES

**Economic
Insecurity**

**Housing
Discrimination**

**Lack of Legal
Protections**

**Racial and
Gender
Disparities**

What is LGBTQ+ Affirming Elder Housing?

Housing that provides a welcoming environment of community, peers, and allies, often including voluntary culturally competent services for LGBTQ+ elders.



*SAGE's Role in
Developing LGBTQ+
Affirming Elder Housing*

Stonewall House & Crotona Pride House

New York City





Design Considerations



Think About Trauma-Informed Principles

- Safety
- Trustworthiness
- Transparency
- Peer support
- Collaboration
- Empowerment
- Voice and choice
- Identity

• SAMHSA, 2021



GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION



CULTIVATING COMMUNITY



ACCESSIBILITY



APARTMENT UNITS



OTHER TENANT NEEDS





Thank you!

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