There's love out there for everybody.”

Those words epitomized the struggle and ultimate triumph conveyed by all seven of last night’s transgender presenters at the TRANSpoken event hosted by Work | Release in Norfolk. A first for the area, TRANSpoken was produced by The LGBT Center of Hampton Roads and local theatre artist Patrick Mullins of the Virginia Stage Company.

In an evening characterized by courage, honesty, tears, and laughter, a packed room of 150 people heard the true stories of trans men and women who live and work in Hampton Roads.

The group spent several weeks doing consensus building to decide what they would most like better understanding from the medical, educational and military communities.

Said Mullins, “Their mode of communication was..."
TRANSpoken brought seven transgender men and women to the stage to tell their stories. Photo by Eric Hause | Outwire757.com

fairly easily discovered. The group felt that stories told using ‘our voices and our bodies’ would be the clearest and most authentic way to increase understanding, support, and education of attendees.”

TRANSpoken was a part of a grant from the Catalyst Initiative under the Center for Performance and Civic Practice (CPCP).

Eric Hause

f  o  t