

PROVIDER GUIDE: INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE (IPV) IN LGBTQ+ COMMUNITIES

This guide is designed to help health and human service professionals provide support and safety planning for LGBTQ+ individuals experiencing IPV.

OBSTACLES YOUR CLIENT MAY FACE

- Fear of losing familial, cultural, ethnic, and religious support networks after coming out
- Threats of being outed
- Lack of protection in employment, housing, and public services
- Lack of protection for parental rights
- Discrimination in criminal justice system
- Limited number of “safe spaces”
- Limited number of LGBTQ+-friendly resources
- Not being believed



THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

“Outing”

Your client may be reluctant to “out” themselves because it can jeopardize support networks, jobs, children, housing, and public services.

Criminal Justice System

Your client, especially if they are transgender or non-binary, may fear discrimination and be reluctant to contact the police or go to court.

Safe Spaces

LGBTQ+ survivors have few “safe spaces,” and your client may not be able to avoid all spaces/services their abusive partner may visit.

Statistics

LGBTQ+ people experience IPV at higher rates than heterosexual people do.



USEFUL QUESTIONS TO ASK

- ① **Do you and your partner have friends in common?**
Work with your client to identify which friends will keep information confidential and which might report back to an abusive partner and increase danger.
- ② **Do you have any support networks outside of your partner and shared friends?**
Recommend to the client options for developing other emotional support networks, including IPV counselors, peer specialists, and support groups.
- ③ **Are you and your partner using the same services, like support groups, health centers, or community centers?**
Brainstorm with your client different resources they could use or consider whether a friend could accompany them to appointments/meetings, etc.
- ④ **Is a shelter a safe option for you?**
Acknowledge that shelters are not always LGBTQ+-safe spaces, and that your client may not feel comfortable seeking those services.



RESOURCES

LGBTQ+

Attic Youth Center

(215) 545-4331
atticyouthcenter.org

Services include life skills programming, support groups, community engagement events, and counseling.

COLOURS

(215) 832-0100
coloursorganization.org

Provides sexual health services, HIV prevention, social support groups for Black LGBTQ+ community.

CHOP Gender Clinic

(267) 426-5980
chop.edu

Provides medical and psychosocial support for gender-variant, gender non-conforming, and transgender youth and their families.

GALAEI

(267) 457-3912
galaei.org

Offers coaching, group support, and community engaging for queer, Latinx, and Black youth.

Mazzoni Center

(215) 563-0652
mazzonicenter.org

Provides adolescent drop-in clinic for medical care and counseling for LGBTQ+ community.

Philadelphia FIGHT

(215) 344-1632
fight.org

Offers medical care for people with HIV/AIDS and those at high risk.

Thriveworks Philadelphia

(215) 399-9764
thriveworks.com

Provides LGBTQ+-competent mental health services.

William Way LGBT Community Center

(215) 732-2220
waygay.org

Supports LGBTQ+ community through arts and culture, empowerment, and community connections.

HOUSING

Covenant House

(215) 951-5411
coventhousepa.org

Services include crisis shelter, transitional living program, and assistance with finding employment.

Project HOME

(215) 232-7272
projecthome.org

Provides supportive services and helps youth secure permanent housing.

Valley Youth House

(215) 442-9760
valleyyouthhouse.org

Provides housing and supportive services for LGBTQ+ youth.

Youth Emergency Service

(215) 787-0633
ysiphilly.org

Offers housing to youth who are homeless or unable to stay safely with family.

HOTLINES

Philadelphia Domestic Violence Hotline

1 (866) 723-3014

Confidential help 24/7 with interpretation available.

WOAR Philadelphia Center Against Sexual Violence

(215) 985-3333

Confidential help 24/7 with interpretation available.



**FOR FURTHER SUPPORT, CALL THE PHILADELPHIA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOTLINE: 1-866-723-3014**

Services are available in any language through Language Line interpretation services.