

## Transforming Care

Conference on LGBTQ+ and HIV Health Equity

# Carrying the Torch october 10, 2024

Equitas Health
Institute

## Buckeye pride. Health priorities.

The Ohio State University College of Nursing is answering its calling to care for the LGBTQIA+ community.

We are proud to sponsor the 2024 Transforming Care Conference and to "carry the torch" with you to advocate for equality and respect in health care.

Our college is leading research in support of the LGBTQIA+ population, including:

- Conducting rigorous research that advances the understanding, visibility and well-being of sexual and gender minority (SGM) people
- Shaping policies, practices and interventions to address the challenges faced by SGM communities
- Addressing health disparities to ensure equitable access to quality and safe care for all



Ethan Morgan, PhD, founder and director of Sexual and Gender Minority Research Collaborative



Ethan Morgan, PhD, leads the multidisciplinary Sexual and Gender Minority Research Collaborative. His research focuses on HIV/STIs and broader health outcomes among LGBTQIA+ older adults.

The Collaborative seeks to expand research support systems and build a community of scientists and advocates dedicated to changing healthcare for the better.



If you are interested in learning more and joining the Collaborative, connect with Dr. Morgan at go.osu.edu/sgmcollaborative.



#### **Platinum Sponsors**





#### **Gold Sponsors**







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#### **Bronze Sponsors**





#### **Community Partners**

Kenyon College

Stonewall Columbus

#### Wednesday, October 9

6:00 - 7:00 PM: Welcome Reception (Marriott OSU Columbus)

#### **Thursday, October 10**

8:00 – 5:30 PM: Vendors and Exhibitors, presented by 4 GILEAD

8:00 - 9:00 AM: Registration & Breakfast

9:00 – 9:30 AM: Welcome to Transforming Care Conference 2024!

9:30 - 10:30 AM: Keynote Alejandro Varela

10:30 - 11:30 AM Flu Shots (provided by Equitas Health Pharmacy in the Lobby)

10:45 – 11:30 AM – Book Sale and Signing with Alejandro Varela, hosted by GRAMERCY

(Montgomery Room)

10:45 - 11:45 AM: Breakout Sessions 1

12:00 – 1:00 PM: Lunch & Awards Ceremony, presented by



1:30 – 2:30 PM: Flu Shots (provided by Equitas Health Pharmacy in the Lobby)

1:30 – 2:30 PM: Breakout Sessions 2 2:45 – 3: 45 PM: Breakout Sessions 3 4:00 – 5:00 PM: Breakout Sessions 4

5:15 – 5:45 PM: Closing Evaluation & Raffle

### ABSTRACT REVIEW AND CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Jan Huebenthal (he/him/his)
Associate Director of External Education
Conference Chair

Lindsay Radomski (she/her/hers) Education Program Manager Conference Program Lead

Anthony Clemente (he/him/his)
Director of Marketing Communications

Ronald Murray (he/him/his)
Programs SME Manager – Ryan White

Oliver Licking (he/him/his) Gender Equity Policy Manager

Rebecca Nelson Non-Medical Health Advocate

Sara Heuser (they/them/she/hers) Program Manager of Health Equity **Dominique Shepherd (she/her/hers)** Associate Director, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Francisco Caro (he/him/his)
Programs Manager - Columbus

**DeVena Collins (she/her/hers)** Benefits Navigator

Bryan Richmond (he/him/his) Peer Navigator

**Gregory Price (he/him/his)**North East Associate Director of Clinical Operations

Jade Dutiel (she/they) Medical Health Advocate

Xi Blackford (he/him/his)
Prevention Health Navigator

#### CONTINUING EDUCATION

**Social Work:** This activity has been approved for Social Work Continuing Education for up to 4.5 credit hours.

**Counseling:** This activity has been approved for Counseling Continuing Education for up to 4.5 credit hours.

Equitas Health is an Ohio Counselor, Social Work and Marriage and Family Therapy Approved Provider (#RSX031201 and #RCX05172)

#### LIVESTREAMING PROVIDED BY



## On behalf of the Equitas Health Institute, welcome to the 9th Annual Transforming Care Conference!

Each year, the Transforming Care Conference brings together healthcare providers, researchers, activists, and community members who share a commitment to LGBTQ+ and HIV health equity. Whether you are joining us in person or online, we encourage each attendee to learn with and from one another as we engage in these necessary and urgent conversations. Your voice is important, and we encourage your active participation.

In the past year, legislative attacks on LGBTQ+ rights — including access to quality, affirming, and often life-saving healthcare — have accelerated. In Ohio alone, lawmakers continue to push for draconian measures that unjustly target and stigmatize our communities. Such initiatives include forced outing in public schools; bans on drag and other forms of queer expression; bans on participation in school sports by transfeminine athletes; and bans on gender-affirming care, to name a few. In addition, Equitas Health and its community partners continue to advocate against all existing laws that criminalize HIV.

The courage, strength, and activism from the early years of the AIDS crisis continues to inspire the fight for equity and justice. That is why this year's TCC theme, "Carrying the Torch," resonates in this critical moment. Through dynamic workshops and programs, our theme invites us to look closely at the rich tapestry of LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS activism – past, present, and future. We will explore the intersections of identity, health, and social justice, keeping in mind the struggles and triumphs of our communities. Our theme reminds us that our work is not done.

This year, we are fortunate to welcome Alejandro Varela, a National Book Award Finalist and an important literary voice for our time. A public health storyteller, his fictional work looks at the real-life impact of racism, income inequality, class conflict, gentrification, sexuality, and heterosexism. One reviewer wrote that Varela's stories "dispense uncomfortable truths that everyone thinks about but won't address out loud."

What our keynote speaker has in common with Equitas Health and the Equitas Health Institute is a strong commitment to ending the disparities in healthcare access for LGBTQ+ communities. Whether you are here at the Transforming Care Conference for the first time or have joined us each of the past nine years, we hope you will leave with new tools to help you better provide and advocate for equitable LGBTQ+ and HIV care and services.

We are thankful to all attendees, organizers, presenters, volunteers, sponsors, exhibitors, providers, and others who make this event so meaningful. Equitas Health and the Equitas Health Institute are honored to be in community with you for today—learning together and transforming care.

With gratitude and solidarity,

**David Ernesto Munar** 

He/Him/His Chief Executive Officer Equitas Health Jan Huebenthal, PhD

He/Him/His Associate Director of External Education Equitas Health Institute

#### **About Transforming Care Conference**

The annual Transforming Care Conference (TCC) brings together healthcare providers, activists, and community members who share a commitment to LGBTQ+ and HIV health equity. TCC inspires action-focused conversations about the issues that matter most to our communities. With both in-person and virtual attendance options, the conference unites a vibrant mix of attendees and presenters who elevate each other's voices and lived experiences.

#### **2024 Theme**

The 2024 Transforming Care Conference theme, "Carrying the Torch," honors the courage, strength, and activism that grew out of the early years of the AIDS crisis. It celebrates those groups that rose up from the grassroots to meet the needs of people living with or impacted by HIV/AIDS. AIDS Resource Center Ohio, the Tobias Project, Columbus AIDS Task Force, David's House of Compassion, Dayton Area AIDS Task Force, Metropolitan Residential Services, Ohio AIDS Coalition, and many others passed the torch to Equitas Health. Their care and solidarity still guide and inspire our work to end HIV/AIDS and provide affirming care for all.

"Carrying the Torch" captures the essence of the 9th annual Transforming Care Conference. Through dynamic workshops and programs, our theme invites us to look closely at the rich tapestry of LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS activism – past, present, and future. We will explore the intersections of identity, health, and social justice, keeping in mind the struggles and triumphs of our communities. Our theme reminds us that our work is not done. New challenges rise up each day as state legislatures seek to limit or deny access to lifesaving care for trans and gender-nonconforming people, women, and others.

We come to TCC as doctors, nurses, social workers, activists, researchers, and community members ready to learn and to act. Together, we carry the torch of hope, strength, and activism that has lighted our path for 40 years.

#### **About Equitas Health - Our History**

In 1984, a grave new threat knocked on humanity's door. We answered the way humans have throughout history: United and ready to fight. Relatively little was known about HIV/AIDS at the time. But we knew our loved ones in the LGBTQ+ community were getting sick and dying, and we knew the resources in our battle were lacking.

So we gathered in living rooms and around kitchen tables, caring for the sick in any way we could. Soon, this grassroots movement spread across the state and a collective formed. A flicker of hope was ignited. Today, we have a new name, and our mission has grown in scope to providing healthcare for all.

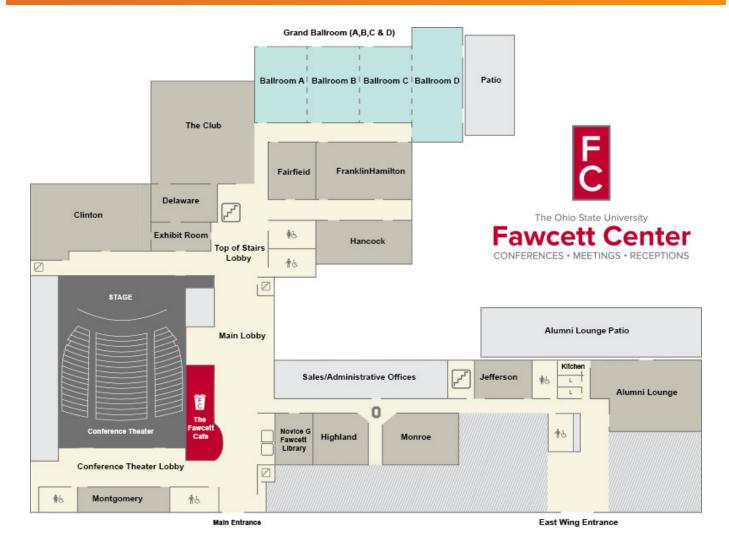
We're still united and even stronger in our collective power. Today, Equitas Health is a nonprofit community healthcare system. We are one of the nation's largest LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS-serving organizations, serving tens of thousands of patients in Ohio, Texas, Kentucky, and West Virginia. Our legacy is comprised of the following organizations: AIDS Foundation of Dayton, AIDS Foundation Miami Valley, AIDS Resource Center Ohio, BRAVO, Columbus AIDS Task Force, David's House of Compassion, Dayton Area AIDS Task Force, Metropolitan Residential Services, and Ohio AIDS Coalition.

#### **About The Equitas Health Institute**

The Equitas Health Institute is the education, research, and patient empowerment division of Equitas Health, focused on reducing LGBTQ+, HIV, and BIPOC health disparities through educational initiatives that engage providers, corporate partners, and community stakeholders; original research and research collaborations with University and public partners; and action-inspiring and community-building events around the health issues that matter most to our communities







#### If you need to unplug for a bit...

An all-day conference can be overstimulating. It's okay to need a break between sessions and events. To ensure a comfortable experience for all TCC attendees, the Club Room will be designated as a Low-Volume Room during breakout sessions. This space is located across the Ballroom. The Low-Volume Room will be marked with a sign after breakfast. The quiet room will be open after breakfast and will be available between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM.

You can work, think, chill out or nap in the Low-Volume Room. You can listen to headphones and you are also welcome to use computers and phones – provided your devices have their sound muted. We also invite you to follow the live-streamed conference proceedings through the Whova® app while hanging out in our Low-Volume Room.

All-gender restrooms will be marked and available throughout the conference.



#### Keynote Speaker | Alejandro Varela

"We're all pieces in a massive puzzle. The work that came before us allows us to see the picture with more clarity, but the work continues until every piece is in place. Our liberation has to be collective in order to be complete and long-lasting. It's an honor to participate in an event that celebrates and upholds the tradition of health with dignity and equity."

Alejandro Varela is a National Book Award Finalist and an important literary voice for our time. A public health storyteller, his fictional work looks at the real-life impact of racism, income inequality, class conflict, gentrification, sexuality, and heterosexism. One reviewer wrote that Varela's stories "dispense uncomfortable truths that everyone thinks about but won't address out loud."

The child of immigrant Salvadoran and Colombian parents, Varela grew up in a small, working-class town on Long Island. As a youth, he often had to translate complex subjects for his Spanish-speaking family. This sparked an interest in language and in connecting people to one another and ideas. Varela went on to get a master's degree in public health and worked as a cancer researcher at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine. He also began to write fiction to raise awareness of public health issues. His background in public health and experiences as a queer person of color living in a highly gentrified part of New York City, gave him plenty of material for his writing.

"Studying public health helped me to see our society's failings clearly, and more importantly, it helped me to see the paths for improving it."

His debut novel, *The Town of Babylon*, was a finalist for the National Book Award and a nominee for the PEN America Open Book Award. This coming-of-age story looks at race, sexuality, class identity, and the need for the book's main character, a gay Latinx professor, to confront his past. One reviewer described it as "a finely-crafted literary scalpel with two edges, one that cuts through the layers of a dying body politic and another that clears arteries blocking the way to the heart of personal and political health: community."

Varela's second novel, *The People Who Report More Stress*, is a collection of interconnected short stories that blend humor and social commentary to show how race, class, and difference impact and shape relationships. The New York Times called it "a master class in analyzing the unspoken."

Varela's writing and presentations focus on the intersections of public health and fiction, the need for more queer love stories in literature, and the lens through which he sees the world. He holds a Master of Public Health from the University of Washington, with a concentration in Community-Oriented Public Health Practice (COPHP). He taught graduate-level classes in policy advocacy and undergraduate courses in nursing and in public health and film at Long Island University.

His work has appeared in The Point Magazine, Georgia Review, Boston Review, Harper's, The New Republic, and The Offing. Varela is an editor-at-large of Apogee Journal, a New York-based literary magazine that engages with identity politics, including race, gender, sexuality, class, and ability.

#### Flu Shots Available at Transforming Care

Equitas Health Pharmacy is proud to offer flu shots to Transforming Care Conferences attendees. Find our table in the lobby from 10:30 - 11:30 am, and from 1:30 - 2:30 pm! Flu shots are free with most insurance plans. Please bring your insurance card with you. Additional options may be available if you are uninsured. Come see us!







#### **EQUITABLE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL**

The Ohio State Wexner Medical Center supports efforts to expand access and elevate the experience and outcomes for every patient, employee, learner and member of our community.

This includes those in the LGBTQ+ community, especially as it relates to safe and affirming health care.

Learn more at wexnermedical.osu.edu/gender-affirming-care.

#### Wednesday, October 9, 2024

6:00 - 7:00 PM: Welcome Reception		
	Presented by	Location
Come meet your fellow TCC attendees, presenters, and Equitas Health staff!  Cash bar. A limited number of complimentary drink tickets will be available (valid for alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages). Light hors d'oeuvres will be served.	GILEAD	Marriott OSU Columbus 3100 Olentangy River Rd, Columbus, OH 43202 Olentangy Room

#### Thursday, October 10, 2024

All Day: Vendors/Sponsor Exhibit			
Location	Presented by		
Fawcett Center Lobby	THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY WEXNER MEDICAL CENTER		

8:00 - 9:00 AM: Registration & Breakfast		
Location		
Conference Theater		

9:00 - 9:30 AM: Welcome		
Presenters	Location	
Jan Huebenthal, PhD Associate Director of External Education	Conference Theater	
David Ernesto Munar Chief Executive Director		
Anthony Clemente Senior Director of Marketing Communications		

9:30 - 10:30 AM: Keynote Address		
Presentation Title	Presenter	Location
Collapsing Hierarchy: A Public Health Approach to Fiction and Equity	Alejandro Varela	+ Virtual on Whova®

#### 10:45 – 11:30 AM: Book Signing with Alejandro Varela



Gramercy Books will host a book sale and signing event with Alejandro Varela. On sale will be *The Town of Babylon* (paperback) and *The People Who Report More Stress* (hardcover). Credit and debit cards preferred.

Gramercy Books is a locally-owned, independently minded, carefully curated neighborhood bookstore located in the heart of Bexley, Ohio. Visit us at gramercybooksbexley.com.

10:45 - 11:45 AM: Breakout Session 1			
Area of Emphasis	Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Location
LGBTQ+ Health	Prescription for Inclusivity: Strategies for LGBTQ+ Inclusive Healthcare Services	Jacquelyn Kissel, PharmD, RPh, AAHIVP Teagan Vaughn, PharmD, RPh, AAHIV Grace Havens, PharmD	+ Virtual on Whova®
LGBTQ+ Health	The State of Health Disparities in the Ohio LGBTQ+ Community: Insights from a Community Research Advisory Board (CRAB)	Stella Sheke, MPH, CHES® Geoffrey Xue	Clinton
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Self-Swabbing for Cervical Cancer: the Journey from Research Project to Implementation	Jonah Yokoyama, RN	Alumni Lounge
LGBTQ+ Health	Fertility Equity and Reproductive Justice in the LGBTQ+ Community	Lis Regula, PhD	Franklin/Hamilton
LGBTQ+ Health	Beyond Conversion: Empowering, Advocating, and Healing  CW: Sexual assault, conversion therapy, suicidality	Nicholas Schrenk	Hancock
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Bridging the Rainbow Gap in Medical and Behavioral Healthcare: Culturally Competent Care for LGBTQ+ Health Equity	Molly Green, MSW, LISW-S Heather Stewart, MD, FAAP	Highland
LGBTQ+ Health HIV	Preserving and Sharing the History of Ohio's HIV/AIDS Community Organizers	Svetlana Harlan, PhD Alex Ingley, MPA	Jefferson
HIV	How Ohio HIV Criminalization Laws Affect Women Living with HIV	Olga Irwin Kelley Bean	Monroe

12:00 - 1:00 PM: Lunch and Award Ceremony			
Presented by Hosted by Location			
VIIV Healthcare	Tea Brown Ramona Peel	Ballroom Overflow in The Club Room	

Award Winners		
Whole Person Health Care Champion	Emerging Leader	Trailblazing Community Advocate Presented by  MEDICAL MUTUAL
Kathryn S. Meyer, DNP, APRN-CN	Gabriel Lee	Sawaun Blakely

1:30 - 2:30 PM: Breakout Session 2			
Area of Emphasis	Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Location
LGBTQ+ Health	Shouting Into The Wind: Words from the Hearts of Mothers of LGBTQ+ People	Liz Dyer	Conference Theater + Virtual on Whova®
LGBTQ+ Health	Anti-Fat Bias and Transgender Healthcare	Harley Rubin, MSW, LSW Yannick LeJacq	Alumni Lounge
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Bringing the Fire: Navigating Unjust Laws for Behavioral Health Professionals	Stephanie L. Ash, MSW, LSW, Esq. Liam Strausbaugh, LSW	Clinton
HIV (No CEs)	HIV: A Living History	Gil Kudrin	Hancock
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Passing the Torch of Research Power: Info Session for LGBTQ+ Community Psychedelic Research Participation	Rafaelle Lancelotta, LPCC	Jefferson
LGBTQ+ Health HIV	From Roots to Resilience: The Evolution and Support of the House and Ballroom Community	Ronald Murray, MPA, LSW, LCDC-III	Highland
LGBTQ+ Health	Thank You for Listening to Us': Using Qualitative Methods to Make Quantitative Research for LGBTQ+ Participants More Inclusive and Affirming	Delaney Phillips	Monroe
LGBTQ+ Health	Deathcare & the Queer Community	Quinn Bennett	Franklin/Hamilton



2:45 - 3:45 PM: Breakout Session 3			
Area of Emphasis	Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Location
HIV	Stand Up to HIV Stigma	Eric Dunn, BA	Clinton
	CW: Stigmatizing language		
LGBTQ+ Health	Bridging the Gap: LGBTQ+ Health Fellowships in Graduate Medical Education	Sarah Pickle, MD J. Aaron Ramirez, MD, MPH Shanna Stryker, MD, MPH Henry Ng, MD, MPH, FAAP, FACP, HIVPCP Matthew Adkins, DO, AAHIVS	Alumni Lounge
HIV (No CEs)	Elevate Your Voice: A Conversation With Black Men About HIV and Activism	Sawaun Blakely Joenathan Banks Cederick Taylor Glenn Harris Garrick Jones	+ Virtual on Whova®
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	A Guide to Free LGBTQIA2+ Patient Care: Evaluating the Chief Complaints and Impact of the Rainbow Clinic, an LGBTQIA2+ Student- Run Free Clinic, on Uninsured and Underinsured LGBTQIA2+ Identifying Patients	Gabriel Lee, BS Nishant Pradhan Courtney Shihabuddin, DNP, APRN-CNP	Franklin/Hamilton
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Creating LGBTQ-Affirming Curriculum to Capture Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Data	Sofialyn Durusan	Hancock
HIV (No CEs)	Carrying the Torch Forward Into a World Without HIV!	Kathryn Meyer, RN, MSN, DPN, BC-FNP, APRN	Highland
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	Gender-Affirming Care: Carrying the Torch Through the Basics and Beyond	Teagan Vaughn, PharmD, RPh, AAHIVP Jonah Yokoyama, RN Mel Carroll	Monroe
LGBTQ+ Health	Puzzling Pictures: Feasibility Study of a Collage Art Trauma Reprocessing Intervention for LGBTQ+ Emerging Adults	Ray Mathew-Santhosham, BSSW	Jefferson



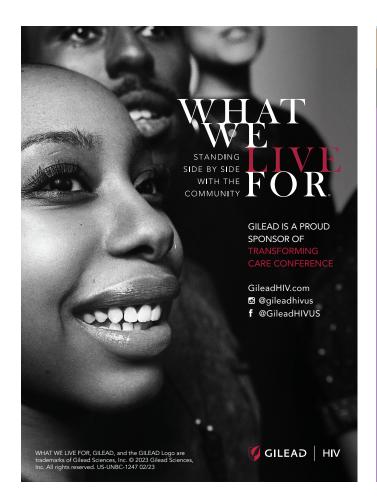
4:00 - 5:00 PM: Breakout Session 4			
Area of Emphasis	Presentation Title	Presenter(s)	Location
LGBTQ+ Health	Navigating Harm: An Introduction to Transformative Justice	Tea Brown	Clinton
LGBTQ+ Health	Appalachian Healthcare: A Comprehensive Look into the Past, Present and Future	Rebecca Nelson, BA	Conference Theater + VIRTUAL on Whova®
LGBTQ+ Health	What's Under the Mask: Living Authentically at the Intersection of Queerness and Neurodivergence	Evan Maki, MSW, LSW	Franklin/Hamilton
LGBTQ+ Health	"It Breaks My Heart That Some People Want to Take That Right Away": A Content Analysis of Perspectives on LGBTQ+ Political Issues in the United States	Liv Calhoun, M.Ed.	Hancock
HIV (No CEs)	Aging with HIV/AIDS	Graig Cote	Highland
LGBTQ+ Health	Legislative Advocacy 101: Perspectives from a Public Policy Advocate and an Ohio State Representative	Rhea Debussy, PhD State Rep. Jodi Whitted	Alumni Lounge

#### MEANWHILE, ON WHOVA®...

Want to know more? Connect with these experts on the Whova® app – access is included with your ticket – and continue your TCC experience. Note: These sessions were pre-recorded.

Area of Emphasis	Presentation Title	Presenter(s)
LGBTQ+ Health	Transmasculine Voice: A Scoping Review of Quality of Life Outcome Measures	Alexandra Beam, MS, SLP Michelle Adessa Rachel Mulheren
LGBTQ+ Health Clinical	The Need for C/ENM-Affirming Mental Health Training Programs	Michelle D. Vaughan, PhD Adrianne Johnson, PhD Sara Bielek, PsyD
LGBTQ+ Health HIV	Shaping Our Present and Future: LGBTQIA+ Health Research & Insights from LGBTQIA+ Older Adults	Rachel Hetrick, MPH Cassie Armea-Warren
LGBTQ+ Health	Practical Applications for Gender Affirming Care	Adrienne Rowland, PhD, LMSW, CST
LGBTQ+ Health HIV	From Listening to Action: Using Community Needs Assessment Data to Advocate for Culturally Competent HIV Services for 2SLGBTQIA+BIPOC Individuals	Jehlani White, BA
LGBTQ+ Health	The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders' History of Harm On The LGBTQ+ Community and Future Directions	Heather Wicker, BS Aliesha Smith Jack Behr Hailey Rainier Sara Bielek, PsyD
LGBTQ+ Health	Effective Allyship in Critical Times	Shelly Bell

5:15 - 5:45 PM: Closing and Evaluation, Raffle (Eligible for Continuing Education Credit) - Conference Theater









EquitasHealth.com/Institute

Conference awards ceremony made possible by ...



