

# Special Interest Groups: Introduction

## LGBTQ+

December 11, 2019, 1p.m. EST

# Introductions



**Paul Curtis**

Executive Director

California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies

*Sacramento, CA*



@NationalCouncil



TheNationalCouncil.org



# Introductions



**Tom Hill**

Vice President, Practice Improvement  
National Council for Behavioral Health



# Introductions



**Michael Carrone**

Director, Practice Improvement

National Council for Behavioral Health



# Why We're Here

- Create national community: LGBTQ+ individuals and allies
- Raise awareness/solutions: LGBTQ+ behavioral health needs

## Goals

- Accelerate understanding of the LGBTQ+ experience with mental health and addiction
- Empower responses within your community; and
- Raise behavioral health issues on national/statewide level



# What We Want From You

- Drive topics and learn
- Participate, share your ideas, make connections
- Discuss political/social issues affecting behavioral healthcare for our population



# What Does Our Output Look Like?

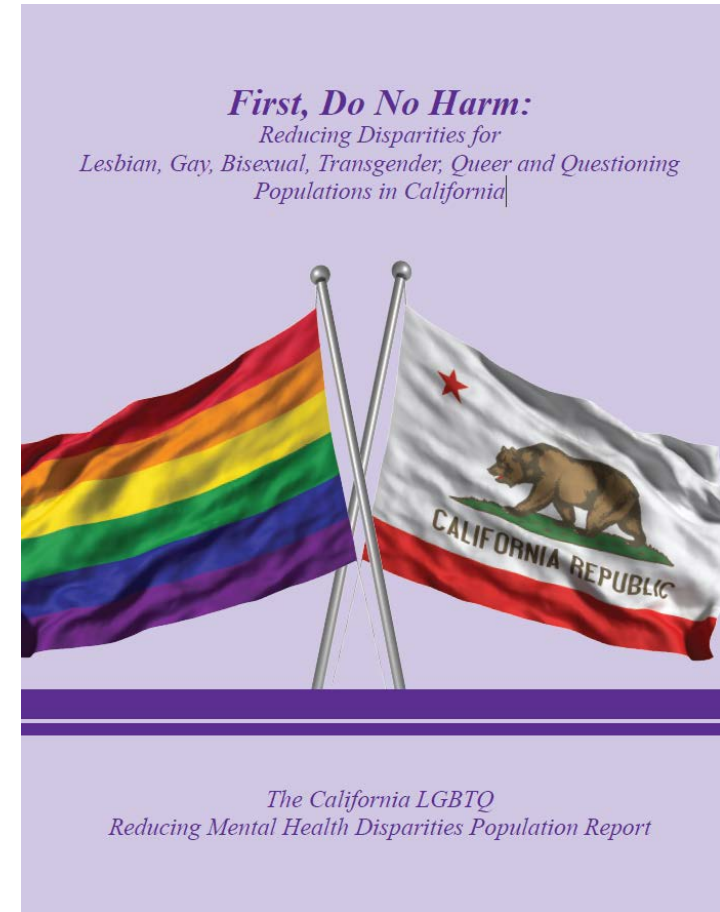
The screenshot displays the website's header with the logo "NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH" and a search bar. A navigation bar includes links for "POLICY ACTION CENTER", "CONSULTING & TRAINING", "TOPICS A-Z", "ABOUT THE NATIONAL COUNCIL", "EVENTS", and "SHOP". The main content area features a "BH365" section with a "FOLLOW VIA RSS" button and a "SUBSCRIBE TO NATIONAL COUNCIL EMAILS" banner. Below this is a "DONATE TO MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID" banner. A "FIND A PROVIDER" section includes a dropdown menu for "Select your state...". A "GOT A QUESTION? > CONTACT US" button is also present. A "Categories" list includes: Addictions, Awards of Excellence, Behavioral Health Centers of Excellence, Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers, Community behavioral health, Compliance, Conference Speakers, Criminal Justice, and Crisis Services. Two blog posts are visible: "Addicted to Coercion" (October 29, 2019) by Vitke Eisen, MSW, Ed.D., and "It's Time to Establish A New Lifeline for America" (October 28, 2019) under the "Communications" category.

- Blogs
- Webinars
- Networking opportunities
- Communication
- Resources

# Discussion Break

- What do you want?
- Innovations we should be aware of?
- Other groups working on LGBTQ+ behavioral health issues?

## First, Do No Harm: Reducing Disparities for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Questioning Populations in California



@NationalCouncil



TheNationalCouncil.org





# How Do We Accomplish This?

- Bi-monthly special interest group convenings
- Monthly steering committee calls with co-chairs (smaller group)
- NatCon20 Networking Event
  
- Creation of webinars
- Creation of blog posts
  
- Brainstorming of topics and connecting
- Collection and sharing of resources
  
- Attendance to Webinars, Dissemination of blog posts and other materials



# In-Person Meeting at NatCon20

Of note is a special networking and learning session at **NatCon20** in Austin, Texas, to be held April 5-7.



Learn more by visiting [www.natcon20.org](http://www.natcon20.org)

# Proposed Meeting Schedule

## Example Schedule

Month	Group Activity
January 2020	Meet with Community
February 2020	Webinar
March 2020	Meet with Community
April 2020	NatCon In-Person
May 2020	Meet with Community



## Call for Steering Committee Members

- 4 to 5 individuals representing different facets of the LGBTQ+ community to commit to monthly calls
- Activities may include:
  - Monthly calls
  - Making connections with resources and experts
  - Brainstorming topics
  - Assisting with content creation for webinars and resources
  - Assisting with drafting blog posts
  - Creating agendas for special interest group calls
- If interested, please email [MichaelC@thenationalcouncil.org](mailto:MichaelC@thenationalcouncil.org)



?

Q&A





**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

Email Michael Carrone at  
[MichaelC@thenationalcouncil.org](mailto:MichaelC@thenationalcouncil.org)



@NationalCouncil



TheNationalCouncil.org

