

Recruiting LGBT People as Volunteers for your SMP Program

Recruiting LGBT volunteers is one way to demonstrate that your SMP is LGBT-affirming, and will help you reach more LGBT older people to prevent, detect and report Medicare fraud and abuse.

Services for older adults do not always consider a person's sexual orientation or gender identity so **lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT)** older adults may not be getting the unique outreach they need.

By employing volunteers who reflect the diversity of your community your SMP Program can be more effective with a segment of the population that may be at a higher risk for Medicare Fraud.

Here are some tips on where you can start your recruiting efforts:

- It is likely that you are already serving LGBT older adults, even if no one has yet openly identified as LGBT. By offering materials to new recruits such as "Providing Services to LGB Older Adults: Tips for SMP Staff and Volunteers," or including the flyer "Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Older Adults & Medicare Fraud Prevention" among the resources you hand out at presentations, you send a message that your SMP is welcoming to all older adults. These resources are available online at the SMP Resource Library: www.smpresource.org/ResourceLibrary



For more tips and further training on working with LGBT older adults, visit Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders (SAGE) at sageusa.org and the National Resource Center on LGBT Aging at lgbtagingcenter.org.

To download the resources cited in this fact sheet, go to the SMP Resource Library at www.smpresource.org/ResourceLibrary.

- Reach out to your local LGBT community center to advertise your programs and presentations, or offer to host a presentation at the LGBT community center. To find out if there is a center in your area, check the directory at **CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers** at lgbtcenters.org
- Partner with local chapters of national organizations that serve LGBT older people. A good place to start is **SAGENet**, a network of local affiliates around the country coordinated by Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders. Visit sageusa.org/sagenet to see if there's an affiliate in your area. Another organization with local chapters is **OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change)**; go to oloc.org to view their Chapter/Group Contact List.
- Connect to other local and national groups that serve LGBT people in your community. To search for national organizations, or local groups by state, go to lgbtagingcenter.org and click on the **Local Resources** tab.
- Consider advertising your presentations and programs in your local LGBT community's newspaper. A quick search online should be enough to identify LGBT news outlets in your area.

This project was supported, in part by grant number 90SM0011, from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201. Grantees undertaking projects under government sponsorship are encouraged to express freely their findings and conclusions. Points of view or opinions do not, therefore, necessarily represent official Administration for Community Living policy.

