

Ohio Transgender Resources

Buckeye Region Anti-Violence Organization

<http://www.bravo-ohio.org>

Central Ohio CD Support

<http://www.crossohio.org>

COLAGE

<http://www.colage.org>

Gender Dysphoria Program of Central Ohio

<http://www.genderprogram.com>

Kaleidoscope Youth Center

<http://www.kycohoio.org>

PFLAG Columbus

<http://www.pflagcolumbus.org>

Stonewall Columbus (The Center on High)

<http://www.stonewallcolumbus.org>

The Alpha Omega Society

<http://www.aosoc.org>

The Crystal Club

<http://www.thecrystalclub.org>

TransFamily of Cleveland

<http://www.transfamily.org>

TransOhio

<http://www.transohio.org>

For additional resources,
contact us at TransOhio@gmail.com

TransOhio serves the Ohio transgender and ally communities by providing services, education, support and advocacy which promotes and improves the health, safety and life experience of the Ohio transgender individual and community.

Meetings:

TransOhio meets at The Center on High every 3rd Sunday of the month. Meetings begin at 3pm and are open to the entire GLBTQI and Ally community.

Peer Support Group:

Our peer support group for TGQI people (gender queer, crossdressers, intersex, FtM, MtF) meets on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 7pm at The Center on High. Facilitated by TransOhio. Drop-ins welcome.

TransOhio publishes a monthly newsletter, hosts events and social activities, educational programs and community outreach. To learn more about TransOhio or to volunteer, visit our website: <http://www.transohio.org>.

Educate . Advocate. Support. Community.

TransOhio

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TransOhio is supported by

**CENTER
ON HIGH** 
Stonewall Columbus

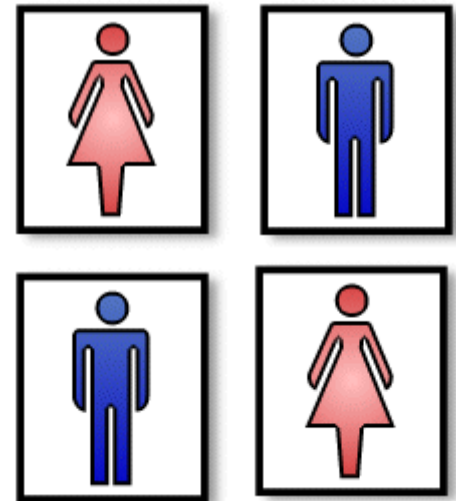
www.stonewallcolumbus.org



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www.transohio.org

**T R A N S G E N D E R
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"I ask myself, in mercy, or in common sense, if we cannot alter the conviction to fit the body, should we not in certain circumstances, alter the body to fit the conviction?"

—Dr. Harry Benjamin, M.D.

Terms to Know...

Crossdresser - Individuals who occasionally dress and take on mannerisms of the opposite gender.

Drag Performers - Individuals who dress and act like the "opposite" sex for entertainment.

FTM - Abbreviation for female-to-male transsexual person.

Gender - One's expressions of masculinity, femininity or androgyny.

GID (Gender Identity Disorder) - A condition identified by psychologists and medical doctors wherein a person who has been assigned one gender at birth identifies as belonging to another gender.

Intersexed - People who were born with some combination of both female and male physical traits.

MTF - Abbreviation for male-to-female transsexual person.

Transition - Describes the time period during which person undergoes a change in their bodily appearance (hormones, surgery, etc.) to be more congruent with the gender/sex they feel themselves to be.

Transman - An identity label sometimes adopted by FTM transsexuals to signify that they are men while still affirming their history as females. Also referred to as 'transguy(s).'

Transsexual - A person who identifies psychologically as a gender/sex other than the one to which they were assigned at birth. (This term is also often used to describe transgendered people who have or will undergo transition).

Transwoman - An identity label sometimes adopted by MTF transsexuals to signify that they are women while still affirming their history as males.

"Are sex & gender determined at birth?"

Some people think that gender is fixed and unchangeable. That everyone is either a man or a woman, male or female. Gender, sex and identity are far more complex than the description of one's physical self! Gender identity is determined by many factors, the most important of which is considered by some to be emotional, psychological and even spiritual, rather than physical. Additionally, research is now starting to show that a transgender person's brain, during fetal development, develops in the pattern which is opposite to that of his or her physical sex.

"What are issues Trans people face?"

No Legal Protection is almost a given for Transgender individuals. In cities where protection for lesbians and gay men exist, they generally do not cover Transgender people. There are very few communities that explicitly state "gender identity" or "gender expression" in their protection clauses.

Insufficient Medical & Insurance Services are common themes in the Transgender community. Many medical providers are uneducated on the subject. Most insurance companies, employee health plans and HMO's specifically exempt coverage for counseling, sex reassignment surgery, hormones and electrolysis.

Violence against Transgender folks can be particularly brutal. A widely publicized example occurred in 1993 when Brandon Teena, an FTM, was raped and later murdered when two men found out he was born female.

Social & Economic Marginalization frequently accompanies the Transgender experience. With reduced educational and employment opportunities because of harassment faced in both settings, Transgender people are commonly subject to discrimination, homelessness, unemployment and poverty.

Prejudice toward Transgender individuals is widespread. There is a long-held view on the part of medical providers and the public-at-large that Transgender folks are pathological. This, in itself constitutes one of the most significant barriers to services and support.

"Isn't gender identity and sexual orientation the same thing?"

Nope, not at all!

Sexual orientation is an individual's disposition to experience physical and affection attraction to members of the same, the opposite or both sexes.

Gender Identity is a person's internal self-awareness of being male or female, man or woman or a feminine man or masculine woman, etc.

"What Transgender Isn't"

Being Transgender is **NOT** about:

- One's sexual orientation!
- Sex or sexual pleasures!
- Gender roles!
- A choice!

"How can I be supportive?"

- Educate yourself and others.
- Use appropriate terminology and correct pronouns.
- Ask questions.
- Ensure privacy.
- Respect boundaries.
- Trust feelings.
- Create a safe-space.