Think & be Respectful

Honor Identity: Whether or not a person fits your ideas about gender and sex, respect their self identity.

Avoid Boxes: Gender “norms” do not fit all trans* folks. Don’t tell a trans* person “a real woman/man wouldn’t do/say/think/be/act like that.”

On Asking Questions: If unsure, don’t ask “Are you a man or a woman?” Ask politely what pronouns one prefers.

Respect Safety: Realize that using a wrong name or pronoun in public can put a trans* person at risk of harm.

Don’t Assume: Don’t assume maximum conformity with a stereotypical male or female body is a goal of every trans* person.

Consistency: Use preferred names and pronouns even when a trans* person is not there. Not doing so is disrespectful, harmful, can “out” them, and delegitimizes trans* identities.

More on Questions: Don’t ask about surgeries. You don’t need to know.

Stand Up: Object to words that are derogatory or insulting of trans* persons (as long as you can do so safely).

Reduce Stigma: Help increase awareness of gender stereotypes that are dismissive of trans* identities.

Is Your Organization Trans* Friendly?

Or better, does it celebrate gender diversity by being trans* affirming? Here are some ideas to be a better ally!

Be Welcoming: Display a rainbow or trans* symbol. More affirming: Post trans* inclusive nondiscrimination policy.

Be Pronoun Aware: Use the pronouns that fit one’s presentation; if not sure, ask which pronoun is preferred, avoid using pronouns, or use “they.”

Restrooms: Which to use should be based on identity. Designate unisex restrooms. More affirming: Add your location to safe2pee.org and proudly let people know you affirm trans* persons!

Address Appropriately: Realize using “sir” or “ma’am” or “Mr.” or “Ms.” to be polite can be insulting when used wrongly. You can always find other ways to be polite and respectful.

Preferred Names: If customers must give legal names, ask for preferred names also and help everyone use the preferred name consistently.

Sex/Gender on Forms: If you don’t really need to know gender on forms your customers fill out, don’t ask! If you do, consider removing check boxes and providing a blank, then add a note that “We treat ALL our customers the same, regardless of gender identity!”
What is Trans Pride Initiative?

Trans Pride Initiative is a 501(c)(3) public charity organized to provide support and services for the trans* community in the Dallas area.

Our mission is to empower trans* persons and all gender minorities to rise above social barriers to equal education, employment, housing, and healthcare.

TRANS PRIDE INITIATIVE’S GOALS

General Support: Provide a supportive network for all trans* and gender nonconforming persons to better themselves.

Healthcare: Improve access to adequate healthcare by identifying and monitoring “safe care” healthcare locations and by working with healthcare providers to address specific healthcare needs of trans* persons.

Housing: Reduce homelessness and discrimination in housing by working with housing providers. We are planning to open a combined community center and shelter in the future that will provide emergency shelter and housing, and will connect guests to other needed services.

Employment: Improve employment opportunities by working with local employers to establish training and hiring programs, and by providing training and empowerment opportunities to help trans* persons prepare for and find gainful employment.

Education: Host GED classes and improve educational opportunities by identifying and promoting safe learning environments and the means to finance education in these environments.

We all deserve to live our identity openly and without stigma!

Contact Us

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Visit us online at tpride.org
Facebook.com/tprideinitiative

Additional Resources

National Center for Transgender Equality — National political organization working for trans* equality: transequality.org

Center of Excellence for Transgender Health — Improving access to health services for trans* persons: transhealth.ucsf.edu

Transgender Law Center — Legal advocacy to reduce discrimination based on gender identity and expression: transgenderlawcenter.org

FORGE — Support for trans* survivors of violence and other disparities: forge-forward.org

Syliva Rivera Law Project — Supports the freedom to self-determine gender identity safe from discrimination and violence: srlp.org

Transgender Education Network of Texas (TENT) — Education addressing discrimination toward all gender minorities: transtexas.org

Black Transmen/Black Transwomen — Support and advocacy in Dallas and other locations: blacktransmen.org and blacktranswomen.org

Gender Education, Advocacy, and Resources (GEAR) — Dallas area trans* social support program: rdallas.org/family/transgender