



Dear Community Member,

We are a volunteer workgroup representing the LGBTQ+ community throughout California. We are pleased to announce that we have come together to develop three new and exciting materials for the LGBTQ+ community as part of Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement.

According to the 2010 U.S. Census, more than one million Californians identify as LGBTQ+, making up more than 4% of California's population. Due to complex factors including lack of access to treatment, culturally unresponsive service provision, and higher levels of stigma and discrimination, LGBTQ+ people are almost three times more likely than non-LGBTQ+ peers to experience a mental health challenge.

To address these barriers, Each Mind Matters collaborated with a strategic council of LGBTQ+ community leaders and stakeholders to create mental health materials for three key segments of the LGBTQ+ population: youth/young adults, older adults, and (coming soon) providers working with Latinx youth. These materials are a culmination of many months of outreach, research, and interviews with community, county and state representatives to determine what was most needed in the community.

With the support of our LGBTQ+ workgroup members, we are successfully launching these new materials. We believe these could be useful tools to the LGBTQ+ community you serve. We hope you will share these materials at your office, community events and fairs, or at any event your organization may participate in.

Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

The Each Mind Matters LGBTQ+ Strategic Council Members

Ann Mason, LGBT Center of Orange County, Santa Ana

Tony Ortuno, LGBT Center of Orange County, Santa Ana

Thomas Kelem, Stonewall Alliance of Chico, Butte County

Ben-David Barr, Rainbow Community Center, Concord

Melissa Boomer, Active Minds Student Leader, Santa Barbara

Poshi Mikalson, MHA-NorCal, Sacramento

And the California Mental Health Services Authority

