

IDEAS

INCLUSION, DIVERSITY, EQUITY, ADVOCACY, SUPPORT

HSC ODI QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2023

Statement from HSC Office of Diversity and Inclusion as of 3/20/2023:

Our office believes that transgender and gender-diverse people are deserving of fair and equal treatment and should be able to live freely as themselves, without facing discrimination or persecution. We proudly support these communities and will continue our work to ensure UofL is a welcoming, diverse, and equitable university for people of all backgrounds. Our offices are safe spaces for anyone needing resources and support.



Kentucky State Capitol Building

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO TRANS RIGHTS?

The Kentucky Senate and House have introduced multiple bills severely restricting rights of trans, non-binary, and gender nonconforming individuals. Senate Bill 150, passed in late March, includes but is not limited to the following legislation: banning gender-affirming medical care for transgender youth; possible loss of license for those who provide such care; restrictions on which restrooms K-12 students can use; and allowing for misgendering within public schools.

More states are quickly following with these bans as similar legislature was recently passed in Indiana and in Idaho, where it is now a felony for medical professionals to provide gender-affirming care to individuals under 18 and carries a sentence of up to 10 years in prison.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Many departments and groups have expressed support of and solidarity with the trans and gender diverse communities. We know that remaining silent on these issues, as our colleagues, friends, and loved ones are continually targeted and affected by this legislation, impacts how we all work and live. Below are some recent efforts from the UofL community that are openly in support of trans lives:

- Violence Against Transgender People is a Public Health Issue by Monica Wendel, DrPH, MA (she/her), Professor & Chair, Health Promotion & Behavioral Sciences, SPHIS
- We Are Here For You: Continuing to Support Trans Students, Statement of Support from the UofL Counseling Center
- Open Letter to Demand Action from UofL on SB 150, from the UofL Young Democratic Socialists of America
- An Open Letter to UofL Leadership, from the Department of Sociology's DEIJ Committee
- UofL Pledge Supporting LGBTQIA+ Human Rights originated by ULSOM student Luca Petrey (they/them), Class of 2023



Trans Pride flag waving

WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?

Get involved with local social justice organizations:

- ACLU of [Kentucky](#), and of [Indiana](#)
- [The Fairness Campaign](#)
- [Louisville Pride Foundation](#)

Contact your state and national elected officials:

- [Kentucky](#) Senators/Representatives
- [Indiana](#) Senators/Representatives
- [United States](#) Senators/Representatives

Educate yourself!

- Follow the [Kentucky](#) and [Indiana](#) General Assemblies to find out what bills are being discussed and when
- Learn about [the issues](#) faced by the trans community

Find an LGBTQ+ affirming provider or list yourself as an LGBTQ+ Affirming Healthcare provider:

- [The Outlist](#)



Person holding a sign that reads "Take a Stand"

WHO CAN YOU TALK TO?

- [UofL Counseling Center](#) (for students)
- [Employee Assistance Program Counseling Services](#) (for faculty and staff)
- [The Trevor Project](#)
- [Trans Lifeline](#)
- [LGBTQ+ Affirming Therapists](#) in/near Louisville

HELLO, MY NAME IS...

RAINBOW NAME CHANGE CLINIC

Saturday, June 24, 2023

10:00a-1:00p

Pregame Coffee

**1737 Frankfort Avenue
Louisville, KY 40206**

Following the success of the inaugural Rainbow Name Change Clinic, Louisville area attorney and longtime LGBTQ+ advocate, Shannon Fauver, is hosting a second clinic on June 24.

From their [Facebook event page](#):

Attorneys will draft and file name change petitions. These attorneys are donating their time and some of the fees will be covered thanks to generous contributions. The cost for filing is \$146.50 and the paperwork will be processed through Fauver Law Office.

If you—or someone you know—have the means and desire to donate funds to cover full or partial fees for participants, please contact Shannon Fauver at www.fauverlaw.com.

Please join us on April 27 for **The State of Gender Affirming Healthcare in Kentucky**, presented by the LGBT Center and HSC ODI.

Dr. Suzanne Kingery (she/her) will provide a synopsis of Kentucky Senate Bill 150 and the impact and implications of this legislation. The session is virtual and will allow for questions from participants.



The State of Gender Affirming Healthcare in Kentucky

Informal discussion featuring Suzanne Kingery, M.D., (she/her)
Presented by the LGBT Center and Office of Diversity & Inclusion,
University of Louisville, Health Sciences Center

Date: April 27, Thursday

Time: 12 Noon – 1:00 PM

Format: Virtual (Zoom)

- Link will be emailed to registrants the morning of the discussion.
- Registration Deadline: April 26.

Registration & Information:





Derby Disparities

Janisha Szabo, HSC ODI

Every May, the Kentucky Derby sweeps through Louisville, taking over the city for weeks, all in the name of a two-minute horse race. Many Louisvillians benefit from the influx in tourism, but others are inconvenienced and left without reward.

The Louisville neighborhoods surrounding the iconic Kentucky Derby venue, Churchill Downs, have some of the poorest health and educational outcomes in the city and are ranked below the average for Jefferson County in many areas of health, education, and economic stability. Meanwhile, Churchill Downs Incorporated (CDI), parent company of Churchill Downs [Racetrack], reported a net income of \$439 million in 2022 – well above their 2021 reporting and any reports from before Covid-related disruptions to their businesses.

Based on data from the Metro United Way 2022 Neighborhood Profile reports for Oakdale-Wyandotte, South Louisville, Taylor Berry, and Wilder Park-Fairgrounds, all of these neighborhoods in comparison to Jefferson County as a whole:

- have a lower median household income by at least 30%.
- do not attain near the same levels of education.
- more commonly report having 'poor' or 'fair' health.

These areas also have worse rates of:

- the population living below the federal poverty line.
- households receiving SNAP benefits or public assistance income.
- violent crimes per 100,000 (as reported to LMPD).
- births to mothers without a high school degree.
- asthma, disability, obesity, coronary heart disease, depression, COPD.
- households without internet or a vehicle.

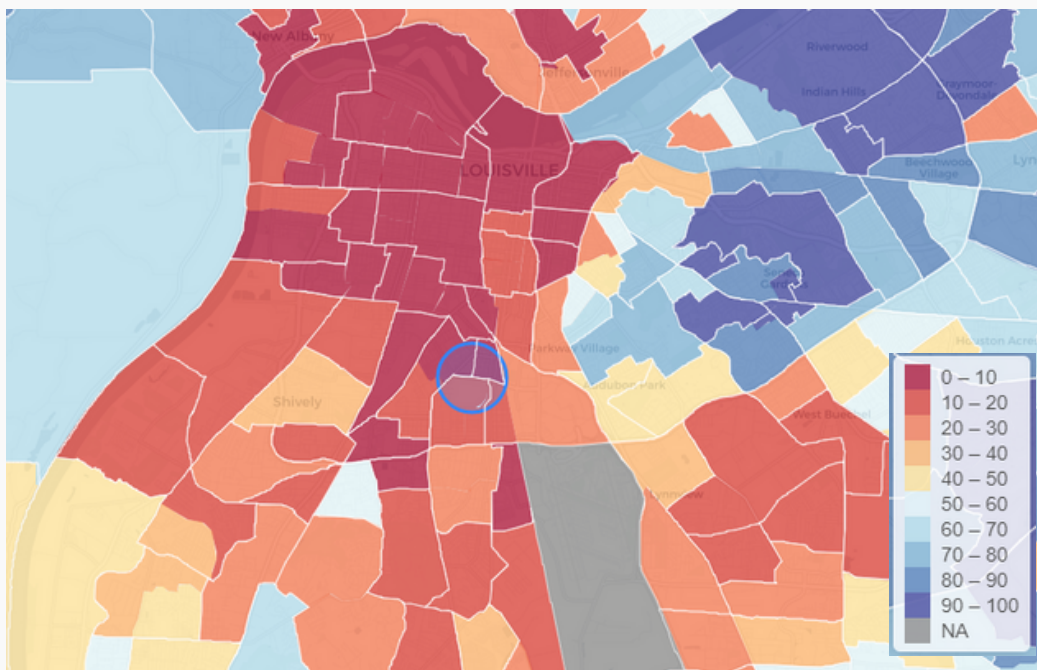
While CDI does have a foundation that states they are "committed to funding that will enhance and invigorate the quality of life for the neighborhoods surrounding Churchill Downs Racetrack", it's hard to notice where these enhancements may have been implemented within those neighborhoods.

According to a WAVE 3 News report, CDI confirmed they support a variety of local organizations – some in the immediate area. But the article also notes how the expansion of the racetrack property has slowly demolished these neighborhoods and it appears that trend will continue as their plans for growth are not stopping at the First Turn Club, which features new, all-inclusive reserved seating starting at \$1,261 per seat for the 2023 Derby.

Whatever charity Churchill Downs provides, between the racetrack and the conglomerate, they appear to be missing the mark of helping to improve the immediate vicinity on these measures. True enhancement and invigoration would bring these areas out of the red. It would make these neighborhoods as popular as the famous attraction that people flock to every May. And it would greatly improve the outcomes and opportunities for the residents.



Churchill Downs Executive Gate



Map of Louisville/Jefferson County overlaid with The Child Opportunity Index, which shows how neighborhood resources and conditions vary across the region. A score of 1 indicates very limited opportunities and a score of 100 indicates high levels of opportunities. Area of Churchill Downs located within blue circle. Source: Metro United Way, 2022; Diversity Data Kids, 2022.

UofL SHPEP 2023

Katrina Elliott, PhD, Coordinator, HSC ODI



SHPEP student performing a dental exam

 **Follow us!**
@shpeplouisville

If you have an interest in presenting, mentoring, or volunteering with SHPEP, please contact [Dr. Katrina Elliott](#). Your participation is needed to ensure each scholar receives proper guidance and support for a successful future.

Our office is excited to announce the University of Louisville's 17th Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP) on UofL's campus. SHPEP introduces prospective medical, dental, nursing, and pharmacy scholars to the academic rigors of health professions education. Scholars will use team-based learning to integrate and apply the basic and social sciences centered on two major themes: Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease. Scholars will work in inter-professional collaborative teams to develop and implement treatment plans with dental, medical, nursing, or pharmacy applications.

Major program emphasis focuses on personal and professional development, including study strategies, career planning, and clinical exposure to the health professions. Concepts of health policy and equity will be interwoven throughout the academic core with experiential health policy components. Scholars will leave the program with a clear understanding of the admissions process, a better understanding of health policy and a new level of enthusiasm and motivation to do well in the upper-level science courses, and in doing so increasing their chances of obtaining their goal of becoming a healthcare professional.

This innovative six-week hybrid summer academic enrichment program will begin virtually on Monday, June 5 and transition to in-person from June 20 through July 14. We will engage 80 scholars from across the country in Science Academic Enrichment; Medical, Nursing, Dental and Pharmacy Career Development; Personal Development; Health Equity and Health Policy; Learning Skills Orientation; Written & Oral Communication Development; Clinical Experience; and Financial Planning Orientation. Scholars will also gain exposure to advanced level sciences through participating in Organic Chemistry, Biochemistry, and Physiology classes facilitated by current University faculty members and UofL partners.

Additionally, scholars will be exposed to three clinical experiences including shadowing/observing health professionals at nearby hospitals and clinics; completing patient scenarios at the Standardized Patient Center and Simulation Labs; and participating in clinically-related case problem-solving. Lastly, our scholars will be provided with a financial stipend, as well as meals during in-person programming and additional food stipends during virtual programming.

CODRE Commissioner of the Year

Congratulations to Tonia Thomas on being honored as the **2023 Commission on Diversity and Racial Equity (CODRE) Commissioner of the Year**! Tonia was selected by a committee of faculty and staff peers because she goes the extra mile to support CODRE and its mission and demonstrates excellence in advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion. These efforts include her hard work and dedication with the CODRE Communications and Marketing Committee. We are so proud of her for this achievement, and always!



Tonia D. Thomas
Program Director
Post-bac Pre-Med Program

2023 LSAMP Symposium

Shirley Wu, Program Coordinator Sr, HSC ODI

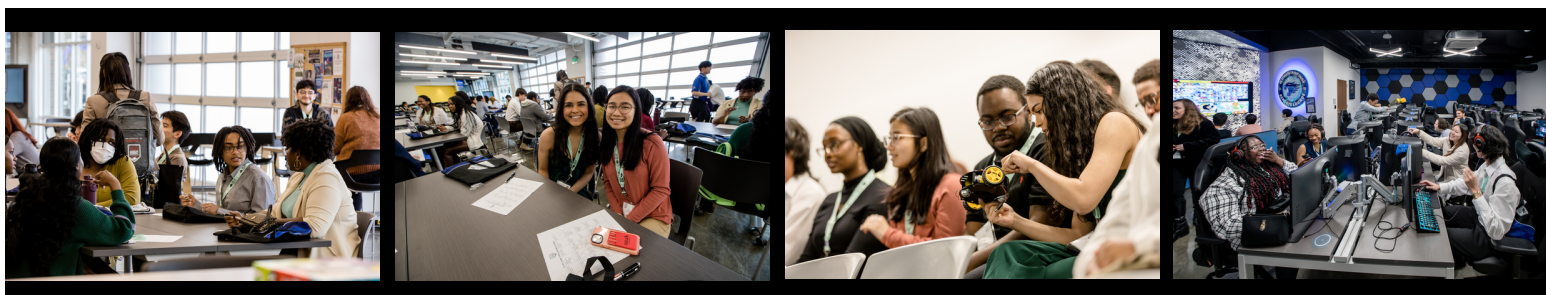


LSAMP participants and staff; Photo credit: Mark Mahan

Twenty-nine students representing the Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Program at the University of Louisville recently attended the KY-WV LSAMP Symposium at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Kentucky. The conference, held from March 31-April 1, 2023, allowed program participants to network amongst themselves, faculty, staff, and other champions of the LSAMP Program from across Kentucky and West Virginia. Scholars in attendance were also able to benefit from peer poster sessions, presentations, workshops, and an academic fair to broaden their professional and academic knowledge and aspirations. Presentation topics included:

- Conversations about Graduate School, moderated by Dr. Johné Parker, Associate Professor, Acting Associate Dean for DEI, College of Engineering, Co-PI KY WV LSAMP
- Turning your work into a Conference Presentation and /or Publication, led by Dr. Kelly Bradley, Professor, Department Chair, UK College of Education, CO-PI of UK-WV LSAMP
- The Scholar's Guide to Time Management: Achieve More and Stress Less, led by Molly McAndrew, Integrated Success Coach/START Teaching Assistant at the University of Kentucky
- Professional Development Begins on Day One: From Crafting Your First Resume to Interview Prep to Evaluating and Negotiating Full Time Job Offers, led by "Betsy" Elizabeth A. Davies, J.D., Associate Director for Career Development and Employer Relations, UK Engineering Career and Co-op Center.

Speakers in attendance included University of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto, KY WV LSAMP Principal Investigator and Dr. Carlotta Berry, Lawrence J. Giacoletto Endowed Chair and Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology. Emmanuella Bassey, from LSAMP at the University of Texas at Austin, was the featured student speaker. Bassey leveraged her LSAMP experience and connections to engage in international science research in Paris, France. A video of her presentation has been uploaded to the KY-WV YouTube channel here: [2023 LSAMP Symposium Speaker Emmanuella Bassey](#).



LSAMP participants during the symposium; Photo credit: Mark Mahan

Making its debut this year, **The Derby Diversity Week Wigs & Kicks Party** will be an event to remember, curated by members of the local LGBTQ community. It will be a celebration of creativity and pride through over-the-top wigs, fly kicks, cocktails, bites, and the unique! This inaugural event is hosted by professional soccer icon and author, Joanna Lohman.

Date: May 4

Time: 8:00- Midnight

Location: Muhammad Ali Center

Tickets & Information: [Wigs & Kicks](#)

Contact: [Valerie Combs](#)

****A portion of the proceeds benefit the LGBT Center****



Flyer for Derby Diversity Week Wigs & Kicks Party



Parents of LGBTQ+ Children Support Group

The LGBT Center and Employee Success Center are collaborating to launch a new parental support group. The next meeting is **Friday, April 28 from 9:00–10:00 a.m.** This is a virtual meeting and the link will be emailed. Register [here](#).



Questions, comments, praise, criticism, corrections, submissions, or general conversation?

WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Contact us at hscodi@louisville.edu