



## **Video Transcript: Building Partnerships that Foster Strength and Resilience of LGBTQ+ Individuals and Communities**

**Speaker 1 (00:00):** Building Partnerships that Foster Strength and Resilience of LGBTQ+ Individuals and Communities. This video was created by the Reproductive Health National Training Center, RHNTC.

**Sarah Beaumont (00:13):** My name is Sarah Beaumont, and I am medical director of Homeless Youth Outreach and the Cruising Health Mobile at Phoenix Children's Hospital. So many things contribute to our ability to provide really good care, it's the partnerships we have in the community. So working with them, as far as identifying and reaching our population.

**Sudha Nagalingam (00:33):** I am Sudha Nagalingam, I'm an infectious disease physician here at El Rio Community Health Clinic. I'm also the medical director of El Rio's HIV Clinic. That's a huge part of what we do is really building bridges with our community partners. We try to get more resources for our patients. We can partner with the health department so that our patient's partners get access to STD testing, organizations with patients who've had sexual assault. So it's really important to be able to navigate all those resources for our patients who, by yourself, you're not able to know where you can go to get housing or food or rent supply or pet supplies, even resources like toiletries. That can be life changing for someone.

**Joy Banes (01:16):** My name is Joy Banes, I am a family nurse practitioner here, and I also am the teen program's health manager. There's a lot of intersections when it comes to sexual and reproductive health, and so we partner with organizations that address housing insecurity, job assistance program, G.E.D. education programs.

**Dr. Vinnie Chulani (01:38):** So I'm Dr. Vinnie Chulani, my pronouns are he/him/his, I am an adolescent medicine specialist and also proud to be a Title X provider. One of the gaps that we identified in our service area was the lack of voice coaching, for example, for our transgender female patients. So we developed partnerships with a local school for speech and language pathologists to train our own staff so that we could build our own program. Your patients might come to you with questions and needs that are outside of what you might deliver. For example, my patients come to me with significant needs for mental health concerns, and this is one area where we have partnered with mental health service professionals here in our community.

**Speaker 1 (02:20):** Physical and mental health are inextricably linked to one another, and LGBTQ+ people shoulder higher burdens of mental distress, anxiety and depression. According to the Association of American Medical College's Center for Health Justice, 83% of LGBTQ+ birthing people reported complications following childbirth, compared to 63% of cisgender, heterosexual people. More specifically, 40% of LGBTQ+ birthing people experienced complications related to physical health, compared to 21% of cisgender, heterosexual people. In addition, 61% of LGBTQ+ birthing people experienced complications related to mental health, compared to 34% of cisgender, heterosexual people. A birthing person is someone who gives birth, regardless of their gender identity, which may be female, male, non-binary, or another identity.

**Sudha Nagalingam (03:25):** So it's really important to be able to utilize where we sit with our neighboring organizations to provide the best care for our patients in a very holistic manner.

**Joy Banes (03:25):** Ensuring that all your systems are working in terms of the way they interact with health care. So, from the first time they call the call center, are those individuals trained and using inclusive language and ensuring that they're getting them to the right providers and feel affirmed and the interaction at the front desk staff, what is that like? You know, like are our forms inclusive? Are we putting alerts on their chart that say like, hey, this person uses they/them pronouns, and are we following those things? When you're running a program, and you're very mindful about the way in which you use language and inclusivity, and then you refer out to somebody else or to another provider, you're always like, oh, what's going to happen? Like, are they really going to get that same inclusive care or use a very trauma-informed approach as well? So if we can just create it as part of the system, one provider can easily send to another provider, and they'll have the same experience.

**Jake Livan (04:23):** My name is Jake Livan, and I use he/they pronouns. El Rio has definitely helped me navigate outside of just El Rio. They've put me in contact with other providers that would be able to offer other affirming care. They've actually put me in contact with a doctor to get like a double mastectomy, which is something that I never thought would be available for me.

**Mykal O'Shea (04:47):** So my name is Mykal O'Shea, I'm a nurse practitioner here at Phoenix Children's Hospital, and I work in our homeless youth outreach department. Through my peers, I've been lucky enough to learn from and actually through the patients themselves. When you are curious and have a wonder for them and who they are, they're able to teach you so much that you can be a better ally and advocate for them.

**Sudha Nagalingam (05:11):** A big part of our organization is the Community Advisory Board. Our CAB was successful in helping us develop this building that I sit in right now. I think we've done a lot when it comes to even physical changes and environmental changes here at our clinic to ensure that our patients see us as allies in their health care.

**Jericho Galindo (05:30):** Hi, my name is Jericho Galindo, I use he/him pronouns, I've been with the Southwest Center for about two years. My current role is Gender Affirming Program Manager, something that we have developed here at the Gender Affirming program is the Queer Coalition, where other queer professionals get together and kind of talk about what is impacting our communities.

**Taylor Piontek (05:49):** My name is Taylor Piontek, I'm a family nurse practitioner, I'm also the STI and HIV clinical program manager here at Southwest Center. We do like a lot of referral among all of us, so, our goal is just if we can't see you here, like we want you to get care that you're going to have a good experience with. So, we do our best to get patients somewhere that will treat them how they should be treated.

**Sudha Nagalingam (06:15):** When you discuss with other organizations, people see that health is a human right and when they know that our mission here is to be able to provide affirming care, life-saving care, then that mission is universal. Then you can really get by and from other partners when it comes to moving your program forward.

**Speaker 1 (06:39):** Visit [RHNTC.org](https://rhntc.org) for more information and related resources.