



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

## Southwest Institute for Research on Women

# The SIROW Voice

Community-based collaborative research, working toward a society in which the wellbeing of women and families is paramount, resulting in their equity, empowerment, and prosperity since 1979.



## LGBTQ+ Equity Project to Expand Training Opportunities for Service Providers

SIROW is thrilled to announce the release of the LGBTQ+ Equity Training Series. The purpose of the Training Series is to advance LGBTQ+ equity through individual, organizational, and systems-level change by providing education and tools to enhance housing and other community service providers' capacity to serve and meet the needs of LGBTQ+ young people in Tucson and Southern Arizona.

In 2019, Tucson-Pima County was selected as a community to receive technical assistance to prevent and end homelessness for LGBTQ+ youth and youth of color through the Away Home America Grand Challenge. As an expansion of its grant with the City of Tucson's Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program and the Away Home America Grand Challenge, SIROW was tasked with leading the LGBTQ+ Equity Project.

The LGBTQ+ Equity Project team developed a comprehensive Training Series consisting of on-demand modules and a Companion Resource & Reflection Guide. The eight modules in the 3.8-hour series are divided into three sections: Context; Foundations; and Practice. The Context modules (1-2) offer an overarching framework and historical perspective that help situate the series in our modern world. They explore intersecting layers of oppression, underscoring the importance and need for a social justice approach to this work. These modules also summarize key organizing efforts that LGBTQ+ activists have led for decades to advance equity for LGBTQ+ people.

The Foundations modules (3-5) lay the groundwork for later modules by providing conceptual information related to LGBTQ+ communities and identities. The Foundations modules offer an in-depth exploration of trans and non-binary identities and give a taste of what viewers find more of in the Practice modules by reviewing tips and strategies for supporting trans and non-binary clients.

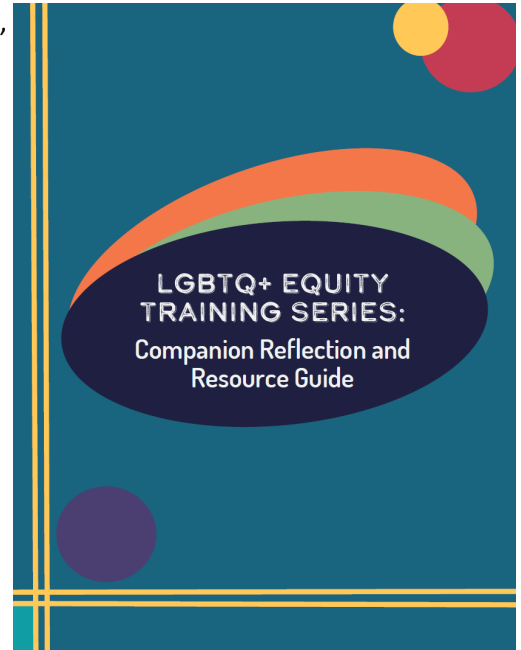
The Practice modules (6-8) are action-oriented, taking the intellectual knowledge from the previous presentations and offering concrete strategies for centering and uplifting LGBTQ+ communities. These modules challenge viewers to examine their own beliefs, behaviors, workplaces, and practices in an effort to propel meaningful action for change.

The Companion Resource & Reflection Guide includes reflection questions, scenarios with suggested responses, resources, activities and handouts, and printable signage. One highlight from the Companion Guide is the LGBTQ+ Inclusion Best Practices Checklist, which is designed to promote organizational-level change. The checklist allows organizations to examine their own practices and identify areas for improvement in serving LGBTQ+ clients and community members. Organizations wishing to delve further into addressing the best practices can request consultation through the capacity-building branch of SIROW's [Lighthouse Project](#).

The LGBTQ+ Equity Training Series was released in TPC's online training center in September 2021 and has garnered the most interest of any training on the platform, with over 100 new users registering in the training center within the first four days of its release.

Given the Training Series' success thus far, The City of Tucson recently contracted with SIROW to further the LGBTQ+ Equity Project by providing live trainings with community service providers who wish to delve more deeply into the content. SIROW will have the privilege of facilitating these "Deep Dive" sessions with 135 providers in The City of Tucson's housing division throughout the upcoming months.

The LGBTQ+ Equity Training Series is available to the public through <https://tpch.net/>. Click "E-LEARNING" at the top of the webpage to access the Online Training Center. For more information, please contact Courtney Waters ([cwaters2@arizona.edu](mailto:cwaters2@arizona.edu)) or Shannon Fowler ([shannonfowler@arizona.edu](mailto:shannonfowler@arizona.edu)).





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## Southwest Institute for Research on Women

### Our Mission

Develop, conduct, and disseminate collaborative outreach, education, intervention, and research projects of importance to diverse groups.

### Our Goals

- Engage in collaborative feminist research on topics pertinent to the lives of girls, women, and families;
- Develop and conduct outreach, education, service, research, and trainings with regard to mental and physical health, sexuality, legal matters, education, workforce, equity, diversity, and other issues;
- Address social inequalities and group-based disparities;
- Examine and support women's contribution to literature, the arts, and Southwest heritage;
- Advocate for women and families by linking researchers with community organizations and policy makers;
- Identify, illuminate, and disseminate research on girls, women, families, and gender differences.

**Southwest Institute for Research on Women**

**925 N. Tyndall Avenue**

**Tucson, AZ 85721**

**Tel (520) 621-3839**

**Fax (520) 621-1533**

**[sirow.arizona.edu](http://sirow.arizona.edu)**