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## **Resources and Ideas for LGBTI Champions**

Following a meeting held with the Anchor activities organisers and some of the community advisors, the ideas discussed and some additional ones are included here for your information.

This is not an exhaustive list but hopefully it will provide some ideas for you to take forward the work already underway in the homes to make the services provided more inclusive to the older LGBTI communities

### **Ideas discussed at the meeting:**

**Create an information leaflet** – explaining the aims of the project, including photos of the champions with a named person to contact and an invitation to come and meet them.

**Create a newsletter** – explaining a bit about the project and what events/activities you will be holding to celebrate the LGBTI communities

### **Staff Training :**

Ensure that all staff have been able to attend the sessions provided by the community advisors.

Work with staff to identify their further training needs and identify how managers and team leaders can continue to help raise staff awareness on understanding the needs of people from the older LGBTI communities, in particular to gain a greater understanding of the issues and challenges that they face when entering residential care and how staff can offer them a safe and inclusive environment.

### **Support Group for Champions:**

A suggestion that Champions organise a support group and meet together twice a year

**Hold an open evening or an event** and invite someone from a LGBTI organisation to give a talk

**Hold a coffee morning** - which includes showing LGBTI imagery and telling stories celebrating the achievements of older LGBTI people

## **Important dates that could be celebrated/acknowledged:**

**World Aids Day** – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2016

<https://www.worldaidsday.org/events>

**London Pride** – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2016 <http://prideinlondon.org/>

**Transgender Day of Remembrance** - 20<sup>th</sup> November 2016

<http://www.glaad.org/tdor>

**IDAHO (International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and biphobia)** 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016

<http://dayagainsthomophobia.org/>

**Transgender Day of Visibility** - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016

<http://www.gires.org.uk/forthcoming-events>

## **Anchor's Own Resources:**

**Equality and Diversity Policy**

**Behaviour Framework**

### **Understanding Changing Times LGBTI Advisory Group**

“ The group works to educate customers and colleagues on living and working with diverse groups. It aims to make Anchor a safe and welcoming place for LGBTI customers and colleagues. The group's ultimate aim is to reach a point where there is no need for such a group”.

## **Useful Websites and Organisations:**

This is not an exhaustive list and if you think of an idea google it on the web, maybe there is a support group or organisation that can help you to take your idea forward.

### **Age UK :**

Age UK campaigns for the rights of people in later life, provides information and advice and delivers services through its local partners. It has pioneered support and provision for older LGBT people.

<http://www.ageuk.org.uk/health-wellbeing/relationships-and-family/lgbt-information-and-advice/lesbian-gay-bisexual-or-transgender-in-later-life/>

**Switchboard** : LGBTI information + helpline :

<http://switchboard.lgbt/help/>

They provide information, support and a referral service for lesbians, gay men, bisexual and trans people and anyone considering issues around their sexuality and /or gender identity  
They could be accessed to give advice and support

**Opening Doors:** <http://openingdoorslondon.org.uk/>

This is an inclusive organisation for 50+ LGBTI people living and working or socialising in all of the London Boroughs. They provide social activities for those who are able to attend, befrienders for those who can't and advice and information on all LGBTI issues. They link into all the other groups.

**Stonewall** : <http://www.stonewall.org.uk/>

This organisation produces a variety of information leaflets that may be useful to help continue to raise staff awareness.

They also run training programmes to raise awareness of LGBTI issues which maybe of interest.

Their mission:

"We're here to let all lesbian, gay, bi and trans people, here and abroad, know they're not alone. We believe we're stronger united, so

we partner with organisations that help us create real change for the better. We have laid deep foundations across Britain - in some of our greatest institutions - so our communities can continue to find ways to flourish, and individuals can reach their full potential. We're here to support those who can't yet be themselves.

But our work is not finished yet. Not until everyone feels free to be who they are, wherever they are”.

And they: support individuals to work out how they can make a difference for LGBTI people at work, at home and in their communities.

**Sexual Health and Wellbeing services** for transgender people their partners and friends

<https://cliniq.org.uk/>

**London based transgender networking group**

<http://www.transnetworklondon.org.uk/>

**London Friend** is the UK's oldest LGBTI charity, supporting the health and mental wellbeing of the LGBTI community in and around London

<http://londonfriend.org.uk/>

**Kenric** – Social networking organisation for lesbians

<http://kenriclesbians.org.uk/>

**Older Lesbian Network:**

<http://www.olderlesbiannetwork.btck.co.uk/> Social Group – meeting in Central London; maybe they could offer volunteers to visit residents as well as older residents being able to join if they are able to get there 40+

**Pink Singers - LGBTI Choir:** <http://www.pinksingers.co.uk/>

They are a mixed four-part choir singing a variety of music, everything from pop to classical to jazz, folk and show tunes. They perform two main London concerts each year, and can be hired to perform in small venues.

Maybe they could come into the homes and give a performance – have a sing along with residents. Or residents could be encouraged to attend a performance.

**The Fourth Choir - LGBTI friendly :**

<http://www.thefourthchoir.com/>

This choir sings chamber/classical music; maybe they could come into the homes and give a performance – have a sing along with residents. Or residents could be encouraged to attend a performance.

**The Pink Juke Box** - <http://www.pinkjukebox.co.uk/> Is a ballroom and Latin dance club for members of the LGBTI community and their friends. Maybe some of the advanced dancers would give a performance – a Tea Dance could be organised and following a performance the dancers could encourage residents to dance.

**London Gay Symphony Orchestra :** <http://lgso.org.uk/>

Performs orchestral music and organises 5 concerts a year as well as a variety of ad-hoc extras; maybe they would be willing to come into the homes and perform.

**London Gay Symphonic Winds :** <http://www.lgsw.org.uk/>

They perform a variety of band music and hold 3 concerts a year as well as ad-hoc concerts. You can hire them to perform a concert in your own venue.

**9<sup>th</sup> GFEST Gaywise FESTival 2016:**

<http://www.gaywisefestival.org.uk/>

This is London's eclectic Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex (LGBTQI) cross art festival which showcases filmscreenings, art exhibitions and performance works by LGBTQI artists. This is an annual event and includes debate and talks. GFEST 2016 dates : Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November to Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November

**LGBT Film Festival :** <http://www.gaywisefestival.org.uk/>

16<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March 2016