



**SAGE Metro Portland, a program of Friendly House, enhances the lives of
LGBT older adults through advocacy, support and education.**

About SAGE Metro Portland:

SAGE Metro Portland is one of the state's only resources specifically for LGBT seniors. We provide social events, support groups, case management services, cultural competency trainings, and friendly visiting. In addition, we advocate at the state and national level for the needs of this often overlooked community.

About the LGBT Equality Survey for Senior Housing in Oregon:

Perhaps the greatest concern of the LGBT community is housing and the need to find housing where we will be welcomed as a LGBT person. This concern grows as we age. Over the past year, Friendly House staff and volunteers worked with senior housing providers to develop a survey tool to rate how LGBT friendly housing providers are in Oregon. The results of the survey have been published in the nation's first Guide to LGBT Friendly Senior Housing. This is a consumer guide for a broad range of senior living, including multiple levels of care, cost, location and amenities. All housing providers participated voluntarily. Housing providers provided information on employee equality, resident rights, outreach to the LGBT community, staff trainings and agency policies.

Ways to support the LGBT senior community in Portland:

- Data collection
 - There is a lack of data collection on the part of senior service programs. This deprives the community of the information we need to properly understand and serve LGBT seniors.
- Staff Training
 - Encourage housing and care providers to train staff at all levels on the issues facing the LGBT community.
- Funding
 - Allocate more funding to serve vulnerable populations of seniors, including LGBT seniors.
- Supporting the Survey
 - SAGE is seeking support in printing/reproduction and disbursement of the Guide to LGBT Housing in Oregon in order to make this unique resource more widely available. Please consider making a contribution towards the cost of the guide and/or making it available at all County buildings and locations.

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