

TRANSGENDER PEOPLE



have the **RIGHT** to **effective, compassionate** HEALTH CARE

People have the right to care that promotes and sustains their health. Transgender people face serious ongoing challenges in receiving basic health care as well as treatment that addresses transgender specific needs.

Transgender people are afraid that emergency medical providers will refuse to treat us, after a woman died as a result of neglect. We face prejudice in emergency rooms, counseling centers and doctors' offices, so too many of us fail to get the preventive or urgent health care we need. Most insurance companies specifically exclude transgender related care from their policies.

Yet some employers and municipalities are working to find ways to provide insurance for transgender people. Increasing numbers of emergency service providers, medical personal and mental health care workers are receiving training to increase sensitivity and knowledge about our needs. Transgender people are also organizing to provide manuals, conferences, and working groups to address this critical issue.

Health care reform needs to be at the heart of our movement.

See United Nations' Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25

MARCH 2007

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