

# TIES

# POP-UP

## Fairfax

SATURDAY AUGUST 10, 2019; 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

Transgender Information & Empowerment Summit Pop-Up  
Metropolitan Community Church of Northern Virginia  
10383 Democracy Ln, Fairfax, VA 22030

### Program Overview

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| 12:00 - 12:30 PM | Registration  |
| 12:30 - 1:30 PM  | Employment Readiness for Transgender and Gender Diverse Professionals<br><i>— 10 Minute Break —</i> |
| 1:40 - 2:40 PM   | Know the Facts: Trans Rights in Schools<br><i>— 10 Minute Break —</i>                               |
| 2:50 - 3:50 PM   | Panel Discussion: Building Safer Schools for Trans Youth<br><i>— 10 Minute Break —</i>              |
| 4:00 - 5:00 PM   | Be an Advocate: Tell Your Story   |

Resource Center services available throughout the event:

#### —HIV Testing—

NOVA Salud will provide free rapid HIV testing. No appointments necessary and you receive your results in 20 minutes.

#### —Appointments—

All Mental Health & Medical Consultations and Name & Gender Marker Change appointments are free and available first come, first served.

# Workshop Descriptions

## **Employment Readiness for Transgender and Gender Diverse Professionals**

**12:30-1:30 PM** || Speaker: Thalia Hernandez

This workshop will take the usual employment readiness advice presented to a person about to hit the job market and look at it critically through the lens of a transgender person's experience. This workshop will discuss ways to overcome the potential roadblocks when navigating employment opportunities and review options available if you experience discrimination. We will also cover content ranging from using your legal or chosen name on application materials, interviewing for a position, deciding which job offer to accept, to the state of employment law and protections for transgender people.

***About the speaker:** Thalia Hernandez was born on Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma and has moved around ever since. While attending college at William & Mary, she was on the executive board of the Lambda Alliance, W&M's oldest and largest LGBTQ organization, for three and a half years, including one year as Co-President. Thalia graduated from W&M in the Spring of 2018 and moved to Richmond to join Equality Virginia's team as a program coordinator for trans visibility.*



## **Know the Facts: Trans Rights in Schools**

**1:40-2:40 PM** || Speaker: Jennifer Safstrom

Like all school-age youth, transgender students spend the majority of their day in the classroom. Unfortunately, for many, the school environment is either unwelcoming or overtly hostile. Learn more about students' rights in Virginia schools, including know-your-rights information regarding access to facilities and campus speech. This discussion will be framed in the context of the ACLU of Virginia's case, Grimm v. Gloucester County School Board, and will allow ample time for Q&A.

***About the speaker:** Jennifer Safstrom has served as the Dunn Legal Fellow at the ACLU of Virginia since September 2018. She earned her B.A. in International Studies from the University of Miami in 2011. She received her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center in 2018, where she served as Editor in Chief of the Georgetown Journal of Law & Modern Critical Race Perspectives, Employer Outreach Chair for the Latin American Law Student Association, and member of the Appellate Litigation Clinic. Her legal scholarship has been published in the Georgetown Law Journal, Yale Journal of Law & Feminism, Harvard Latinx Law Review, and Barry Law Review.*

# Workshop Descriptions

## **Panel Discussion: Building Safer Schools for Trans Youth**

**2:50-3:50 PM** || Speakers: Amy Adams, Anthony Belotti, David Aponte, & Nicolle Campa

Do you care about ensuring transgender youth have a safe learning environment and an equal education? In this panel discussion, you'll hear from fellow community advocates of all ages about how you can get involved in your local district to make schools more inclusive of their transgender students. This includes how to get involved, what sorts of policies and strategies to use, what are expected road blocks, and how to ultimately succeed!

### ***About the speakers:***

*Amy Adams, Equality Stafford*

*Anthony Belotti, VCU Student and Stafford County Public Schools graduate*

*David Aponte, GLSEN Northern Virginia*

*Nicolle Campa, Metro DC PFLAG*



## **Be an Advocate: Tell Your Story**

**4:00-5:00 PM** || Speaker: Thalia Hernandez

Updating non-discrimination laws to include sexual orientation and gender identity will help ensure that all people in our state, including LGBT people, have equal opportunities. Personal stories are some of the most powerful tools for advocacy and social change. Our lawmakers need to hear from people who have experienced discrimination. Plus, they need to hear from friends, family members, neighbors, coworkers, and allies about the importance of these protections. Everyone has an advocacy story to share. This workshop covers the basics of sharing a personal story for advocacy, focusing on how to call policy makers to action.

***About the speaker:*** *Thalia Hernandez was born on Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma and has moved around ever since. While attending college at William & Mary, she was on the executive board of the Lambda Alliance, W&M's oldest and largest LGBTQ organization, for three and a half years, including one year as Co-President. Thalia graduated from W&M in the Spring of 2018 and moved to Richmond to join Equality Virginia's team as a program coordinator for trans visibility.*

*A special thank you to the TIES Pop-Up  
Name & Gender Marker Change Clinic Partners:*



*Thank you to our Cohost Organizations:*



*Thank you to our Community Voices:*

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|------------------|----------------------------|
| AGLA             | LGBT Democrats of Virginia |
| Equality Loudoun | Metro DC PFLAG             |
| FCPS Pride       | NextGen Virginia           |
| GLSEN NOVA       | NOVA TransParent USA       |
| Impacto LGBT     | PFLAG Alexandria           |
|                  | PFLAG Fairfax              |



Equality Virginia (EV) is grateful to be in Fairfax and partner with many wonderful local organizations that provide invaluable services for transgender individuals, their families, and allies in Northern Virginia. EV created TIES for trans and gender diverse individuals to gain support and resources, build community, and connect with each other.

Visit [www.equalityvirginia.org](http://www.equalityvirginia.org) to learn more about the work EV does for LGBT Virginians.