

2011 DC BLACK PRIDE WORKSHOPS*All rooms are in the Hamilton Crowne Plaza***10 – 11:10 a.m.****Farragut Square Room, Lower Lobby Level*****Re-examining, Reshaping, and Redefining Our Relationships***

Presenters: Tamera Dunlap-Elkins, Chair, Rainbow Response Coalition
 June Crenshaw, Secretary, Rainbow Response Coalition
 Shauna Fecher, Members, Rainbow Response Coalition
 Damein T. Frierson, Member, Rainbow Response Coalition
 Paul Ashton, Member, Rainbow Response Coalition

Audience: All

This workshop will empower audience members to make the most of their relationships by providing them with the tools to identify healthy and unhealthy behavior. Without relationship role models in the LGBTQ communities and healthy, strong couples as examples, how can we be sure that our intimate relationships are positive? How do we know when things are going right...and what should we do when things go wrong? Rainbow Response Coalition will lead a conversation around identifying the characteristics of a healthy relationship, and provide information on what to do when relationships have become less than healthy.

Rainbow Response Coalition

Rainbow Response is a grassroots coalition that brings together organizations and leaders from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning (LGBTQ) communities, along with domestic violence (DV) organizations and government agencies. Our coalition building began with several individuals discussing projects underway by disparate organizations that appeared very similar, concerned about the duplication of efforts and the lost synergies by "working in a vacuum." Both local and national LGBTQ and DV organizations now participate in the coalition, along with several committed individual members not affiliated with a member organization.

Lafayette Park Room, Second Floor***Undergraduate and Graduate School: How To Get In and How to Pay For It.***

Presenters: The George Washington University representative
 Howard University representative
 The Point Foundation representative
 The Thurgood Marshall College Fund representative

Audience: All

This workshop will feature a recruiter from two universities, who will describe what they are seeking in prospective students. Moreover, there will be a representative from two national scholarship programs, who will describe how to fund your undergraduate or graduate education.

McPherson Square Room, Lower Lobby Level

The Thickness: A Discussion About Healthy Bodies

Presenters: D Magrini & Rachelle Dixon

Audience: Women

"Ever since I was a child, I was overweight. Not much, but just a little chunkier than everyone else. Once I went away to college, I packed on the pounds, and they just seemed to keep coming. I would get depressed about my body and try to go exercise, but my whole body hurt from just doing simple things. I also hated feeling like everyone in the gym was looking at me because I was big. I'd usually leave and go out to eat to make myself feel better. I tried every diet that came along – and believe me I did them all – but they never lasted very long..."

Many of us have a story that sounds a lot like this where we look at ourselves through a lens that exists outside ourselves - an aesthetic that society puts upon us. But what about standards of beauty that we have made for ourselves? Do you think we have created a black lesbian physical aesthetic - and if so, what does that person look like? What pressures do you feel from the world on what "beauty" means for your own body? How do you think we accept women who are "thick with it"? Or do we? Is what we do in the name of beauty healthy? Please join D and Rachelle from Mautner Project and let's talk about it.

10:30 – 11:45 a.m.

Hamilton Ballroom, Lower Lobby Level

Why Do I Feel Sad? Who Am I? Belonging In My Own Skin!

Moderator: Antoine Craigwell

Panelists: Bishop Rainey Cheeks, Ron LeFleur, Ron Simmons, Ph.D., & O'Brien Dennis

Audience: Men

As a subject, this forum on depression in Black gay men reaches across several other subject areas, including men's health, transgender health, HIV/AIDS, youth issues, homophobia, mental health, racism, wellness and anti-discrimination. A forum at this gathering of Black gay men is intended to continue conversations through providing information, knowledge and encouragement to those who are dealing with depression or who may not even know they are depressed, to reach out and seek help. While there are many different causes for depression in Black gay men, during this discussion, it is intended to highlight gender and sexual identity, sexual abuse and trauma, religion, HIV infection, and growing old as a Black gay man, as factors which contribute to depression.

11:20 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Farragut Square Room, Lower Lobby Level

LGBT/SGL Parenting: A Discussion on Adoption and Foster Care.

Presenters: Adrienne Jubilee, Wendy's Wonderful Kids Recruiter, DC Child and Family Service Agency (CFSA)
Marie Dorsey, Recruiter, DC Child and Family Service Agency (CFSA)
Dr. Benjamin Dukes, LICSW, LICSW-C, Multi-Disciplinary Teaming Supervisor, DC Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA)

Audience: All

An open discussion on adoption and foster care from the perspective of LBGT/SGL individuals. Hear from couples and single adoptive and foster parents.

Lafayette Park Room, Second Floor

Understanding the "T" within the LGBT

Presenter: Danielle King

Audience: All

A candid discussion with members of the LGBT community and allies about what it means to be African-American and Transgender.

McPherson Square Room, Lower Lobby Level

When Health Care Isn't Caring: Accessing Non-Discriminating Health Care for People of Color and People Living With HIV

Presenter: Holiday Simmons

Audience: All

In 2009 Lambda Legal initiated a two-year health care fairness campaign to explore the experiences of LGBT people and people living with HIV facing discrimination when trying to access health care. Lambda Legal is working together with organizations and individuals to promote a platform for health care reform that addresses the issues of LGBT people and people living with HIV. As a part of this campaign, we conducted a health care fairness survey and over 5,000 people responded. This interactive workshop we will engage participants in the data that the survey found for people of color and for people living with HIV. We will discuss the implications from the data, Lambda Legal's ongoing National Health Care Fairness campaign, and explore various advocacy efforts to promote health care fairness for people of color living with HIV.

12:40 – 2 p.m.

Farragut Square Room, Lower Lobby Level

Getting Back to the Basics - Our Own Way: BLSG

Presenters: Lanada Williams, MA, NCC, LPC
Jay Morrow

Audience: Women

Peer support! Express your ideas here, vent issues, seek advice, support someone else. History of BLSG: It was established in 1990 to provide a medium through which black lesbians and bisexual women may communicate with one another. BLSG offered supportive services in the LBGT community and strives to increase visibility of black lesbians and bisexual women. BLSG is a non-profit organization. Recreating a BLSG sessions from Whitman Walker Clinic that happened on 1,2nd and 4th Saturdays. Come see old friends and meet new ones. Discuss reviving group and finding a new home. Let's bring it back!

Lafayette Park Room, Second Floor

Does the Black LGBT Community Really Care about Black Youth?

Moderator: Victory Kirby

Panelist(s): Jeffery Richardson, Director, DC Office of GLBT Affairs

Audience: Youth & All

A frank discussion between youth and the Black LGBT community about the barriers that Black LGBT youth face in Washington, DC and beyond.

McPherson Square Room, Lower Lobby Level

HIV Vaccine Development

Presenter: Brandon Wilson

Audience: Men & Transgender women

The US Department of Health and Human Services/National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases/Vaccine Research Center's mission is to conduct research that facilitates the development of effective vaccines for human disease. The primary focus of research is the development of vaccines for AIDS. The Vaccine Research Center has been recruiting men who have sex with other men, and transgendered women in the DC metropolitan area for HVTN 505 since June of 2009. For this study, which will enroll 1,350 sexually active men age 18 to 50 nationwide, only men who are circumcised and have no antibodies to Ad5 are allowed to participate. HVTN 505 examines if the vaccine can decrease the viral load of those who become infected with HIV. The presenter will discuss past and current recruitment methods and strategies for the study, inclusion and exclusion criteria, how recruitment in DC compares to other US cities, and how interested individuals can participate.