

# LGBT Health Awareness Week 2017: March 27th-31st

Thanks for celebrating this year's National LGBT Health Awareness Week! The purpose of the week—which runs from March 27th to March 31st—is to raise awareness of LGBTQ health disparities and highlight the need for LGBTQ health equity. The theme for this year's LGBT Health Awareness Week, organized by the National Coalition for LGBT Health, is *ACT OUT for LGBT Health! Action on Health Access and Equity*. Making your organization's voice heard this week has never been more important: ongoing efforts to repeal or weaken the Affordable Care Act would have a devastating impact on LGBTQ communities. Thanks for joining Out2Enroll, the National Coalition for LGBT Health (whose social media toolkit is available <a href="here">here</a>), and partners across the country in making your voice heard!

Hashtags: #ActOut, #ActOut4LGBTHealth, #LGBThealth, #BeOutBeHealthy, #ProtectOurCare

These and other images are available at: https://out2enroll.org/lgbt-health-awareness-week-2017-materials/





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### **Key Digital Events**

- Monday, March 27th, 3pm ET: #MillennialMon Twitter chat with Young Invincibles
- Tuesday, March 28th, 2pm ET: National Coalition for LGBT Health webinar: ACT OUT for Equity: Understanding the Impact of Social Determinants of Health on LGBT Health Equity (register here)
- Wednesday, March 29th, 2pm ET: #WellnessWed Twitter chat with Moms Rising
- Thursday, March 30th, 2pm ET: National Coalition for LGBT Health webinar: ACT OUT for Access: Understanding the AHCA's Impact on LGBT Health Equity (register <a href="here">here</a>)

#### **Key Messages**

- The Affordable Care Act has made a significant difference in the lives of millions of LGBTQ individuals and families. Millions of LGBTQ people across the country have benefited from the Affordable Care Act. Many have gotten health insurance for the first time, gotten covered as a family for the first time, received financial help to make coverage more affordable, and accessed covered health services, including transition-related care, for the first time. Use this week to show that the Affordable Care Act is working for our communities and we need to #ProtectOurCare.
- Nothing has changed—the Affordable Care Act is still the law of the land, and LGBTQ people are protected from discrimination in health care and health insurance. There are many questions about what federal changes—in Congress, by the White House, and by HHS—mean for LGBTQ communities. For now, it is important to remind the community that nothing has changed when it comes to health care: people still have access to subsidies for health insurance and should continue to pay their premiums and Section 1557's nondiscrimination protections are still in place. Use this week to remind LGBTQ people that they should never face health discrimination simply for being who they are.
- Health care is a right, not a privilege. LGBTQ communities have suffered for too long when it comes to
  disparities in health insurance and health care. Use this week to continue to push for equal access to
  quality, affordable health care for all.
- Use your health insurance to get the health care you need. LGBT Health Awareness Week is an important opportunity to highlight the benefits of health insurance and health care, such as free preventive services. Use this week to remind LGBT people about the benefits of coverage to help improve community-wide disparities.

### **Sample Facebook Posts**

- Join us in celebrating LGBT Health Awareness Week and encouraging your LGBTQ family and friends to #BeOutBeHealthy! That means #GetCovered and get the health care you need! [attach shareable]
- Health care is a right, not a privilege. Our community has suffered for too long when it comes to health insurance and health care – and that's just one reason why health is an LGBTQ equality issue. [attach shareable]
- #TransHealth matters. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act, trans and GNC people should not be discriminated against in health coverage or care. That means access to the preventive care and transition-



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related care you need—and the right to be treated with respect by health care providers. If you face one of these situations, #KnowYourRights [attach shareable]

- Got questions about what federal changes mean for you? One thing that has not changed—the Affordable Care Act STILL protects all LGBTQ people from discrimination when it comes to health insurance and health care. #KnowYourRights so you can #ExpectMoreDemandMore. [attach shareable]
- 20 million Americans have health insurance thanks to the Affordable Care Act, including many LGBTQ people. We can't afford to go back to a system where our community can't afford to #BeOutBeHealthy. #ProtectOurCare [attach shareable]
- Under the #ACA, your health insurance comes with some epic FREE benefits. Make sure to take advantage of all the preventive services, like HIV/STI testing and well-woman visits! Get started today by scheduling an appointment with your doctor. [attach shareable]

#### **Sample Tweets**

- It's LGBT Health Awareness Week! Millions of LGBTQ people benefit from ACA join us to #ActOut4LGBTHealth and #ProtectOurCare [attach shareable]
- Health care is a right and an LGBTQ equality issue. We won't go back to a system that fails us #ActOut4LGBTHealth #BeOutBeHealthy [attach shareable]
- #ACA prohibits discrimination & provides affordable health insurance options for #LGBTQ people #ActOut4LGBTHealth #ProtectOurCare [attach shareable]
- #LGBTQ people deserve equal access to affordable, quality health insurance and health care #ActOut4LGBTHealth #ProtectOurCare [attach shareable]
- You have the right to the care you need and the respect you deserve, especially when it comes to #TransHealth #ActOut [attach shareable]