

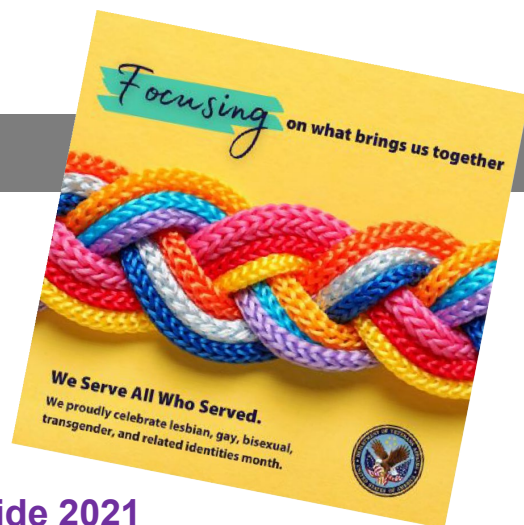


**VA UNITED FOR  
EQUALITY**  
**= PRIDE MONTH 2021 =**

June Calendar of events

## VA National Virtual PRIDE

Bringing together the LGBTQ+ Community on a national platform for the first time in VA history. Descriptions, times, time zone key and web links are found below the calendar of events.



### Celebrate VA Virtual Pride 2021

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) joins the Nation in observing Pride Month in June. The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender and other identities (LGBT+) community is an essential and expanding segment of our workforce diversity and is committed to workplace inclusion in accordance with the annual Equal Employment Opportunity, Diversity and Inclusion, No FEAR and Whistleblower Rights and Protection Policy Statement and associated VA Directives.

VA demonstrates this pledge toward diversity, equity and inclusion by its efforts to recognize and employ standards that exemplify these principles. These leading standards were further fortified by President Biden's [Executive Order on Preventing and Combating Discrimination on the Basis of Gender Identity or Sexual Orientation](#).

In response to this Executive Order, VA Secretary McDonough distributed a message to all employees outlining the Department's plan and execution strategy regarding the promotion of gender diversity and sexual orientation inclusivity.

Through the collaborative efforts of a blended committee consisting of Special Emphasis Program Managers (SEPMs), the Veterans Health Administration's Veteran Care Coordinators (VCCs) and

several LGBT community of practice staff members nationwide, VA will host its first virtual Pride Month which will feature a variety of virtual activities throughout the month of June. This unprecedented occasion, is an undertaking that will enlighten, educate and alleviate many misconceptions about the LGBT community and the allies who support them.

The first event will be held on June 1st and continue throughout the month with a total of 27 events. Some programs will be presented live on Microsoft TEAMS, while others have been pre-recorded.

Attached is a calendar of events with corresponding TMS Registration links and MS Teams access information.

Join us online as we celebrate together, United for Equality, in this groundbreaking event.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 <b>LGBT+ Legal Q&amp;A w/ Ms. Deborah McCallum, OGC</b>	5
6	7 <b>PFLAG=Parents Family and Friends of the LGBT+ with Ann Miller</b>	8 <b>Raising a Transgender Child and Family Dealing with the Transition</b> by Debi Jackson	9 <b>LGBT+ Legal Q&amp;A</b> w/ Ms. Deborah McCallum, OGC	10 <b>Personal Story of Stonewall</b> with Mark Segal	11 <b>Former VA Employee Story</b> with a recording from Richard Forbes	12
13	14	15 <b>Workforce Development Course: Unconscious Bias</b> with Laura Baker	16 <b>Soldier of Change: From the Closet to the Forefront of the Gay Rights Movement</b> with Steve Snyder-Hill	17 <b>Intimate Partner Violence in the LGBTQ Community</b> with Amy Bourne	18 <b>LGBT+ Legal Q&amp;A w/ Ms. Deborah McCallum, OGC</b>	19
20	21 <b>Legal History of LGBTQ Military and Veteran Service</b> with Dr. Timothy Bussey	22 <b>Do Ask. Do Tell.: A Panel Examining LGBTQ Military and Veteran Service</b>	23 <b>Identify Organizations In and out the VA and network for LGBT with a focus on Transgender Care</b> with Zander Keig	24 <b>Statement by Assistant Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine LIVE</b> <b>LGBT+ Legal Q&amp;A</b> w/ Ms. Deborah McCallum, OGC	25	26
27	28 <b>Pisces Healthcare Prosthetic Options and How to Order</b>	29 <b>LGBT+ Legal Q&amp;A</b> w/ Ms. Deborah McCallum, OGC <b>Suicide Prevention for LGBT+ Veterans</b> with Morgan BreskoMPH, LCSW	30 <b>Active Duty Transgender Service Member and Advocate:</b> Alivia Stehlik			

## **June 4**

**4<sup>th</sup> - (1:00-2:00 EST) LGBT+ Legal Q&A** Ms. McCallum will discuss the rights of LGBT+ employees and veterans including the anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. She will also answer questions that participants might have concerning specific LGBT+ issues that may arise in the workplace.

## **June 7-11**

**7<sup>th</sup> – (12:00-1:00 EST) PFLAG=Parents Family and Friends of the LGBT+ with Ann Miller** Ann Miller is the regional director for the gulf region of PFLAG. PFLAG is the oldest and largest national organization dedicated to supporting LGBT+ individuals and their families. Advocating for the rights of LGBT+ individuals, especially youth, drives her passionate work for PFLAG.

**8<sup>th</sup> – (12:30-2:00 EST) Raising a Transgender Child and Family Dealing with the Transition by Debi Jackson** Raising a transgender child and family dealing with the transition. She also talks about the negative information the child faces from outside a supportive home.

**9<sup>th</sup>-(3:00-4:00 EST) LGBT+ Legal Q&A** Ms. McCallum will discuss the rights of LGBT+ employees and veterans including the anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. She will also answer questions that participants might have concerning specific LGBT+ issues that may arise in the workplace.

**10<sup>th</sup> – (2:30 - 4:00 EST) Personal Story of Stonewall with Mark Segal** Come listen to the personal story of Mark Segal and his battles for the LGBT+ community, from Stonewall to disrupting TV shows and eventually being on their Joint Diversity Council to his items being added to the collection at the Smithsonian.

**11<sup>th</sup> – (12:30-1:00 EST) Former VA Employee Story with a recording from Richard Forbes** Retired West Palm Beach VA employee and longtime entertainer, Richard Forbes, brings us his story as part of the community and his experiences in NYC during the 70s.

## **June 15-18**

**15<sup>th</sup> – (11:00 -12:00 EST) Workforce Development Course: Unconscious Bias with Laura Baker**

What is Unconscious Bias? How Does it Affect Me? What Can I Do About It? By the time you are done with this session you will be able to answer these questions and understand how Unconscious Biases can affect the workplace and your life.

**16<sup>th</sup> – (11:30 -12:30 EST) Soldier of Change: From the Closet to the Forefront of the Gay Rights Movement with Steve Snyder-Hill** When "Don't Ask, Don't Tell;" the official U.S. policy on gays serving in the military, was repealed in September 2011, soldier Stephen Snyder-Hill (then Captain Hill) was serving in Iraq. Having endured years of this policy, which passively encouraged a culture of fear and secrecy for gay soldiers, Snyder-Hill submitted a video to a Republican primary debate held two days after the repeal. In the video he asked for the Republicans' thoughts regarding the repeal and their plans, if any to extend spousal benefits to legally married gay and lesbian soldiers. His video was booed by the audience on national television. Stephen wrote the book: Soldier of Change: From the Closet to the Forefront of the Gay Rights Movement. Snyder- Hillhas traveled the country with his husband, giving interviews on major news networks and speaking at universities, community centers, and pride parades, a champion of LGBT+ equality. Stephen Snyder-Hill joined the military in 1988 and was deployed in 1990 for Operation Desert Storm. He went into the US Army reserves and was redeployed twenty years later in 2010 for Operation New Dawn. Throughout his military career Snyder-Hill received numerous awards and decorations, including the Meritorious Service Medal. He earned a master's degree in Dietetics and minored in Exercise Physiology at The Ohio State University. He is retired from the US Army as a Major in November of 2019 and works as a Dietitian for Columbus Public Health in Columbus, Ohio.

**17<sup>th</sup> – (11:00 -12:00 EST) Intimate Partner Violence in the LGBTQ Community with Amy Bourne**

What is Intimate Partner Violence? How does it affect our LGBT+ Veterans? How can we make them feel safe disclosing this issue while receiving care at the VA? Amy Bourne answers these questions and delves into the data that makes up a section of violence within this community.

**18<sup>th</sup> – (2:00-3:00 EST) LGBT+ Legal Q&A** Synopsis: Ms. McCallum will discuss the rights of LGBT+ employees and veterans including the anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. She will also answer questions that participants

might have concerning specific LGBT+ issues that may arise in the workplace.

## **June 21-24**

**21<sup>st</sup> – (12:30-2:00 EST) Legal History of LGBTQ Military and Veteran Service with Dr. Timothy Bussey** Will discuss legal history of LGBT+ military service.

**22<sup>nd</sup> – (12:30-2:00 EST) Do Ask. Do Tell.: A Panel Examining LGBTQ Military and Veteran Service** This panel will bring together past and present military servicemember to talk about LGBT+ military service during and after “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” It will examine how discriminatory policies continue to impact the lives of veterans. Finally, it will highlight key tools for ensuring dignity and respect for all who serve.

**23<sup>rd</sup> – (12:00-1:00 EST) Identify Organizations In and out the VA and network for LGBT with a focus on Transgender Care with Zander Keig** Review VHA Directives pertaining to LGBT+ Veterans. Summarize the work of the NMW TGCT. Recommend LGBT+ Veteran and military community resources.

**(12:30 -1:00 EST) Statement by Assistant Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine** Dr. Levine has prepared a statement for this event. She is the first Transgender member of a Presidential cabinet, a start in helping our community overcome boundaries. This will be a **LIVE** event.

**(1:00-2:00 EST) LGBT+ Legal Q&A** Synopsis: Ms. McCallum will discuss the rights of LGBT+ employees and veterans including the anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. She will also answer questions that participants might have concerning specific LGBT+ issues that may arise in the workplace.

## **June 28-30**

**28<sup>th</sup> – (2:00-3:30 EST) Pisces Healthcare Prosthetic Options and How to Order** The covered topics will include gender affirming prosthetics, vendor options, prosthetic sample kits, and eligibility criteria.

**29<sup>th</sup> – (1:00-2:00 EST) LGBT+ Legal Q&A** Synopsis: Ms. McCallum will discuss the rights of LGBT+ employees and veterans including the anti-discrimination protections under Title VII. She will also answer questions that participants might have concerning specific LGBT+ issues that may arise in the workplace.

**(2:30 - 4:00 EST) Suicide Prevention for LGBT+ Veterans with Morgan Bresko MPH, LCSW** This presentation will review LGBT+ Veteran history, impacts of Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy, and what we can do as VA Employees and community members to create a more accepting and safe community for all Veterans. This talk is based out of the Portland VA Health Care System in the State of Oregon.

**30<sup>th</sup> - (12:30 -1:30 EST) Active Duty Transgender Service Member and Advocate: Alivia Stehlik** Major Alivia Stehlik came out as transgender to her unit and in 2017 volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan. Today she will share insight of her experience of deployment, how the ban on transgender service members impacted her, and the current climate since the ban has been ended. Alivia shares powerful examples of the value diverse service members bring to the success of the military and how equity needs to be considered for supporting each individual. Alivia will examine these challenges through the lens of privilege and oppression as well as what she has learned about herself through these experiences. **(2:00**

Scheduled Date and Time	TEAMS MEETING LINK	TMS Registration Link
<p><b>6/4</b> <b>1:00 to 2:00 PM ET</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting  <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b>  <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>  <b>Or call in (audio only)</b>  <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185</a>.,73878058# United States, Chicago            Phone Conference ID: 738 780 58#  <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Pride 2021: Legal LGBT+ Q&amp;A TMS ID 44801</a></p>

<p><b>6/7</b> <b>1200 to 1300 EST</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,854499165#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 854 499 165# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Pride 2021: Parents Family and Friends for the LGBT+ TMS ID 44806</a></p>
<p><b>6/8,</b> <b>12:30 to 2:00 PM ET</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,690416664#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 690 416 664#</p>	<p><a href="#">Pride 2021: Raising a Transgender Child and Family Dealing with the Transition TMS ID 44810</a></p>

	<a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a>	
<b>6/9</b> <b>3:00 to 4:00 PM ET</b>	<b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185</a> ., <a href="#">73878058#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 738 780 58# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a>	<a href="#">Pride 2021: Legal LGBT+ Q&amp;A TMS ID 44801</a>
<b>6/10</b> <b>2:30 to 4:00 PM ET</b>	Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b>	<a href="#">Pride 2021: Personal Story of Stonewall TMD ID 44807</a>



	<a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,228179388#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 228 179 388# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a>	
<b>6/11</b> <b>12:30 to 1:00 PM ET</b>	Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,801191683#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 801 191 683# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a>	<a href="#">Pride 2021: Former VA Employee's Story and Songs -TMS ID 44797</a>

<p><b>6/15</b> <b>11:00 AM to 12:00 PM</b> <b>ET</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,793689130#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 793 689 130# <a href="#">Find a local number</a>   <a href="#">Reset PIN</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Pride 2021: Unconscious Bias TMS ID 44813</a></p>
<p><b>6/16</b> <b>1130-1230 EST</b></p>	<p>Microsoft Teams meeting <b>Join on your computer or mobile app</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a> <b>Or call in (audio only)</b> <a href="#">+1 872-701-0185,,908014508#</a> United States, Chicago Phone Conference ID: 908 014 508#</p>	<p>Soldier of Change</p>