

City and County of San Francisco
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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*****PRESS RELEASE*****

**SAN FRANCISCO LGBT AGING POLICY TASK FORCE TO CONDUCT GROUND
BREAKING SURVEY ON AGING IN CITY'S LGBT COMMUNITY**

(San Francisco, CA) The San Francisco LGBT Aging Policy Task Force is inviting LGBT seniors living in the City to participate in a local ground breaking survey intended to examine the everyday realities of aging in the City's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. The survey, called *Caring and Aging in San Francisco*, is a questionnaire designed for LGBT San Franciscans, 60 years of age or older, to provide important information on the issues and concerns associated with growing older and "aging in place." The survey is in the form of a confidential online questionnaire that consists of 40 questions on a range of topics relating to seniors' health and well-being. It is being offered in English, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog and Russian.

The goal of the survey is to understand the aging and health needs of the LGBT community for many years to come. The results of the survey will be presented to the San Francisco LGBT Aging Policy Task Force in July 2013 and will be used as support for the Task Force's recommendations to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in January 2014. Members of the Task Force have been actively working to ensure that historically underrepresented groups, including LGBT seniors of color, lesbians and transgender seniors, are adequately represented in both the survey and subsequent policy recommendations.

Michael Pappas, Commissioner for the San Francisco Human Rights Commission and Chair of the HRC's LGBT Advisory Committee expressed, "But for the courage and sacrifices made by LGBT seniors, today's generation would not know and enjoy the freedoms we so often take for granted. It is now time to honor those, on whose shoulders we stand, by caring for their essential needs in these critical years. We encourage as many as are able to participate in this survey."

The survey is being sponsored by the San Francisco LGBT Aging Policy Task Force and the Institute for Multigenerational Health at the University of Washington. The lead researcher is Karen Fredriksen-Goldsen, PhD, who is also the director of the Institute and a national leader in the field of multigenerational health research and LGBT seniors. Fredriksen-Goldsen previously directed *Caring and Aging with Pride*, the largest and first national federally-funded study to examine the aging and health of LGBT seniors.

Interested individuals can visit CaringAndAging.org/survey to complete the confidential online questionnaire in any of the five languages offered. Participants are eligible to enter a raffle awarding \$100.00 Macy's Gift

Certificates to five randomly selected individuals. For questions about the survey, individuals can contact AgePride@uw.edu. To request a hard copy of the questionnaire, people can contact Meals On Wheels of San Francisco at (415) 920-1111.

The LGBT Aging Policy Task Force is staffed by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission (SFHRC). For meeting information and other resources, please visit: <http://sf-hrc.org/index.aspx?page=201>.

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