



About DC Safe Haven

Our mission at DC Safe Haven is to provide the DMV TLGBQ people currently living in survival mode with opportunities to thrive. We envision a world in which all transgender, lesbian, gay, bisexual, and queer (TLGBQ) people enjoy healthy, self-determined and -sufficient lives, liberated from the stigma, violence, and oppression they have suffered.

Requesting results

- 1. Funding Increase: We request an immediate increase in funding specifically for direct services that support the transgender community. This includes healthcare, mental health services, substance abuse treatment, and job training programs.**
- 2. Restoration of Lost Services: We urge the reinstatement of services previously provided by transgender direct service providers, including over 100 bed spaces for hypothermia sheltering and transitional housing.**
- 3. Affordable Housing: We insist on the development and execution of a comprehensive plan to provide safe, affordable housing for transgender individuals, encompassing both emergency shelters and long-term housing solutions.**
- 4. Addressing the Opioid Crisis: We advocate for targeted efforts to combat the opioid crisis within the transgender community, including increased funding for substance abuse treatment programs and harm reduction services, specifically outreach programming that targets the TGLBQ community.**
- 5. Employment Opportunities: We demand the establishment of job programs specifically designed to assist transgender individuals in gaining employment. This includes workforce development programming designed in partnership with DOES and transgender leaders to bridge gaps and ensure longevity and success, as well as anti-discrimination policies in the workplace.**
- 6. Legal Protections: We call for enhanced legal protections for transgender individuals, including laws that guard against discrimination in housing, employment, and healthcare, in partnership with crime victim services.**
- 7. Education and Training: We insist on mandatory cultural competency training provided by TGLBQ advocates and awareness training for all government employees, law enforcement officers, and healthcare providers to ensure they understand and respect the unique needs and experiences of the transgender community.**
- 8. Community Engagement: We advocate for the establishment of a Transgender Advisory Council, composed of transgender community members and allies, to advise on policy decisions and ensure the needs of the transgender community are met, with outcomes that inform government officials on how to use funding opportunities for long-term community service.**
- 9. Mental Health Services: We demand increased funding and access to mental health services specifically tailored to the needs of the transgender community.**
- 10. Inclusive Healthcare: We call for healthcare policies that specifically include coverage for transgender-related healthcare, including hormone replacement therapy and gender-affirming surgery clinics.**

11. Well-being Hearings: We request that government officials hold a well-being hearing in January, with all departments, service providers, and the Mayor to focus on the state of the transgender community. Meetings should be held quarterly for government agencies, nonprofits, and any service providers that fund or have a stake in the transgender community. The advisory should meet monthly, be composed solely of transgender individuals from various programs in Washington D.C., and receive monthly stipends to ensure participation. The advisory should be diverse and inclusive, ranging from youth to seniors, to foster the creation of new leadership and the installation of services for the transgender community.

These requests are not just necessary, but critical to the survival and well-being of the transgender community in Washington D.C. We urge our elected officials to act swiftly and decisively to meet these demands.