Summary Report: A Needs Assessment of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Community Members Age 50+ in San Francisco

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BACKGROUND
Trans and gender non-conforming (TGNC) people over age 50 may face ageism and transphobia, resulting in isolation and impacts to mental and physical health.

Service organizations in San Francisco that serve TGNC people over age 50 must know the challenges faced by this population, in order to deliver relevant services to people at different stages of transition, aging, and more.

WHAT WE DID
Collected information from 43 TGNC people over age 50 in a written survey
Completed three community conversations, two in English (6 participants each), and one in Spanish (8 participants)
Coded data from surveys & community conversations to identify themes and findings

KEY TAKE-AWAYS
Culturally competent care providers are needed to address the complex aging and health care needs of TGNC people age 50 and older in San Francisco.

Housing solutions should not neglect the needs of different genders, ages and disabilities as well as proximity to community.

Inclusive and supportive community spaces are vital to counteract the isolation that many TGNC 50+ people experience, and community members desire collaboration and coordination from service providers.
WHAT WE FOUND

**GENDER**
- 76% transgender women
- 11% transgender (non-specified)
- 11% non-binary or GNC
- 2% transgender men

**SEXUAL ORIENTATION**
- 56% straight
- 12% decline to respond
- 7% bisexual
- 7% pansexual
- 7% lesbian
- 5% asexual
- 5% gay
- 2% queer
- 2% queer

**AGE**
- 53% 50–59
- 33% 60–69
- 12% 70+
- 2% N/A

**RACE**
- 46% Latinx/Hispanic
- 23% white
- 19% Black
- 4% Asian
- 2% Middle Eastern
- 2% Indigenous
- 4% decline to respond

**EMPLOYMENT**
- 28% are retired
- 23% work part time
- 19% are unemployed but looking for employment
- 14% are unemployed but not looking for work
- 9% work full time
- 7% declined to respond

**DISABILITY & HEALTH**
Respondents highlighted challenges to accessing TGNC-competent care, and the need for gender-affirming competent post-op healthcare.

- 51% reported having a disability
- 30% reported living with HIV
- 47% reported receiving some form of public assistance
- 52% reported that their physical health was a “major” or “minor” problem
- 63% reported that mental health concerns were a “major” or “minor” problem

**SAFETY**
57% reported that their overall safety was a “major” or “minor” problem

**HOUSING**
54% reported housing issues or challenges to be a “major” or “minor” problem

**SERVICE UTILIZATION**
91% reported being “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the services at 25 currently utilized organizations

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