

COVID-19 Resource Guide for Hetrick-Martin Members & HMHS Students

Trans People and Navigating COVID-19, from TLDEF

“TLDEF has maintained a preparedness plan to inform its operations since news broke of the first COVID-19 cases arriving in New York. As of early March, TLDEF temporarily closed its office to ensure the safety and health of its staff, clients, and partners. TLDEF remains “open” albeit operating virtually in line with both city and state orders for workers to remain at home to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

In times of crisis, transgender and non-binary people among other communities are often at higher risk of violence and discrimination. The COVID-19 pandemic presents a series of unique challenges that may have long-term impact on transgender people and their families.

TLDEF has prepared *Know Your Rights* guide for transgender and non-binary people who are grappling with questions related to employment, housing, health care, identification, and accessing assistance from government agencies among other issues. The guide is available in both English and Español.

Additionally, TLDEF has developed a separate New York State guide for transgender and non-binary people who live in the Empire State. The resource was produced in partnership with two groups, including **New York Trans Advocacy Group (NYTAG)** and the **TransLatinx Network**.”

Find the resource guides by clicking [here](#).

Name change during COVID-19?

- TLDEF is striving to ensure minimal disruption to the Name Change Project. It remains open to conduct intakes. To complete an online application, please contact Spencer Olson at solson@hmi.org or click [here](#).
- Courts are currently closed for all non-essential business. Despite courts not being open, TLDEF’s Name Change Project and our pro bono counsel are working with clients to conduct intakes; complete all appropriate documents to file in advance; and meet virtually to prepare for when court procedures return to their normal operations. The Name Change Project is regularly monitoring the

status of courts across all our sites. TLDEF will keep clients informed about any changes and next steps in the process.

Gender marker change during COVID-19?

- Changing the gender marker on a NYS ID is not possible at this moment because all DMVs in NYC are closed.
- Changing the gender marker on a birth certificate or NYC ID can be processed using an online application. For this, please email solson@hmi.org.

Resources?

- **Transgender Law Center**, Virtual Community Gatherings
 - While the government falters, our collective wisdom shines. Join their calls to address the Coronavirus pandemic. Providing space of solace, political education, and resource sharing. Please RSVP [here](#). They provide Spanish and ASL interpretation. The video from each week will also be recorded and embedded in their website for anyone who misses the call.
 - Every Friday, 12 – 1 PM (PT) / 1 – 2 PM (MT) / 2 –3 PM (CT) / 3 – 4 PM (ET)
 - Link: <https://transgenderlawcenter.org/archives/15731>