

Health System Update

Mount Sinai Health System Commemorates Pride Month

June 25, 2020 Thursday

As recent events have so clearly brought home, the quest for full social, economic, and political equality in this country is ongoing and far from complete. Nevertheless, it is important and appropriate to commemorate individual events within that larger struggle.

June is LGBTQ Pride Month, commemorating the 51st anniversary of the Stonewall uprising, and this year, we are also noting the Supreme Court decision of Monday, June 15, that held that LGBTQ employees—under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964—are protected from workplace discrimination. While New York State and New York City have long had strong protections in this area, it is gratifying to know that these rules now apply anywhere in the country that our patients, students, residents, or families may find themselves.

This year, seven Health System hospitals will be awarded the LGBTQ Healthcare Equality Leader designation in the forthcoming Healthcare Equality Index (HEI). To earn this designation, each hospital earned the top score of 100 in the HEI 2020 survey. Scoring criteria for the 2020 survey included a higher benchmark—facilities had to demonstrate that they offered at least one company-wide health insurance plan that affirmatively provides transgender-inclusive coverage.

Released by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, the HEI is the national LGBTQ benchmarking tool that evaluates health care facilities' policies and practices related to the equity and inclusion of their LGBTQ patients, visitors, and employees. The Human Rights Campaign Foundation is the educational arm of America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people. HRC envisions a world where LGBTQ people are embraced as full members of society at home, at work, and in every community.

While Mount Sinai is not holding any Pride activities this year due to COVID-19, to mark the season we have compiled the annual [Profiles in Pride](#), as well as a [series of videos](#) that highlights the experiences of LGBTQ-identified first responders who assisted with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mount Sinai has long committed to being a place of healing and learning for everyone regardless of age, race, creed, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability or any other category of difference. We are proud to receive this designation as well as to celebrate the LGBTQ community during Pride Month.

Kenneth L. Davis, MD
President and Chief Executive Officer
Mount Sinai Health System

Dennis S. Charney, MD
Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
President for Academic Affairs
Mount Sinai Health System

Gary C. Butts, MD
Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer
Mount Sinai Health System
Dean for Diversity Programs, Policy, and Community Affairs
Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai