Mount Sinai Health System
Profiles in PRIDE
Recognizing Champions in LGBT Health at Mount Sinai and Beyond

Profiles in Pride 2018
Mount Sinai Health System salutes and thanks these employees for their leadership and dedication to LGBT Health equality.

David A. Conner, MA, RN
Promoting LGBT Health Awareness at Mount Sinai St. Lukes
David is the Clinical Nurse Manager of the Orthopedic and Surgical Step-down unit at Mount Sinai St. Lukes (MBLU), where he leads the LGBT employee resource group. He has ensured LGBT visibility and affirmative care throughout the hospital through LGBT-themed events, promoting training, and encouraging MBLU's involvement in voluntary projects and activities in support of the LGBT communities it serves.

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Don Nguyen
Student Leader for LGBT Health Equity and Inclusion
As a first-generation queer Vietnamese-American man, Don strives to improve LGBTQ visibility in medicine and community engagement in the School of Medicine at Mount Sinai’s LGBT+ alumni group, Stacked Atlases. He hopes to activate the LGBTQ+ Health Care Program, which engages LGBTQ+ identifying youth from community-based organizations in medical student-led activity workshops, designed to increase interest in careers in medicine and science.

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Mister Cris Benjamin
Program Director, The Israel at Mount Sinai and Program Coordinator for Access to Transgender Competent Healthcare
Mister Cris is the primary care specialist for the Mount Sinai Transgender Surgery Program and trans employees in transgender external affairs and coding. He leads the Trans-Omni care team for surgical and gender-nonconforming patients. He is Executive Director and co-founder of Community Kezdud, a transgender community empowerment organization. He is committed to helping individuals of transgender experience—intersex focus on the Black trans community—achieve their goals, before, during, and after transition.

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Brijen J. Shah, MD
Executive Director, LGBT Health Services at Mount Sinai Queens
Brijen is a board-certified internist, gastroenterologist, and geriatrician who is an associate professor of Internal Medicine at Mount Sinai and Chief Medical Officer and Vice President of Medical Affairs for Mount Sinai Queens (MSQ). Formerly, Brijen served as the Director of Graduate Medical Education for faculty, development, strategy, and student affairs, where he worked to build the MSQ Office for Diversity and Inclusion to expand LGBT content within the residency training program. At Mount Sinai Queens, he supports the development of enhanced LGBT privacy and hospital-based care.

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Miguel Arenas, MS, CPXP, BCPA
Program Director, LGBT Health Services at Mount Sinai West
Miguel is a Senior Associate Director of Patient Experience and Patient Experience Manager at Mount Sinai Health System. He is responsible for Patient Experience initiatives that have included developing and implementing disease prevention programs for the New York City Department of Health and the former Continuum hospitals. Miguel, a founding member of the MSK LGBT Committee, was instrumental in making MSK the first hospital in New York City to achieve Leadership Status from the Human Rights Campaign in reference to LGBT Health Care Equality.

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Kristen Giordano, BSN, RNC-MNN
Program Director, LGBT Health Services at Mount Sinai West
Kristen is the Nurse Manager at Mount Sinai West Obstetrics Service, where she provides leadership and education in best practices for transgender and gender-nonconforming (TGN) families. In addition to caring for transgender parents giving birth at Mount Sinai West, she has provided training to providers, nurses, and front-line staff to ensure transgender-affirmative quality care at the hospital and provide community education to prospective TGN parents.

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Nicole Saylors, MS, CPXP
Program Director, LGBT Health Services at Mount Sinai Beth Israel
Nicole is the Director of Service Excellence for The Mount Sinai Beth Israel and leads the Patient Service Center. Nicole has been working to expand the skills knowledge about how to care for transgender patients, by providing and facilitating training across the campus and practices. She has helped to improve the transgender patient experience by advocating for education, and was a partner to the Center for Transgender Medicine and Surgery at Mount Sinai, stepping into the leading role in training course in transgender surgery.

For updated information on events contact the ODI at diversity@mountsinai.org.