



EQUALITY ILLINOIS

FY 2017 Annual Fact Sheet—Impact

LGBTQ ILLINOISANS ARE NOT YET FULLY EQUAL



400,000

LGBTQ people call Illinois home,
yet we are not fully equal in our own state

1 of 5

hate crimes target
LGBTQ people



LGBTQ people in the
Midwest are less likely
to have a college degree
than non-LGBTQ people



57%

Report they are not
treated equally in the
health care system

4X

LGBTQ young people are
more likely to be caught up in
the criminal justice system

EDUCATION



We educated ... at

4,985 **62**

people ... trainings and
outreach events
throughout the state

TAKING ACTION

2,017



Illinoisans contacted
their Member of Congress
or State Legislator on behalf
of pro-LGBTQ legislation

3,459



Illinoisans contacted
the Governor on behalf
of pro-LGBTQ legislation

370



People volunteered
at Equality Illinois
actions and events



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POLICY



3 Pro-LGBTQ Bills We Supported Became Law

Birth Certificate Modernization Law: Transgender Illinoisans can update the gender marker on their birth certificates without surgeries.

Panic Defense Ban: A murder victim's sexual orientation or gender identity can't be used as a justification for murdering them.

Public Service Law: The governor must report the number of LGBTQ people appointed to state boards and commissions.



We Worked Successfully to Prevent 2 Anti-LGBTQ Bills From Becoming Law

Anti-Transgender Student Bill (HB 664) would have forced transgender students to use separate school locker rooms and restrooms from their peers.

License to Discriminate Bill (SB 64) would have granted anyone in Illinois the right to discriminate against LGBTQ people.

MEDIA



Equality Illinois
was highlighted in

CHICAGO **SUN-TIMES**

Chicago Tribune

Slate

SJR
The State Journal-Register

USA TODAY™

The Washington Post

STORIES OF IMPACT



"As a transgender young adult, I was excited to work with Equality Illinois to advance the birth certificate modernization bill.

They engaged me to lobby legislators, draft and publish an op-ed, speak with the media, and contact stakeholders."

—Gray Alexander, Loyola University Student

"As a fighter for the rights of marginalized peoples, I turn to Equality Illinois when I want to understand an issue of impact to LGBTQ Illinoisans. They are valued partners for members of the Illinois General Assembly to understand the needs of and to collaborate with LGBTQ Illinoisans."

—Sen. Toi Hutchinson



"When I needed to defend the rights of trans students to live authentically in our schools, Equality Illinois worked with me and Elgin community leaders to provide the information we needed to dispel myths, support students, and engage stakeholders to speak out."

—Veronica Noland, U-46 School Board member