

PRIDE & PLEASURE



Advocates
for Youth
Young. Powerful. Taking Over.

The Power of
Medical Mentorship

TODAY'S TEAM



VIOLETA ACUNA
(SHE/HER)
ECHO



SEBAS ABBATE
(THEY/HE/SHE)
YOUTHRESOURCE



LOUIE ORTIZ-FONSECA
(HE/THEY)
ADVOCATES FOR YOUTH

Advocates for Youth

Young. Powerful. Taking Over.

OUR MISSION

Advocates for Youth partners with young people and their adult allies to champion youth rights to bodily autonomy and build power to transform policies, programs and systems to secure sexual health and equity for all young people.



OUR VISION

Rights.

Respect.

Responsibility.

YOUTH COUNCILS

YOUTHRESOURCE



ECHO



**Advocates
for Youth**

Young. Powerful. Taking Over.



National

Youth

HIV + AIDS

Awareness

Day



APRIL 10TH

WE WANNA KNOW...

**In the chat
share your favorite
summer activity**

TODAY'S GAY AGENDA

- Safer Space Review
- Overview of the landscape young people living with HIV are existing within
- Power of Mentorship

A SAFER SPACE IS...

the environmental product of a conscious set of decisions and actions taken by individuals to promote equality, fairness, non-violence and affirmation of the unconditional value of all peoples, where youth are free to grow, thrive and express their individual identities.

WAYS TO CREATE A SAFER SPACE

- **Affirm by listening**
- **Use people first language**
- **Validate experiences of young people, especially young people living with HIV**
- **Be open to learning something**

**Safer Spaces are
particularly vital for
LGBTQ young people
and young people
living with HIV**

Statistics

According to the CDC, 15-24 year-olds accounted for 53% of new STIs in 2020.

According to the CDC, birth rates among 15-19 year-olds was 13.5 per 1,000 cis females.

According to the US Bureau of Justice between 2017-2022, LGB persons had victimizations rates 2x that of their heterosexual counterparts.

According to the U.S Transgender Study, 47% of transgender people are sexually assaulted at some point in their life.



For Every 100 Youth With HIV

36 received **some** HIV care

27 were **retained** in care

36 were **virally suppressed**

In contrast to other age groups, young people living with HIV have the lowest rate of viral suppression.

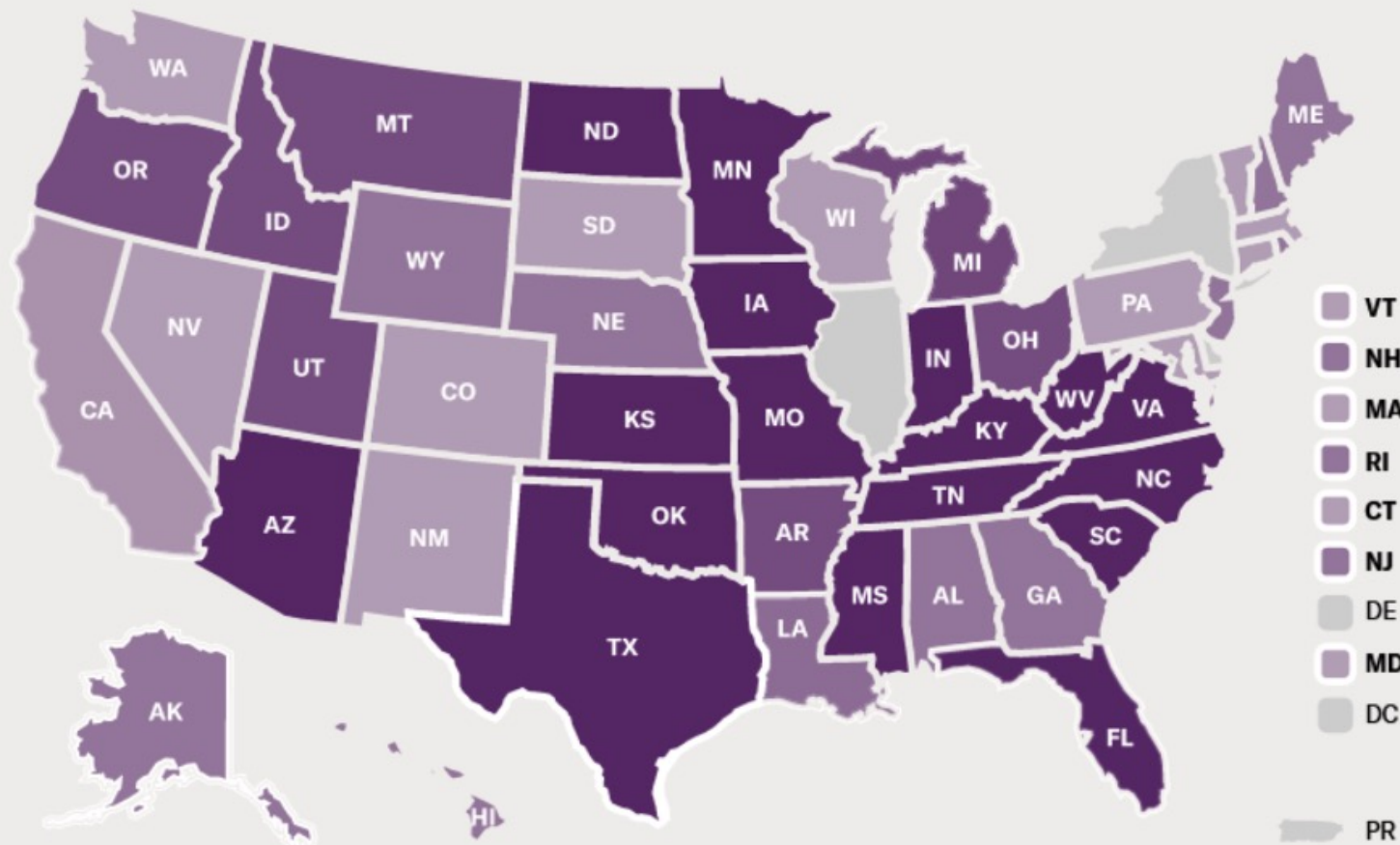
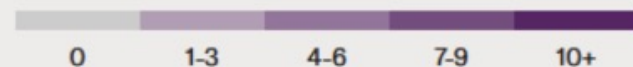
2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACLU is tracking **496** anti-LGBTQ bills in the U.S.

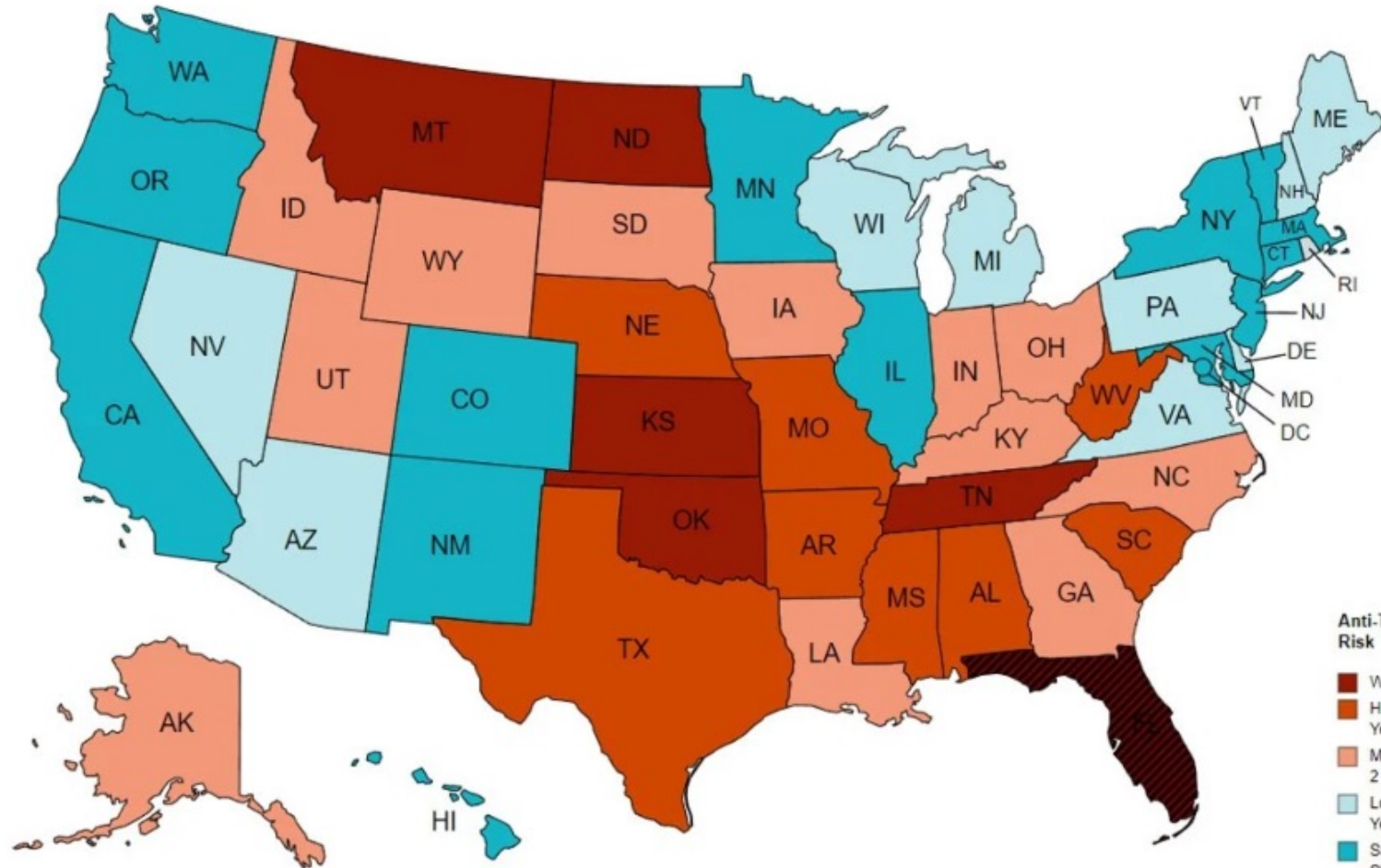
Choose a state on the map to show the different bills targeting LGBTQ rights and take action. While not all of these bills will become law, they all cause harm for LGBTQ people.

[View past legislative sessions.](#)

Bills per state



Adult Anti-Trans Risk Assessment Map



Youth Map



Anti-Trans Legislation Risk

- Worst Laws Passed
- High Risk Within 2 Years
- Moderate Risk Within 2 Years
- Low Risk Within 2 Years
- Safest States With Strong Protections
- Do Not Travel

HIV CRIMINALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE VARIETY AND PREVALENCE OF LAWS USED TO PROSECUTE AND PUNISH PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV (PLHIV) IN THE US.

LEARN MORE AT HIVLAWANDPOLICY.ORG

 **6 STATES MAY REQUIRE REGISTRATION AS A SEX OFFENDER** as part of the punishment under HIV-specific laws

 **13 STATES HAVE REFORMED OR REPEALED** one or more parts of their HIV-specific criminal laws



30

STATES HAVE HIV-SPECIFIC CRIMINAL LAWS AND/OR SENTENCE ENHANCEMENTS APPLICABLE TO PLHIV
(Note: Total reflects overlap among the 25 states with HIV-specific laws and the 9 with sentence enhancements.)



STATES WITH HIV-SPECIFIC CRIMINAL LAWS
including laws targeting sex/
non-disclosure, exposure to bodily
fluids, needle-sharing, sex work, and blood/
organ/semen donation



STATES WITH SENTENCING ENHANCEMENTS
applicable to PLHIV who
commit an underlying sexual
assault crime.



STATES THAT HAVE PROSECUTED PLHIV UNDER NON-HIV-SPECIFIC, GENERAL CRIMINAL LAWS
This number represents states with reported charges and/or convictions for non-HIV-specific offenses, where positive HIV status was relevant in establishing a (non-HIV-specific) element of the offense.



Young People living with HIV are the least likely of any age group to be linked to care in a timely manner & have a suppressed viral load.

Mentorship is proven to dismantle a variety of challenges faced by YPLWHIV, build community, and help them find their own voices and needs when championing for their health.

HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ACT OF MENTORING?



Mentoring is a reciprocal relationship that involves the transfer of knowledge and sharing of experiences between two individuals: a mentor and a mentee.

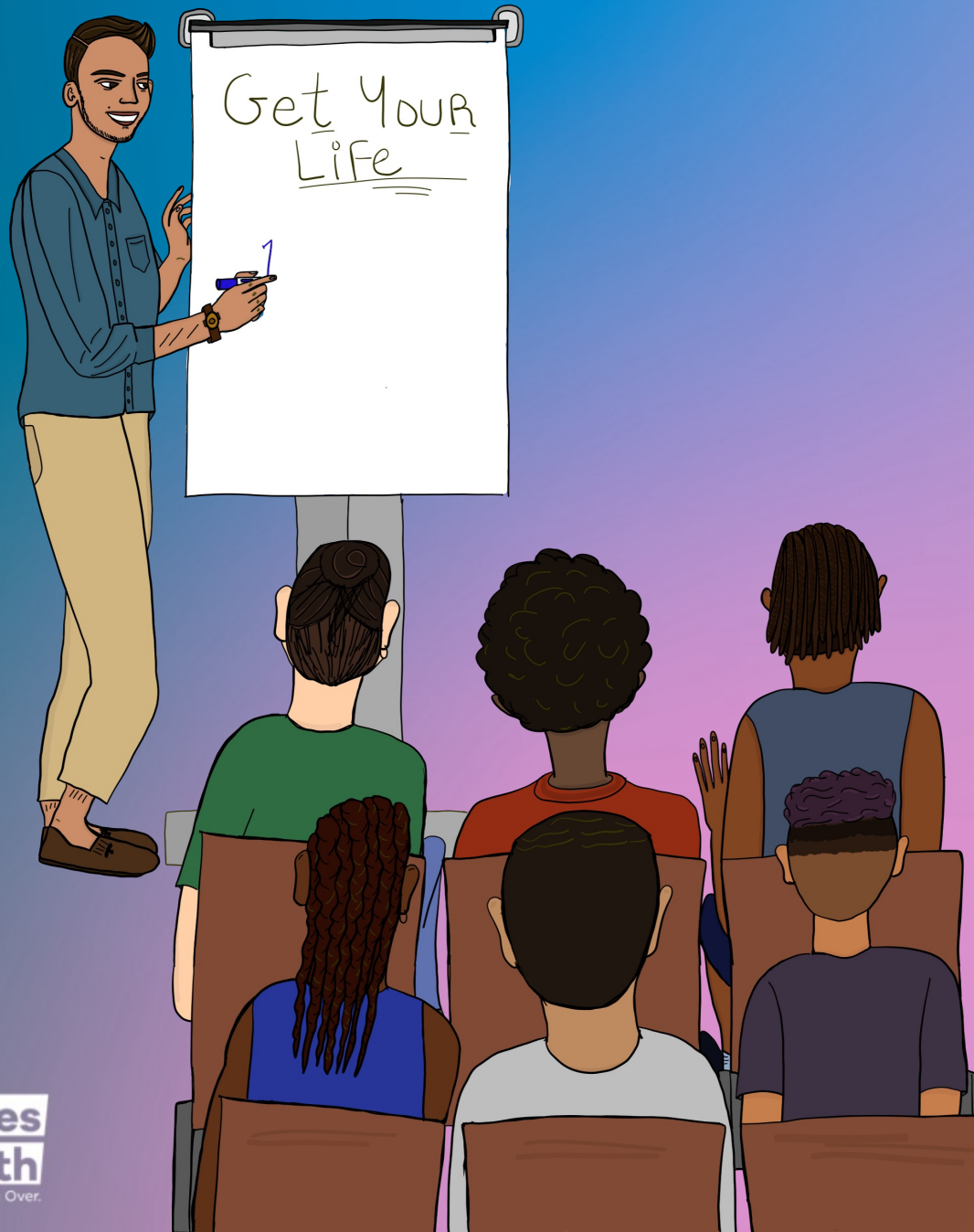
**HAVE YOU
EVER BEEN
MENTORED BY
A MEDICAL
PROVIDER?**



Medical Mentorship Can Support Young People living with HIV to:

- **Navigate a new diagnosis**
- **Navigate the care & treatment**
- **Support around mental health**
- **Increase involvement in care**
- **Decrease missed appointments**





WHAT ARE
SOME TIPS
FOR MENTORS
TO REMEMBER
& CONSIDER?

Role of a Medical Mentor can include:

- **identifying young people who are newly diagnosed, out of care, experiencing delays treatment, missing appointments**
- **verbally reassuring the young person that you are there to support them**
- **linking—or re-linking—youth to healthcare systems**
- **supporting the young person as they prepare for medical visits, identifying questions and concerns for discussion with the clinician, etc.**

Continued...

- **accompanying young person to their initial appointments**
- **assisting with health insurance paperwork or access to medical assistance**
- **identifying supportive services such as housing, food, employment and/or childcare**
- **providing tailored health education tailored**
- **provide explicit understanding of boundaries and your capacity**



MEDICAL MENTORSHIP



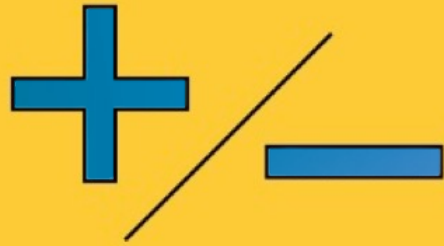
CONNECT PERSONALLY



**PROVIDE INFO &
GUIDANCE**



SHARE EXPERIENCES



DIAGNOSED WITH HIV



LINKED TO CARE



**ENGAGED OR
RETAINED IN CARE**



**PRESCRIBED
ANTIRETROVIRAL
THERAPY**



**ACHIEVED VIRAL
SUPPRESSION**

MEDICAL MENTORSHIP FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV



The Medical Mentorship Toolkit includes best practices, innovative strategies, and community-driven solutions to ensure the establishment of effective mentorship programs for young people ages 16-24 living with HIV. This toolkit is designed to support these young people in staying engaged in accessing quality care.

We believe that **MORE MENTORSHIPS**



Mean **MORE CONNECTION, LESS ISOLATION, MORE INFORMATION** and **MORE ACCESS**

Which lead to **MORE SELF-EFFICACY, OPPORTUNITIES, CONFIDENCE** and **CLARITY** when it comes to healthcare

And **BETTER HEALTH FOR ALL**

**QUESTIONS/
COMMENTS/
CLARITY**



**a. ONE THING YOU
WERE REMINDED OF**

**b. ONE THING YOU
LEARNED**

**c. ONE ACTION YOU
WILL TAKE**