



**Sexual & Gender Minority
Research Office**

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National Institutes of Health
Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office

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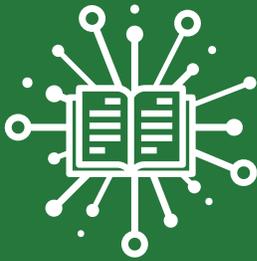
INTRODUCTION

The Sexual & Gender Minority Research Office (SGMRO) was established in 2015 to coordinate sexual and gender minority (SGM) research-related activities at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) by working directly with NIH Institutes, Centers, and Offices (ICOs). Each year, the SGMRO publishes a portfolio analysis that quantitatively describes the SGM-related research funded by the NIH in a given fiscal year. The SGMRO also provides a representative sample of SGM health- and research-related activities and initiatives occurring across the agency ICOs in its Annual Report. This report is organized around the four goal areas of NIH's *Fiscal Year 2016–2020 Strategic Plan to Advance Research on the Health and Well-being of Sexual and Gender Minorities*.

To better clarify the populations that fall under the SGM umbrella for NIH-supported research, the NIH released an updated definition of SGM populations in Notice NOT-OD-19-139 in August 2019, which reads as follows:

SGM populations include, but are not limited to, individuals who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, transgender, two-spirit, queer, and/or intersex. Individuals with same-sex or -gender attractions or behaviors and those with a difference in sex development are also included. These populations also encompass those who do not self-identify with one of these terms but whose sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or reproductive development is characterized by non-binary constructs of sexual orientation, gender, and/or sex.

GOAL ONE



Expand the Knowledge Base of SGM Health and Well-Being Through NIH-Supported Research

Funding Opportunity Announcements

The NIH pursued the advancement of SGM health and research in FY 2019 through a variety of relevant funding opportunities. For the fourth year, the NIH supported [Administrative Supplements for Research on SGM Populations](#). A total of 13 meritorious supplements across nine NIH Institutes were funded in FY 2019. In addition to Institute support, the SGMRO, the Office of AIDS Research (OAR), and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR) within the Division of Program Coordination, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives (DPCPSI) provided co-funding. The 13 funded applications totaled \$1,212,259.

The NIH continued to encourage applications for R01 and R21 research projects on the health of transgender and gender nonconforming populations of all ages through the funding opportunity announcements (FOAs) [PA-18-729](#) and [PA-18-728](#). Fourteen ICOs are signed on to these FOAs.

In February 2019, the National Advisory Council on Minority Health and Health Disparities approved the research concept entitled “Measurement Research on Minority Health and Health Disparities–Related Constructs.” This concept included topics related to SGM populations, including the assessment of intersectional identity and intersectional stigma.

As a follow-up to the expired SGM-specific Program Announcement [PA-18-037](#), the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) led the development of a Notice

of Special Interest (NOSI¹) in research on the health of SGM populations ([NOT-MD-19-001](#)) that calls for epidemiological, etiological, intervention, and implementation research related to the health of SGM populations. The opportunity was released in March 2019, and 20 NIH ICOs signed on to the NOSI.

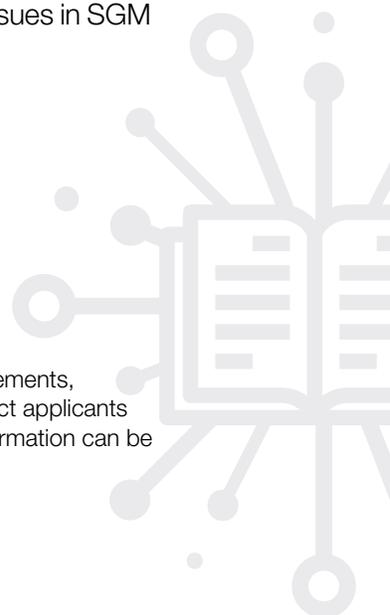
In FY 2019, several Institutes and Centers issued or maintained support for FOAs that solicit research studies focused on or relevant to at least one SGM population, including the following:

- [Addressing the Role of Violence on HIV Care and Viral Suppression](#)
- [Advancing Sustained/Extended Release for HIV Prevention \(A-SER\)](#)
- [Behavioral & Integrative Treatment Development Program](#)
- [Clinical and Epidemiological Research on Chronic Disease in the Caribbean](#)
- [Developmentally Tailored HIV Prevention and Care Research for Adolescents and Young Adults](#)
- [Disparities Elimination Through Coordinated Interventions to Prevent and Control Heart and Lung Disease Risk \(DECIPHeR\)](#)
- [Engaging Men in HIV Testing, Prevention, and Care](#)
- [HIV/AIDS High Priority Drug Abuse Research](#)
- [Improving Smoking Cessation Interventions Among People Living with HIV](#)
- [New Epidemiology Cohort Studies in Heart, Lung, Blood, and Sleep Diseases and Disorders](#)
- [Next Generation Multipurpose Prevention Technologies \(NGM\)](#)
- [Promoting Reductions in Intersectional StigMa \(PRISM\) to Improve the HIV Prevention Continuum](#)
- [Research to Advance HBV Cure: HIV/HBV Co-Infection and HBV Mono-Infection](#)
- [Simulation Modeling and Systems Science to Address Health Disparities](#)
- [The Intersection of Sex and Gender Influences on Health and Disease](#)

The NIH also continues to support SGM research by releasing NOSIs in SGM-relevant topics and administrative supplements to expand existing research awards to address issues in SGM health, including the following:

- [Administrative Supplement for Research on Bioethical Issues](#)
- [Research Supplements to Promote Diversity in Health-Related Research](#)
- [NOSI: Drug Abuse Prevention Intervention Research](#)
- [NOSI: Epidemiology of Drug Abuse](#)

¹ Notices of Special Interest (NOSIs), which are intended to eventually replace program announcements, highlight scientific topics of particular interest to one or more NIH funding components and direct applicants to relevant active funding opportunity announcements for submission of applications. More information can be found in [NOT-OD-19-107](#).



Data Collection and Measurement

Data collection and measurement have been identified as research priorities for the SGM research community. During the development of the FY 2021–2025 SGM health research strategic plan, research on methods and measures tailored to the needs of SGM populations was identified as a key scientific goal for the Office. Additionally, the NIH will encourage data collection on SGM populations in research and in the biomedical, behavioral, and social sciences research workforce as one of its primary operational goals.

The collection of data on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) at the NIH continued to expand in FY 2019. The [All of Us](#) Research Program continued collecting data on SOGI status and sex assigned at birth from all participants. As of September 2019, approximately 0.03 percent of the more than 225,000 *All of Us* participants self-identified as intersex; 0.76 percent identified as a gender minority (e.g., transgender or non-binary); and 7.1 percent identified as a sexual minority (e.g., gay, lesbian, bisexual, or queer). *All of Us* plans to update the survey instrument used to ascertain SOGI status to make it more culturally and scientifically appropriate.

The [PhenX Toolkit](#), a National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI)–sponsored repository for recommended standard data collection protocols for biomedical research, added questions for determining SOGI status in FY 2019 based on the questions developed for the *All of Us* data set. If the *All of Us* survey instrument is updated in FY 2020 to enhance appropriateness and acceptability for the SGM community, corresponding entries in the PhenX Toolkit also will be updated.

SOGI data were collected in the survey and reported in the 2019 [Interim Executive Report on the NIH Workplace Climate and Harassment Survey](#). The results demonstrated that employees who identify as sexual or gender minorities were more likely to report experiencing gender harassment, unwanted sexual attention, and/or multiple forms of harassment than non-SGM employees. To increase the representation of SGM-specific concerns in NIH efforts to address harassment, the SGMRO joined the NIH Anti-Harassment Steering Committee, and the SGMRO Director currently co-chairs the Office of the Director (OD) Anti-Harassment Champions, which aims to develop and implement anti-harassment efforts within the OD.

As a follow-up to the [summary](#) of the 2018 workshop *Methods and Measurement in Sexual & Gender Minority Health Research*, the SGMRO released a [request for comments](#) to further inform and enhance the summary content with public input. A [summary](#) of these comments was published in September 2019.

Other Goal One–Related Activities

In February 2019, the Expert Meeting on Understanding the Effects of Intersectionality on Sexual and Gender Minorities was hosted by the Committee on Population (CPOP) at The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM). The SGMRO Director gave opening remarks, and the SGMRO, NIMHD, and the National Institute on Aging (NIA) co-sponsored the meeting. The [meeting](#) explored the intersecting effects of demographic, systemic, and structural factors on the health and well-being of SGM individuals and how best to capture and analyze intersectional data.

The SGMRO, NIMHD, NIA, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), and the Office of Research on Women’s Health (ORWH) sponsored a one-day workshop in September 2019 to talk about current health-related issues in the bisexual (bi) and bi+² (bi/bi+) community. The [Bisexual Health Research Workshop](#) convened experts in bi/bi+ health and research to identify and discuss key research findings, questions, and opportunities across four main areas: (1) bi/bi+ life course perspectives, (2) intersecting identities, (3) health inequities in bi/bi+ populations, and (4) social determinants of bi/bi+ health. Following the workshop, a publicly available [videocast](#) and [summary document](#) of the proceedings, including potential research opportunities identified, were released.

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) is funding the development of a [resource](#) to reduce health disparities in the transgender community. Based on input from experts in information science and transgender health and wellness, the resource will provide tailored information for individuals exploring their gender identity, undergoing a gender transition, or currently living as transgender.

The SGMRO Director also participated in the Healthy People 2030 Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Working Group to ensure that SGM health–related objectives are considered and included in the development of the [Healthy People 2030 Initiative](#).

² Bisexual (bi): A label used by those with the potential to be attracted, romantically and/or sexually, to people of more than one sex and/or gender, not necessarily at the same time, not necessarily in the same way, and not necessarily to the same degree.

Bisexual+ (bi+): An umbrella term to capture a range of non-monosexual identity terms including, but not limited to, bisexual, pansexual, queer, and demisexual.



GOAL TWO



Remove Barriers to Planning, Conducting, and Reporting NIH-Supported Research About SGM Health and Well-Being

Coordination, Education, and Outreach

The NIH continues to support SGM health and research through various agency- and department-wide coordinating committees, working groups, task forces, and expert gatherings. In June 2019, the NIH Chief Officer for Scientific Workforce Diversity (COSWD) convened a group of directors of diversity-oriented programs, senior leaders from institutions with a demonstrated emphasis on enhancing diversity (inclusive of SGM populations), and individuals who recently transitioned into positions in the biomedical workforce to develop a better understanding of programs that have demonstrated success in enhancing diversity. The NIH will use participants' comments and suggestions in determining how the NIH might disseminate these program models and best practices more broadly, and this input will be shared with the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) Working Group on Diversity to inform potential recommendations to the ACD regarding NIH's strategic plan for enhancing diversity in the biomedical research workforce.

Led by the NIMH, representatives from across the NIH, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) formed the Federal Stigma Planning Work Group in July 2019. The Work Group aims to provide leadership, vision, and support for stigma research at the NIH. The group focuses on understanding how stigma impacts health outcomes for multiple populations, including SGMs and other relevant

communities, such as people living with HIV and those in racial and ethnic groups. The group also aims to promote cross-cutting stigma research to enhance opportunities for knowledge transfer and collaborative learning.

The SGMRO participates in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) LGBT Coordinating Committee, which works to ensure collaboration and communication across the Department regarding SGM-relevant issues. Staff from the SGMRO and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) also advance the health of SGM populations through participation in the Federal Interagency Working Group on Measuring Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, a working group of the Federal Committee on Statistical Methodology. The group considers multiple dimensions of sex, gender, and sexuality for the development, testing, and usage of SOGI measures to more accurately describe SGM populations.

The NHGRI's Community Engagement in Genomics Working Group is comprised of community liaisons and health advocates representing diverse populations, including representatives from the SGM community. The group aims to advance understanding of community perspectives and needs regarding genomics and to educate communities about genomics research. In FY 2019, working group meetings featured presentations on transgender health and perceptions of genetics and genomics among SGMs.

The ORWH convened a team of scientists from across the NIH in FY 2019 to more clearly define the types of projects eligible for inclusion in figures of women's health-related research investments at the agency. This included a discussion of projects involving the transgender community. Guidance on inclusion and reporting criteria for such projects was developed by the SGMRO and adopted by the Trans-NIH Manual Categorization System-Women's Health Coordination Team, a joint initiative led by the ORWH, the Office of Extramural Research's Division of Scientific Categorization and Analysis, and the Office of Budget. Scientifically relevant research studies that include transgender individuals may now be reported in the NIH women's health budget.

The NIH remains committed to educating intramural and extramural research communities and the general public about SGM populations and issues that they face. The NLM and All of Us supported the Healthy Relationship Series between January and April 2019. The Series consisted of four educational sessions to teach teenagers about key topics in sexual health, including anatomy; healthy relationships; sex, gender, and sexual orientation; and sexually transmitted infections and protection methods. The National Network of Libraries of Medicine (NNLM), which are coordinated by the NLM, also funded a project that produced two courses to help rural SGM participants explore Web-based health and prevention information and educational material.

In March 2019, the NIMH sponsored a satellite meeting entitled "HIV PrEP Implementation Science in CDC Project PrIDE" at the CDC National HIV Prevention Conference. This forum highlighted novel directions for public health department implementation of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) delivery to men who have sex with men (MSM) and transgender women in the United States.

The Division of AIDS (DAIDS) at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) recently developed training modules to foster understanding and inclusion of transgender individuals in HIV research through the Cross-Network Transgender Working Group Training Subcommittee. Two of the modules that provide an introduction to the transgender community and teach about HIV in transgender populations are available to the public with the creation of an account through the [DAIDS Learning Portal](#). In-person training tools on HIV in transgender populations were made available in Spanish and Portuguese in April 2019.

In May 2019, the SGMRO hosted researchers with the Duke University Global Health Institute for a brown-bag presentation to NIH staff on mental health issues across SGM populations in low- and middle-income countries.

The Scientific Workforce Diversity (SWD) office conducts educational programs on implicit bias to minimize its impact on underrepresented groups, including SGMs. The goal is to raise awareness about implicit bias, disseminate social science research on this topic, and to offer evidence-based strategies to mitigate the unwanted influence of implicit bias in the employment decision-making process. In addition, the SWD collaborates across the NIH with partners in both leadership and staff on efficient strategies to systematically educate members of NIH search committees about implicit bias and its consequences. The NIH now requires that, for certain scientific positions, a representative from SWD attends search committee meetings and presents about implicit and explicit bias.

In September 2019, NNLM staff ran an outreach exhibit at the 37th GLMA Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health to promote awareness of SGM-relevant NLM resources and NNLM services to enhance access to health information. The NNLM also developed a [website](#) entitled “Book Selections and Health Resources: LGBTQ Health,” which assembles quality, authoritative resources on health care and health information, as well as other relevant written and Web-based materials, for the SGM community.

The NNLM also funded an outreach project designed to deliver personalized and actionable information on promising practices for working with SGM patients to inpatient addiction treatment and recovery providers. Six sessions on topics in “Promising Practices for LGBT Care” were held at addiction-related centers and included resources on health information and cultural competence for treating SGM patients. The project also provides training on how treatment professionals can utilize [MedlinePlus](#), an online health information resource, when working with SGM patients.

Technical Assistance to Principal Investigators

Members of the SGMRO continued to provide technical assistance to NIH staff and the extramural research community, serving as a resource on best practices when conducting or soliciting research in SGM populations and connecting principal investigators with Program Officers throughout the NIH to support and expand SGM-related research agency-wide.

Throughout FY 2019, extramural Program Officers at NIH ICOs continued to offer technical assistance to potential investigators interested in SGM-related research, providing recommendations for aligning applications with ICO-specific research priorities across a variety of relevant research areas.

Presentations

In FY 2019, NIH personnel presented to a variety of audiences to help enhance knowledge and understanding of key subjects in SGM health and research. In January 2019, NNLM sponsored a webinar devoted to transgender-specific issues and health information resources. For Pride Month 2019, the NNLM sponsored a [webinar](#) to provide an overview of foundational terms and definitions imperative for respectful interactions with SGM individuals and to discuss health care needs specific to SGM youth. Also in FY 2019, members of the NNLM presented a [webinar](#) on barriers to health care access faced by SGMs and discussed how health care professionals can actively work to mitigate these barriers.

In June 2019, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) [hosted two speakers](#) working in SGM health and research as part of their Diversity Speaker Series. One investigator discussed their work on sex determination in male development and issues surrounding inclusivity at research institutions. The other investigator shared data that demonstrate a relationship between stigma, minority stress, and poor health outcomes among transgender individuals.

At the June 2019 [Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council \(OARAC\)](#) meeting, a presentation was given about systemic barriers to and opportunities for ending the HIV epidemic among SGM youth, with a particular focus on the importance of engaging the SGM community in prevention efforts and training health care service providers in the practices of cultural competence and humility.

The Trans-NIH Podcast Club had its inaugural season in FY 2019. In June 2019, the club discussed issues associated with the participation in athletics of individuals who identify as transgender or intersex or who have a difference or disorder in sex development.

NIMH program staff organized and participated in a webinar titled “Health Stigma and Discrimination: A Global, Cross-Cutting Research Approach,” which included a focus on SGM-related stigma research across different conditions, diseases, and inequities.

NIAID’s Cross-Network Transgender Working Group delivered several conference presentations and training sessions on transgender awareness and inclusion in HIV research and creating a gender-affirming HIV research environment.

The SGMRO was very active in delivering presentations within the NIH and to external institutions in FY 2019. These presentations, which aimed to increase awareness and understanding of SGM-related issues and work at the NIH and to teach grantpersonship to current and potential NIH researchers, are listed below.

SGMRO staff delivered presentations to the following NIH/HHS groups:

- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)
- Amgen Scholars
- Clinical Information Management Committee
- Intramural Research Program
- National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
- National Library of Medicine Common Data Elements Task Force Meeting
- NIH Council of Councils
- NIH Inclusion Governance Committee
- Office of AIDS Research Advisory Council
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Pride

SGMRO staff delivered presentations to the following extramural community groups and conferences:

- 36th GLMA Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health (Las Vegas, NV)
- 37th GLMA Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health (New Orleans, LA)
- Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (Orlando, FL)
- American Indian Science and Engineering Society (Oklahoma City, OK)
- Annual LGBTQ Health and Longevity Conference (Seattle, WA)
- Commonwealth Fellows (Bethesda, MD)
- George Washington University LGBT Health Policy and Practice Certificate Program (Washington, DC)
- Indiana University (Bloomington, IN)
- National LGBT Health Conference (Atlanta, GA)
- National LGBT Health Workforce Conference (New York, NY)
- NRG Oncology (Philadelphia, PA)
- Office of the Surgeon General—Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity Advisory Group (Webinar)
- Penn State College of Medicine (Hershey, PA)
- Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Health Policy Research Scholars (Washington, DC)
- The Society for Research on Nicotine and Tobacco (San Francisco, CA)
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Chapel Hill, NC)
- University of Nebraska (Webinar)
- U.S. Conference on AIDS (Washington, DC)
- West Virginia University (Morgantown, WV)
- Women in Medicine Conference (Philadelphia, PA)

GOAL THREE



Strengthen the Community of Researchers and Scholars Who Conduct Research Relevant to SGM Health and Well-Being

Mentoring Researchers

Throughout FY 2019, representatives from across the NIH engaged in mentorship opportunities to support current and potential SGM researchers. In February and May 2019, the SGMRO coordinated two Regional Workshops in [Los Angeles](#) and [Atlanta](#) for students, postdoctoral fellows, and new investigators interested in SGM health research. The goals of the Workshops were to increase understanding of NIH structure and processes, encourage mentoring relationships within the extramural research community, enhance capacity to conduct SGM research, and provide researchers with the opportunity to interact with NIH staff and established researchers in SGM health, as well as with one another. Representatives from NIMH, NIMHD, NIA, NICHD, the Office of Intramural Training and Education (OITE), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) participated in the Workshops.

In April 2019, early-career scholars from the Fordham University HIV and Drug Abuse Prevention Research Ethics Training Institute visited NIMHD to present their research projects on ethical issues in HIV research in SGM populations and to receive technical assistance from NIMHD staff.

The NIH continued to participate in the summer Amgen Scholars Program in 2019. The Program offers undergraduates the opportunity to gain practical research experience, engage in professional development, and build relationships with intramural and extramural scientists.

Health disparities and their elimination are a major focus of the Program. This year, NHLBI program staff and the Director of the SGMRO presented to the scholars on the topics of SGM research at the NIH, ICO-specific priorities in SGM health, and the place of SGM health research in the broader NIH health disparities portfolio.

In August 2019, the SGMRO co-sponsored the NIMHD Health Disparities Research Institute (HDRI) for the fourth year. The HDRI supports the career development of promising minority health and health disparities research scientists early in their careers and stimulates research in the disciplines supported by health disparities science. In addition to a monetary contribution, the SGMRO Director participated in a lunch-and-learn session to personally discuss SGM-related activities and opportunities at the NIH with interested HDRI scholars. The HDRI also included presentations on implementation science on electronically based HIV prevention for diverse young gay and bisexual men and data associated with gender identity in the Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development (ABCD) Study.

Several SGM scholars participated in the FY 2019 [Diversity Career Development Program](#) at the National Cancer Institute (NCI), which provides training to intramural postdoctoral trainees, particularly those from underrepresented populations, to help them pursue independent research careers and achieve their full potential at the NCI with the ultimate goal of fostering a more diverse and inclusive workforce.

Other Goal Three–Related Activities

The SGMRO held the second annual [NIH SGM Research Investigator Awards Program](#) in September 2019. The Program honors investigators who have made substantial and remarkable contributions to the field of SGM health and research. As in FY 2018, two Early-Stage Investigators were recognized for their exemplary work. In addition, the 2019 Program was expanded to include an award for a Distinguished Investigator who is more thoroughly established in SGM health research and has a more extensive collection of engagements and commendations. Awardees were invited to the NIH to present on their research programs and were presented with non-monetary awards.

During the Society of Behavioral Medicine Annual Meeting in March 2019, officials from the NIMH, NICHD, NIDA, and SGMRO attended the session entitled “HIV and Sexual Health Scientific Interest Group Business Meeting and Funders Meet and Greet,” where they described their respective research priorities and met with potential grant applicants interested in SGM health.

In FY 2019, the OITE continued to coordinate the NIH LGBT Friends and Fellows (LGBT-FF) group. The LGBT-FF helps SGM-identified NIH fellows and allies thrive in their professional and personal lives by organizing seminars and workshops to educate them on SGM issues, providing professional development opportunities, and offering social and networking events to develop professional and personal networks.

In an effort to make the NIH a more inclusive environment, the SGMRO Director engaged the Office of Human Resources in FY 2019 about replacing gendered language in NIH position descriptions with more gender-neutral language.

GOAL FOUR



Evaluate Progress on Advancing SGM Research

In 2015, the NIH released its first strategic plan for SGM research, covering FYs 2016–2020. In January 2019, the SGM Research Working Group (RWG) of the Council of Councils officially released its [Mid-Course Strategic Plan Review](#), which provided an assessment of NIH progress in pursuing the goals outlined in the FY 2016–2020 strategic plan and recommendations for capitalizing on progress already made.

The NIH made appreciable strides toward fulfilling the SGM RWG recommendations in FY 2019. The Notice *Sexual and Gender Minority Populations in NIH-Supported Research* ([NOT-OD-19-139](#)), in addition to more clearly defining SGM populations, reaffirmed that SGMs are considered a health disparity population for NIH research and encouraged NIH applicants for clinical funding to demonstrate consideration of inclusion of SGM populations when appropriate. The SGM RWG also recommended adding two new staff members to the SGMRO roster. The SGMRO actually grew by three employees in FY 2019, enhancing the programmatic and communications expertise of the Office and expanding the ability of the Office to spearhead, participate in, and support initiatives that broaden the scope of support for SGM health and research within and outside of the NIH.

The NIH appraises its efforts related to SGM health and research on an annual basis. In FY 2019, the SGMRO released the [FY 2017 Portfolio Analysis](#), which provides information about SGM research projects at the NIH. The NIH [RePORTER](#) tool identifies 384 SGM projects in the NIH SGM portfolio for FY 2018, which represents a slight increase over the 379 SGM

projects supported in FY 2017. In response to the recommendations of the SGM RWG, the FY 2018 analysis will provide a more rigorous evaluation of the portfolio, drilling down to identify the representation of specific populations and research areas of interest in individual projects. The [FY 2018 Annual Report](#), which describes other SGM-relevant activities at the agency, was also released in FY 2019.

The SGMRO is currently leading the development of the FY 2021–2025 trans-NIH strategic plan for SGM health research with input from the SGM Research Coordinating Committee, SGM RWG, the general public, NIH ICO leadership, and NIH leadership. Per the Mid-Course Review recommendations, the new SGM research strategic plan will incorporate goals related to both key scientific opportunities and operational activities.

To shed light on progress made toward improving SGM health and well-being in recent years, the NIH provided funding for a consensus study on SGM health at the NASEM in FY 2019. Since the publication of the formative 2011 Institute of Medicine (now the National Academy of Medicine within the NASEM) report on the health of LGBT people, multiple data sources on SGMs have become available, offering a more complex and sophisticated understanding of SGM populations across multiple domains. To more broadly evaluate the current status and well-being of SGM individuals, families, and communities, the NASEM’s CPOP held three meetings as part of the [consensus study](#) to review current data on and better establish the research needs of SGM individuals.

The NIH remains committed to improving the health and well-being of all SGMs by supporting SGM-focused research projects and funding opportunities, promoting SOGI measurement and data collection, engaging in outreach and educational activities, and fostering the community of SGM health scholars and researchers. Collaborations among NIH ICOs, within HHS, and with other government agencies continue to facilitate and fortify these efforts. The backing of these and other organizations, along with that of NIH leadership, ensures that the agency will continue to advance SGM health and research in FY 2020 and beyond.





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