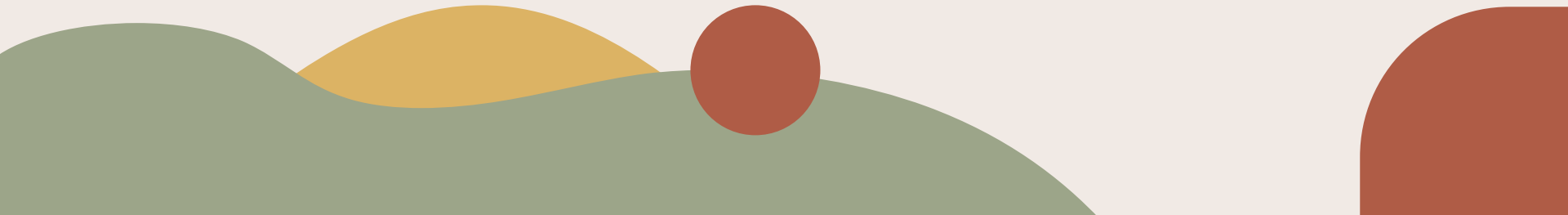


Needs Assessment 2022: Trans Community





Background

- This Needs Assessment is part of the continuation of the outreach efforts that began in 2022 and have concluded in 2023.
- The Community Engagement Committee chose in 2022 to focus on the *Trans Community*. Outreach efforts were led by Dave Jordan and Kira Perez with the support of David Crown.
- Participants were given a survey to fill out and were interviewed. Both of these survey elements helped to give us a true idea of how participants interact with the system of care as well as any unmet needs that exist.
- From August 2022 to February 2023, 25 participants in total were surveyed. Locations include Shanti Project and Translife SF. Participation was incentivized by a \$25 Safeway giftcard.



Contents

Demographic Data	1-4: Pulled from the surveys participants took
Findings	5-10: Our findings from the interview portion + quotes
Conclusions/ Recommendations	11-12: Discussion points + What the council can do to support the community's needs
Questions	13: Q&A



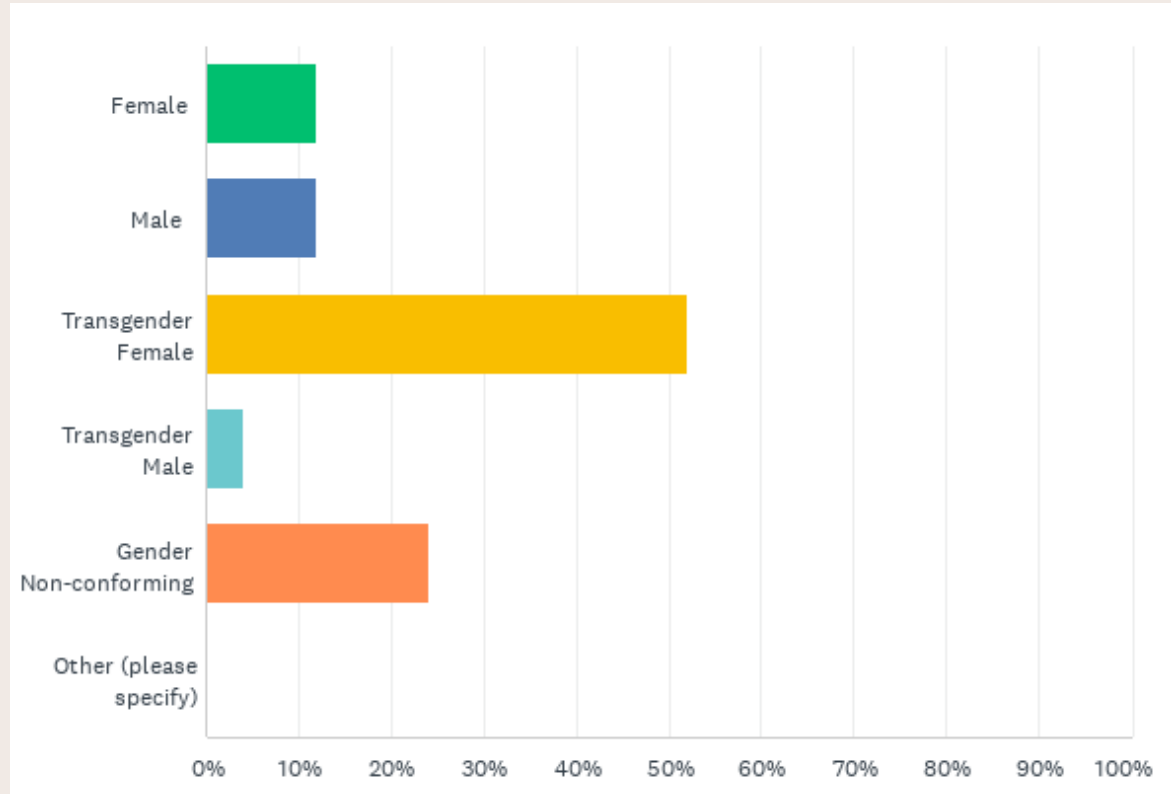
What is your gender identity?

● Transgender Female

Majority of participants identified as transgender female

● Gender Non-Conforming

A good number identified as gender non-conforming



How long have you been living with HIV?

● 20 years +

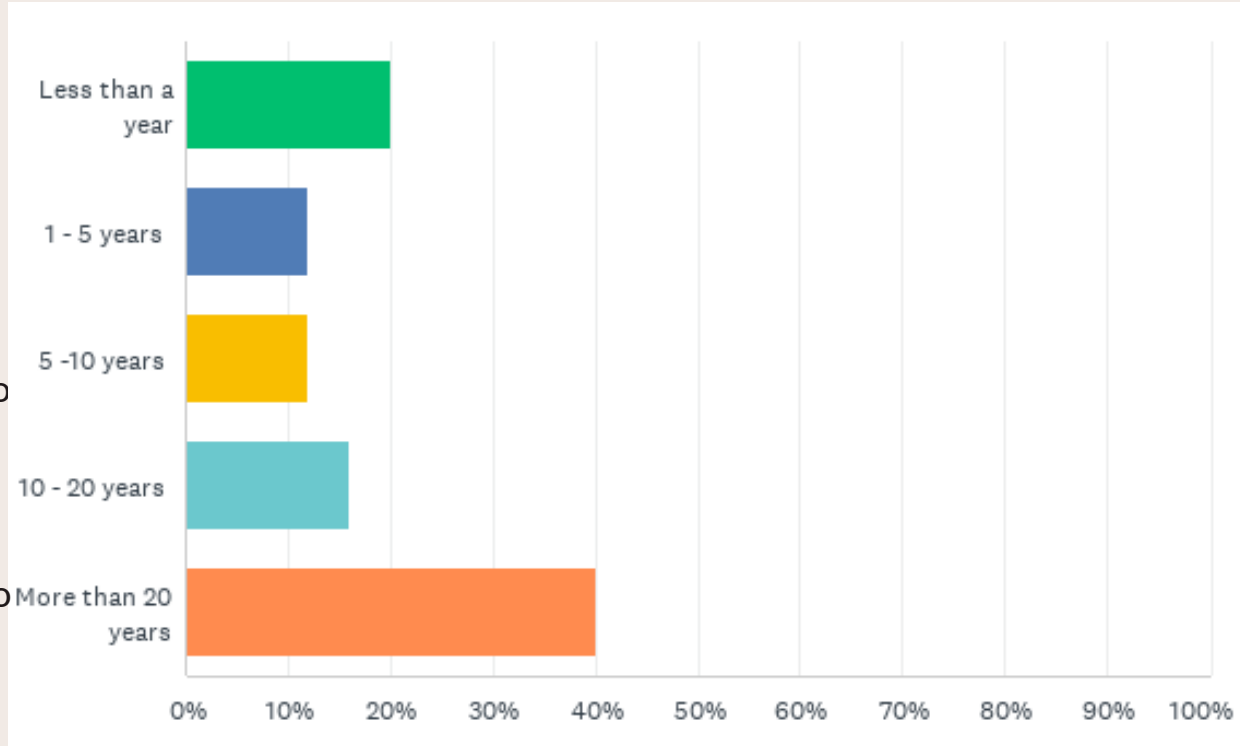
40% of participants have been living with HIV for more than 20 years

● 1-5 years

12% of participants have been living with HIV for 1 to 5 years

● 5-10 years

12% of participants have been living with HIV for 5 to 10 years

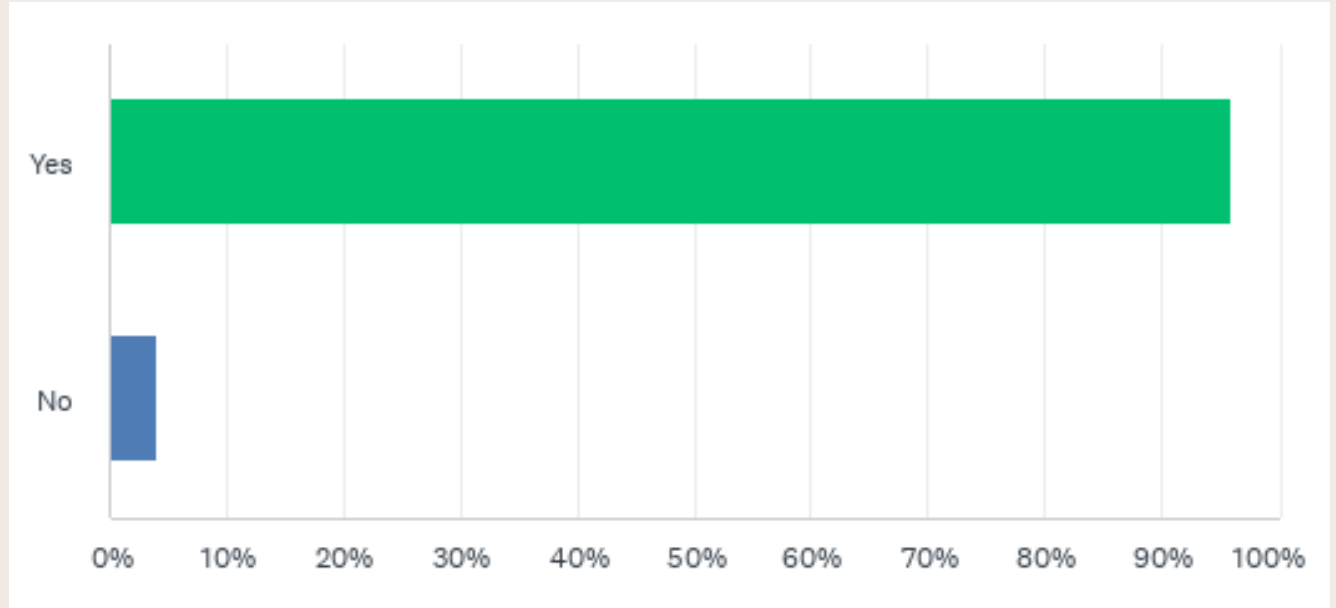


Are you engaged in medical care?



Yes

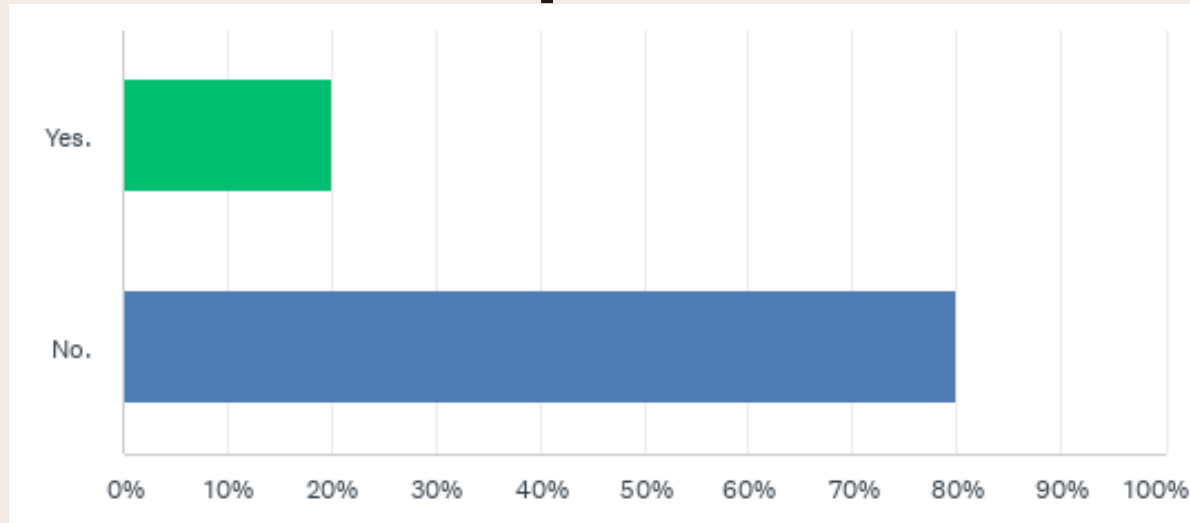
Almost all participants reported that they were engaged in medical care



Within the last year, have you had a negative/ stigmatizing experience with a service provider?

● Yes



Some folks in this community are still dealing with this kind of experience

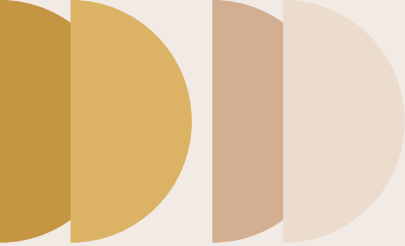




Findings: Service Category Discussion

01 Primary Medical Care

- Specific callout for a more cohesive and integrated system of care
 - Different providers with different locations
 - Lack of knowledgeable, empathetic doctors
 - Too many referrals and prescribed medications
 - Waitlist for surgeries
- 
- 



Service Category Discussion: Quotes


“Having to explain general trans issues to my doctor ain’t it, do your own research. I’m not your teacher.”

“Feels like I’m drowning in referrals from my doctor.”

“Waitlist for surgery: far too long. Meanwhile, I have to worry about the violence.”

“Clinics are spread all over. Where is the umbrella for multiple services?”

“Kaiser – we build a woman.”







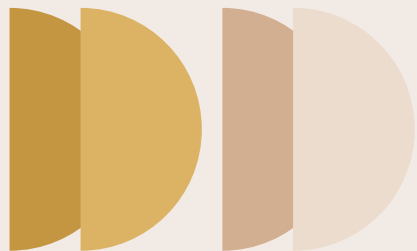
Findings: Service Category Discussion

02 Housing

- Discrimination from neighbors
- Feeling that their housing assignment is unsafe
- Concerns regarding moving and having their bills get lost in the mail

03 Mental Health Services

- Finding a therapist that is empathetic is hard
 - Discouraging when dealing with their own trauma
- 
- 



Service Category Discussion: Quotes

“Need to be defensive around how folks perceive me.”

“Don’t just tolerate us, treat us.”

“Feels like these places aren’t taught how to treat trans folks with respect.”

“Being judged in a space that’s supposed to be safe.”



Findings: Interview/ Discussion

- Lack of diversity in service providers (lack of trans service providers)
- Having to manage benefits in order to qualify for them
- Fear of disclosure of identity through meds
- Ward 86 was praised for their continued support throughout the surgery process
- Teledoc allows for flexibility for appointments/ scheduling without the hassle of traveling

Interview/ Discussion: Quotes

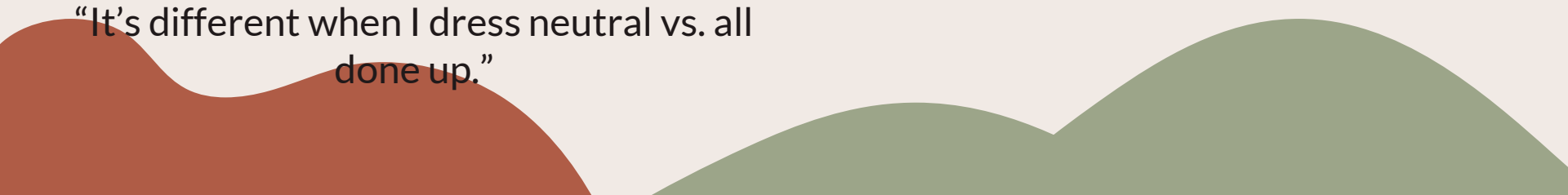


“Freedom to pick and choose your own journey.”

“When finally finding out about how life should feel, it’s a double edged sword, brings on more discrimination, having HIV used as a weapon against me...”

“Am I doing something wrong by being trans?”

“It’s different when I dress neutral vs. all done up.”



“Making too much money and then, not enough.”

“I quit 2 jobs in order to qualify for surgery.”

“As soon as the nurse saw my chart, her attitude changed.”

“I felt I was back in school...the nurse huddles and side eyes.”

Conclusions

- Psychosocial support services seemed to have maintained their importance as maintaining mental well-being, emotional health, and addressing trauma reported by participants comes to the forefront of conversation.
- Challenges with the user friendliness of referral system were reported by participants. This concern was echoed throughout the conversation of service categories as participants described how overwhelming the number of referrals they'll receive can be.
- Clients with children or other responsibilities who've had trouble maintaining engagement with medical care were aided by the availability of virtual appointments through Teledoc.

Recommendations

01



- Trans-specific cultural competency trainings are needed for service providers

02

- Center of Excellence-based, wraparound, one-stop shop service provision would better support trans individuals

03

- Targeted recruitment of trans service providers to better reflect the community being served



Thank You
Any Questions?

