

To the hiring committee:

My educational and professional experiences make me a strong candidate for the position of LGBTQ+ Director at Western Washington University. I have over 10 years' experience serving the LGBTQ community, building inclusive programs and policies that advance equity within large, complex systems. I have extensive experience working with internal and external community stakeholders to build consensus and leverage cross-functional expertise to create structural change and more equitable community spaces for all.

I served as the founding Research & Data Manager for The Trevor Project – the national's leading suicide prevention and crisis intervention service organization focused on the needs of LGBTQ youth. While at Trevor, I led the organization's first-ever program evaluation, collecting qualitative and quantitative data Trevor's impact on LGBTQ mental health. As a result of my work, Trevor was able to expand its reach by 10%, logging over 50,000 direct touchpoints in FY 2017. Additionally, I am trained in Trevor's 40-hour suicide prevention/crisis de-escalation methodology and served as an internal expert on data-driven crisis management methodologies while at the organization.

As a Management Analyst with the County of Santa Clara's Office of LGBTQ Affairs, one of my primary roles was to build collaborative partnerships across local government agencies and community-based organizations to create buy-in for LGBTQ-equity-focused initiatives and programs. I worked with an intersectional lens, ensuring that all LGBTQ-equity efforts embraced multiple diverse identities and created welcoming, affirming spaces for all individuals. I collaborated closely with stakeholders from diverse backgrounds, including the Sheriff's Department and the Registrar of Voters to ensure that diverse LGBTQ considerations were included across all publicly funded programs and campaigns. I managed contracts and grants with over 15 agencies, both locally and nationally. Additionally, I led the County's safety net medical center (Valley Medical Center) in implementing new demographic questions to identify health disparities and better serve historically marginalized communities across the county.

While at the Office of LGBTQ Affairs, I had the privilege of mentoring five college students/recent graduates who were beginning their careers in equity and LGBTQ advocacy work. I provided career guidance and personal coaching to my mentees, as well as overseeing student work topics ranging from transgender health care access to intersectional concerns among undocumented LGBTQ individuals in Santa Clara County. One aspect of this work that I particularly enjoyed was my work with students. I collaborated with student leaders at the San Jose State University Pride Center to expand the reach and impact of their HIV prevention work on campus through the County's Getting To Zero campaign, where I oversaw the work of the HIV stigma-reduction efforts.

Currently, I am serving the LGBTQ community as a health equity specialist with the California Department of Public Health's Gender Health Equity Unit. I am on a two-person team responsible for standing up an innovative \$17.5 million health initiative focused on reducing health disparities among LGBTQ individuals and communities. My work with CDPH has involved building a diverse grant portfolio that spans a diverse range of health issues and socioeconomic concerns; in this role, I am committed to building capacity among queer communities across the state to ensure the creation of sustainable systems that support health equity for all.

My combination of educational and professional experiences makes me uniquely qualified to serve as the LGBTQ+ Director. I am eager to bring my extensive expertise in LGBTQ issues, as well as my personal and professional commitments to equity, to Western Washington University. I am very excited to learn more about this opportunity and share with you about how my expertise will be a great fit for this position.

Best,

Amy Lanteigne