

Illinois Gender Advocates



Public Advocacy
for the Transgender
Community

- ## Accomplishments
- Helped pass antidiscrimination laws in Chicago, Cook County, Evanston and DeKalb.
 - Assured that state legislation to amend the Illinois Human Rights Act includes gender identity.
 - Worked with elected officials throughout the state to commit to preventing discrimination based on gender identity.

Find out more about us at
www.genderadvocates.org
or contact us by email at
IGA@genderadvocates.org

We welcome you to join us in any or all of these efforts

Just fill out the attached membership form, and mail it with a check or money order to:

Illinois Gender Advocates

**47 W. Division, #391
Chicago, IL 60610**

(312) 409-5489

Legislative Advocacy

From drafting legislation to educating legislators and the public about the need for laws that protect transgender people, Illinois Gender Advocates provides the information our community needs to be included in civil rights laws the same as other minorities.

We work with administrative agencies to create compliance guidelines for the antidiscrimination laws that have been passed and will be passed. And we educate the transgender community about their rights.

As a Legal Advocate

IGA is a resource to the transgender community in cases of discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations, as well as in marriage and custody issues. We also provide help in changing documentation including drivers licenses, name changes and birth certificates.

IGA consults with organizations and individuals about transgender rights. And we direct those individuals needing legal help to lawyers and legal organizations that can help them.

How would you like to be involved with Illinois Gender Advocates?

- Keep informed by newsletters
- Participate in youth group (ages 14-20)
- Volunteer for _____
- Liaison with other human rights groups. Please specify _____
- Do you have any special skills which could help us out? (legal/legislative, artistic/design, technical/computer). Please specify _____

Have you ever been a victim of a hate crime or discriminated against because of your gender identity, expression, or image? Yes / No (circle one)

If yes, may we document your case for our report? Yes / No (circle one)

Mail to Illinois Gender Advocates, 47 W. Division, #391, Chicago 60610

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Public Advocacy for the Transgender Community



The
vision
of
Illinois
Gender
Advocates

is to create a community that celebrates the inherent worth and dignity of every person, regardless gender identity or gender expression.

We believe that all people should share equally in the civil rights guaranteed to everyone under our nation's Constitution, and we will be a lead organization in Illinois proactively advocating for the rights of our community.

Illinois Gender Advocates is an outgrowth of It's Time, Illinois. It's Time was formed in 1995 as a political organization for the purpose of ending discrimination against the transgender community. Over the years it evolved to become an education and advocacy as well as a political organization. Because of this growth and expansion the formation of IGA was the next logical step. In 2002, IGA became a 501 (c)(3) organization and formally expanded the mission of the organization.

*"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."
Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Illinois Gender Advocates' focus is on Legislative, Legal and Youth Advocacy

Youth Advocacy

Nine out of ten transgender students report feeling unsafe in school because of their gender identity or expression. The rate of dropout, suicide and homelessness is disproportionately high for our transgender youth. Illinois Gender Advocates serves as a resource for the youth, their parents, schools and others.

We provide a weekly drop in center, called TYRA (Trans Youth Resource and Advocacy) where transgender and questioning youth can come and meet others like them. The center is managed by our Youth Advocacy Director with the help of volunteers. Please contact us for more information.

YES, I would like to join () or renew () my membership in Illinois Gender Advocates. Please fill in both sides, detach at the line, and mail along with check or money order to IGA.

Membership Level (check one):

() Student/Youth - \$10

() Regular Membership - \$30

() Supporting Member - \$100

() Benefactor - \$250

() Other - \$ _____

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip+4 _____

Phone Number _____

E-Mail _____

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