If you contribute make sure you tell us...

1. Exactly how you want to be credited [anonymous? ID number? Chosen name?]  ********************************
   we will only use your government name if you explicitly tell us to do so  ****************************
2. Whether it’s OK to say the facility you are/were in
3. Please respect other people’s privacy; only make disclosures about yourself.

You can send us...

.: Letters responding to this edition
.: Artwork (black and white)
.: Commissary recipes
.: Articles
.: Poetry
.: Ideas

Subscribe with us!

If you want our newsletters, then ask to be on our mailing list!

Write to:

Hearts on a Wire
1315 Spruce St
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Subscriptions are FREE for incarcerated and detained people.

heartsonawire@gmail.com or find us on facebook

Hearts on a Wire
Issue #18 — Summer 2016

- support incarcerated and detained trans and gender variant people
- build community through bars
- organize for justice

letter from the outside collective — HOAW 2
Beyond the Walls: Prison Health Summit — Kat Delancey 3-4
HIV is Not a Crime Conference — Adrian 4-5
Pulse Night Club (Orlando) — Love and grief 6-7
Poem — J.E. Forbes 8
Poem — Chimera 9
Poem — Jeffery Lopergolo 9
mail room — letters and shout outs from y’all! 10-13
Poem — Lisa Strawn 14
Poem — Joshua “LA” Keziah 14
Poem — anonymous 15
Poem — Lady Mrs. Champagne 15
Poem — Mrs. Rosie Armstrong 16
Poem — Maxine Davis 16
Poem — Bookie (a.k.a. Nathaniel Griffin) 17
Poem — Tizz 18
Poem — Shaylanna Luvme 18
Unity! — Ms. Priss 19
Poem — Bre’Air 19
Points of Unity — HOAW 20-21
How-To: Hormones — Miley 22
Update: L.I.G.H.T in Black and Pink 23
Write to us! — HOAW 24
Dearly beloved queer & trans family,

We are writing with heavy hearts. Since our last newsletter, our communities have experienced devastating losses, from the tragedy in Orlando to the ongoing police violence against black and brown folks, including the recent murders of Philando Castile and Alton Sterling. We have no words that can encompass the pain, rage and grief caused by these terrible actions, particularly when we know these incidents have roots in the systems of racism, homophobia and poverty that threaten the survival of the fearless people who are resisting and fighting back. We would like to share the words of Adrienne Marie Brown, a poet, healer and organizer in the movement for black lives:

"Things are not getting worse, they are getting uncovered. We must hold each other tight and continue to pull back the veil." We are so grateful for all of your love and generosity in sharing your stories and visions, and allowing us to share them with this community. We know that the only way forward is to keep revealing the truth, keep healing and keep building with each other.

Since our last newsletter, we have been busy. We participated in a few workshops and conferences, which are described in this issue. We organized several mailing parties to send letters, art and support. We gave out several Homecoming Grants to folks coming home. We welcomed some new members to our outside collective meetings, and we are preparing to have another strategic planning meeting to work on our vision for the coming year. We would love to hear your thoughts on what you would like Hearts to focus on!

We are sending love to all of you, and hoping that in this darkness, we can help each other see the stars.

In solidarity,
Hearts on a Wire outside collective

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**LETTER FROM THE OUTSIDE COLLECTIVE**

We are trans and gender variant people, and our allies, building a movement for gender self-determination, racial and economic justice, and an end to the policing and imprisoning of our communities.

We meet in Philly at William Way Center 1315 Spruce Street Tuesdays at 5:30pm tokens provided

**T.H.I.S ISSUE’S CONTRIBUTORS**

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Layout: Toph (a.k.a. Lunapher)
Cover Art: J. E. Forbes

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We are thrilled to announce that the Learning Initiative for Gay, Hetero and Trans prisoners (L.I.G.H.T), based at SCI Rockview, will have an insert in the Black and Pink newsletter every month. To subscribe, please write to:

Black and Pink
614 Columbia Rd
Dorchester, MA 02125

Artwork: Shaylanna Luvme
**HOW-TO: HORMONES IN PRISON**

**MILEY**

Here is the outline of the process I used to go about getting hormones in prison. I never took them on the streets.

1. request slip written to your institution’s psychologist explaining that you have gender dysphoria and gender identity disorder. The psych will call you and speak to you.
2. there after, the psych will either deny you or grant you. If your request is denied, ask the psychologist if you can be scheduled for therapy. the psychologist might tell you the institution doesn’t have a specialist for your request.
3. if you are diagnosed with gender dysphoria, the psychologist will recommend you to the psychiatrist in your institution by per call out.
4. after you have spoken with the psychiatrist you will see the doctor by per call out.
5. once you see the MD you will be scheduled for blood testing. Once the results come back you will be places on the hormones.

If you are denied any of these processes, immediately file a grievance. There is case law to support your grievance (below). State in your grievance that you are entitled to receive hormones due to your gender identity disorder.

It is also good to involve outside organizations explaining your needs to obtain hormones. Explain the process you used that they denied you. I found the support of HOAW and Black & Plnk (14 Columbia Road, Dorchester MA 02215) and TGJIP (1230 Market Street PMB705, San Francisco, CA 94202) helpful.

I wish you all the best,
Miley Selena
SCI Benner Township

case law that supports this process:


**BEYOND THE WALLS: PRISON HEALTH SUMMIT**

**REPORT BACK BY KAT DELANCEY**

The Beyond the Walls: Prison Healthcare and Reentry Summit brings together the communities that are affected by the parallel crises of HIV and mass imprisonment. With a focus on community-led responses to the crisis in the criminal justice system, workshops reflect the needs of prisoners and former prisoners and highlight the work being done to improve conditions inside prison walls and in the communities to which prisoners are returning.

Philadelphia FIGHT’s Institute for Community Justice plays a big part in making this happen. This year, we were thrilled to be able to show off some of the amazing artwork from the Hearts On A Wire Collective, folks currently and formerly incarcerated.

This year also, four of our collective members from the outside sat on a panel in a workshop titled, Trans Justice: Creating Community Across Walls. The room was jam packed with a few uniformed Philadelphia Police Officers, a bunch of service providers, a social worker from the Curran Fromhold Correctional Facility, a uniformed correctional officer from the Philadelphia Department of Corrections, and a bunch of other folks. This workshop provided an overview of the disproportionate impact of incarceration and policing of trans and gender variant communities in Pennsylvania.

We discussed the challenges that our communities face in Pennsylvania Prisons and institutional barriers to self-determination. In addition, we demonstrated how collaborative work between Hearts on a Wire’s inside and outside collectives helps create community for T/GV impacted by incarceration. We discussed the analytical and ethical common ground that holds us together as a group and situates us within the intersecting movements for trans justice and the movement to end mass incarceration. We highlighted our tactics and strategies by discussing several key projects and how they address systemic barriers to safety, health, and well-being for T/GV individuals who are incarcerated or interface with the criminal legal system. Finally, we shared information about the resources created by our inside membership and the processes that we use to distribute that wisdom on a national level.

Two members of the outside collective participated on a
I attended the second HIV is Not a Crime conference in Huntsville, Alabama in May 2016 for my job. There were about 300 people at the conference, all of whom are connected to the issue of HIV criminalization, either as people living with HIV who are impacted by the laws or as advocates.

HIV Criminalization

HIV Criminalization is the use of HIV positive status in a criminal prosecution, either under HIV-specific criminal statutes that apply only to people living with HIV, or under general criminal statutes where charges or punishments are initiated or heightened because of a person’s HIV status.

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We are committed to dismantling all forms of oppression and discrimination.

- We actively challenge systems of oppression that manifest within our group, our communities, and the structures and institutions that our organizing work targets.
- We envision decriminalization and decarceration as viable and necessary measures to address mass incarceration.
- Challenging white supremacy and transphobia is foundational to every aspect of our organizing work.

We strive towards a group model of deep democracy.

- None of us knows everything, together we know a lot.

We believe that the criminal legal system is incapable of administering justice.

- The criminal legal system is a form of violence.
- We are committed to breaking isolation and building community.
- We challenge the belief that prisons and police keep us safer while recognizing and centering the safety needs of our communities.

We believe that alternatives to policing and incarceration are possible.

- We recognize that some communities have limited options to pursue alternatives to calling the police in times of crisis.
- We live in a culture that tells us police and prisons make us safer.
- We have seen that police and prisons are violent and harmful, and do not make the majority of people safer.

We are all as one a family not just members of an organization. We care about others’ news no matter how big or small you may think something is we would like for you to share. We also like updates good or bad to know how much progress has been made or what needs to still be achieved.

We are here for each other. We stand united against the struggles we all face every day. We can all make a difference if we join together. You can make a difference. By uniting, we build a stronger impact and strengthen our position.
POINTS OF UNITY
HEARTS ON A WIRE COLLECTIVE

The points of unity tie us together in our beliefs, values, and how we work together. We welcome and encourage your feedback!

(Points of Unity as discussed at the retreat on 2/13/16 with feedback from Maxine, Miley and Mrs. GeGe incorporated July 2016)

- The primary purpose of our organizing work is to promote the self-determination of transgender and gender variant individuals who are in contact with or are vulnerable to coming into contact with the criminal legal system.
  - We take leadership from those most impacted and who experience the worst consequences of over policing and mass incarceration.
  - We do not assume what people need - we ask.
- Our work aims to elevate and nurture people’s humanity.
  - Taking care of each other is central to our work.
  - We work from a place of compassion for each other, prioritize the mental health of our members, and continuously work on intentional accessibility.
- We strive to make our meetings spaces as accessible as possible.
  - We choose meetings spaces that are physically accessible in terms of location and structure.
  - We cultivate a meetings space culture that as many people as possible can participate in comfortably.
- Our meetings are spaces for learning and growth.
  - We do not believe that isolation solves problems. We support people to take responsibility for their mistakes and work with others in their community to be accountable.
  - We strive to build trust and are willing to be led by each other.
  - We take our responsibilities seriously and expect ourselves to be an imperfect community.

Why Care?
Criminalizing sexual behavior based on HIV status exacerbates the stigma and discrimination experienced by people with HIV. Criminalizing HIV conflicts with the current scientific understanding of HIV transmission risks, treating activities that carry negligible risk of HIV transmission as though they were high-risk. It undermines efforts to encourage HIV testing and retain people living with HIV in healthcare, and creates distrust of public health officials and programs.

Nothing About Us Without Us.
HIV criminalization dehumanizes already-marginalized communities that are both disproportionately affected by HIV and disproportionately targeted by the criminal legal system – sex workers, drug users, people of color, transgender women, gay men, and poor people. Criminalizing HIV creates another basis for our arrest and imprisonment, and reinforces stereotypes that define our sexuality as inherently dangerous or predatory.

At this conference, an effort was made to center the voices of people most affected by the issue. For example, one of the keynotes called from a prison in Idaho where he is serving a sentence for sex that would not have been a crime if he was not HIV positive.

My favorites
I went to a workshop by Desiree Alliance, a trans-led sex-worker organization, who presented how the overlapping stigmas in sex work, transgender rights, and HIV policies can be addressed (for those with internet access, their fantastic report can be downloaded or viewed at http://tinyurl.com/jjbvzmr).

Our friends at Positively Trans presented their initial findings from the first ever national needs assessment of trans people living with HIV, and talked about the network of HIV positive trans people they are creating (want more information? write to: Positively Trans, Transgender Law Center, 1629 Telegraph Ave, Suite 400, Oakland, CA 94612).

All in all the conference was a great experience that left me feeling energized about the work we are doing on this issue in Pennsylvania. Please get in touch if you want to get involved!
My brothers and sisters my heart goes out to the families and friends of the loved ones that have been lost in the Orlando shooting. R.I.P. I also want to send my condolences to this community we've called family and home. Yes it is sad and terrible that this had to happen. But we need to be strong and stick together in this time of need. Because it is when we are banded together in times such as this one is when we are strongest. The president has my full 100% support for this community and gun safety. Who is with me? It's time to stand and say enough is enough and myself as an American Citizen will not just stand by and "actively" do nothing, that is not a choice. Much love and solidarity to Orlando and my LGBT family.

your sister,
DeDe

Artwork: J.E. Forbes

I send my prayers to all the family and friends that lost a loved one in the tragedy in Orlando. On 6-12-16 also my prayers to all the brothers and sisters fighting for there life. God bless all you guys from a friend much love.

Your sister,
DeDe

Artwork: Luis A Vega

THE WORLD ALREADY LOOKS DOWN ON US AS IF WE'RE NOTHING, BEATS US AND EVEN KILLS US. SO IT SHOULD BE UNTHINKABLE TO HELP THEM.

I grieve immediately whenever I see division within the LGBTQ community... let's celebrate each other's diversities... we must come together so we can unify our love by caring for one another... Start with planting positive seeds cause chile, they do grow... help turn that shade into sunshine.

- Ms. Priss,
SCI Houtzdale

There's no place
No space
No time
or gates
Than could keep
my love away.
No judge
no C/O
or anyone
That could lock
my love away.
We will overcome
the trials
that's been put in place.
Our hearts are one,
That nobody can take.
WE walk as one
through time
and space

We are two hearts
with one beat,
that any blind man
can see
Our love is strong
and in place
Our love speaks
for itself
That our hearts
can't be touch.
Not by anyone
You're my one
and only,
And that's a fact
My heart is yours,
and yours is mine.
I will love you
until the end of time.
Always and forever.

Artwork: J.E. Forbes
LOVE & RAINY DAYS

TIZZ

Love with powers You have smashed Through the walls Of death so that we Might live with you forever...

So great a gift We cannot fully Understand, but we pray That someday we might Share the fullness Of that word in our hearts...

But one day I hope As one we can Show each other How to love the right way...

And not call the right Words can be spoken On love, but all the Right actions can show love...

Now before you tell Someone you love them Look in the mirror And tell that person You love him to Cause that’s the real love That matters...

SHAYLANNA LUVME

Tell me why you cry And I will give you a reason to laugh Tell me why you hurt And I will give you a hug that’ll ease your pain
Tell me why you hide And I’ll show you a bright light Tell me why you are sick And I’ll prove you wrong
Tell me why being you or trans is wrong And I’ll show you why it’s right Tell me why you don’t have a family And I’ll show you your family
Tell me why you can’t be who you want to be And I’ll show you how to be the real you If you tell me why, So will I

Tell me why you cry And I will give you a reason to laugh Tell me why you hurt And I will give you a hug that’ll ease your pain
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PULSE NIGHTCLUB — ORLANDO

LOVE AND LIGHT

I don't know why there is so much hate, when people are being who they want to be and doing what they want to do. It's very sad that you can't go out and have a good time with friends or your significant other without something happening to you or the people around you. Please everyone take care and keep doing what you're doing, don't stop being who you are, what’s when those who are trying to stop us win.

get it together all y'all, it's a war out there, take care of one another in jail and on the streets. Look after one another, help those who need help and assistance, stand tall and fight beside one another and stop choosing friends when we are all in this together.

Andre Lorenzano
I am a person, and yet there is still so much about myself and the world that I do not understand. I’m searching to find and fit together scrambled parts of me, buried treasures in the sand. Flowing through this pinched intersection of temporal demand for building and collapse, to and fro’, up and down to the oscillating rhythm of vibrant accumulation.

A person I am, the constitution of both the masculine and feminine, and yet there is so much more to so magnificent a solution than gender; for, sex in and of itself does not define us, it does not tell who we are. Thankfully, we are so much more.

There is none more wealthy than an individual who’s secured a Labor of Love in which to engage, busily, committedly performing it. There highest form of human expression of desire is labor. It is the connection between demand and supply of all human needs, the precursor of all human progress, the mechanism by which imagination is provided wing of action. Labors of love, all of them, are purely beautiful because they bring the delight of self-expression.
DESTINY
MRS. ROSIE ARMSTRONG @ SMITHFIELD

Your words, your dreams, and your thoughts have power to create conditions in your life. Whatever you speak about, you can bring about. If you keep saying you can’t stand your job, you might lose your job. If you keep saying you can’t stand your body, your body can become sick. If you keep saying you can’t stand your car, your car could be stolen or just stop operating. If you keep saying you’re broke, guess what? You’ll always be broke. If you keep saying you can’t trust a man or trust a woman, you will always find someone in your life to hurt and betray you. If you keep saying you can’t find a job, you will remain unemployed. If you keep saying you can’t find someone to love you or believe in you, your very thought will attract more experiences to confirm your beliefs. If you keep talking about a divorce or break up in a relationship, then you might end up with it. Turn your thoughts and conversations around to be more positive and power packed with faith, hope, love and action. Don’t be afraid to believe that you can have what you want and deserve. Watch your Thoughts, they become words. Watch your words, they become actions. Watch your actions, they become habits. Watch your habits, they become character. Watch your character, for it becomes your Destiny. The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settle.

p.s. (I Love You Sa’yooh)

MIRROR
MAXINE

Look into the mirror and what do you see?
I see someone who is beautiful and yup, it’s me. And regardless what others see,
I can see potential in what I could possibly be Regardless of my fears
My vision is clear
So no matter what others see,
I see a totally beautiful individual in me
So what I look into the mirror to see
Helps me to strive to be all I can me

PIECE OF HEAVEN
CHIMERA

(Dedicated to my Everything, my Pennie, my Mrs. Pennie Christie)

I use to be filled with beyond extreme pure evil, Having ruthless and malignance for God up above. Until I met a special transgender black woman, Who must be an Angel sent to only me with love. For in 7 days we found that we were true soulmates, Falling so deep in love that we had claimed each other. Performing a sacred ritual marriage under God’s eyes, Becoming Life mates, something stronger than a child loving their mother. It’s a Psychotic and Passionate love FOREVER, I’m so beyond extremely overjoyed that you’re All and ONLY mine for all time! I’m beyond extremely in love with ONLY you, Pennie, I can’t wait until your last name legally changes to mine. We reciprocate each other’s unconditional love and unquestionable loyalty, Something I’ve yearned for since I was only 11. Being a gender nonconforming creature nuts-crazy for, about and over you, I truly and honestly, believe I’ve got a piece of heaven!!

J
I love you, my Pennie, ALL MINE ONLY!

MY ONE AND ONLY
JEFFERY LOPERGOLO

Baby girl, before you
I knew a life full of neglect.
you brought me from darkness and opened my eyes & heart and gave
me peace & love, everything about you is
Amazing and lovable. your eyes that sparkle when your happy, your lips that are too soft and delicate, your body that makes you look as if you were sent to me from the gods.

I don’t mind going through your hormonal episodes because I know that in the end your love for me is fiercely strong and it continually grows.

I am proud to be able to call you Mrs. Lopergolo
Don’t care what people say because we know who we are and what we can do. All we care about is ours and demand respect from everybody. So what I am trying to say is be yourself. Take that mask off. Be yourself and not what people want you to be cause when that happens they run your life.

Love your brother, Reginald

Hello Fam... writing to wish all of my extended Hearts on a Wire family blessed cheers... remember those who has gone before us... those who sell (yourselves) short & to always always be there for one another. Because united we stand... The Trans Community has come a long way... Ms. Major, Janet Mock, Laverne Cox, & CeCe McDonald. The Trans women who has shaped history... I... will always Embrace, Support and Encourage Other Trans ladies to always be true to themselves and that also Hearts on a wire shines within all of us

Love The Lady Ms Champagne, your girl The Grand Empress

Let everybody know in the LGBT family that I love y’all and stand firm for what we accomplish today... what we do now, will resort to what will be done in the future... and the LGBT family that comes after us. I send my love to Hearts on a Wire and the LGBT family.

Your boy, Fox aka MC Two Star

I think people who worry/hate us as a collective are major freak-Os (but not the awesome kind like care about you) but worry about more important things like... is a zebra a black animal with white stripes or a white animal with black stripes?

Katalina Blacktree

I just wanted to....recognize somebody special. I first laid these eyes on you at Fayette and had jaw dropping effect...I....took a gamble with my heart. In return you gave me you, a loving family and a reason to live I'm safe in your arms...we experience so much in a great amount of time who can stop us? I love you and in love with you...I’m here and will always be here for you forget how everybody else view...To my wife and Retreat hold your head boo papi is on his way home.

Dark and Handsome

Miss Ceci: Baby you were such a warm, tender, caring, joyful person... You touched my heart... WRITE ME!

My husband: I love you daddy. You’re a sexy ass piece... hope we wed soon... 3 years and still going!

Bre’Air: I love you Boo.

SJ: my little sister. I love you and I have your back.

Alicia: I miss you mommy!! It’s your son from the county. The white queen. I was your celly. I love you!!

Love, Lady Mariah @ Forest

I'm a Man of many words, and Ideas. But my tongue weighs Heavy. My mind Races, like waves Hitting the shorebed. My eyelids Are thin like the Rims of a Paper Plates, sadly Heavy with Burdens that enable me To see things Right in front of me.

My Heart Races fast! Not of joy, not of happiness, but of Fear, and Sadness. Because My Peers will Judge me and Not God! And my ears will Here the melody of soft music to Reassure me that, Not only am I a Black man, but a Man of God. And a Child of Christ, and the Victory Belongs to the faithful ones at Heart. And Yet the (Unknown) seems to Unveils its self everyday. (Amen).

This poem was inspired from the harsh abuse and assaults while in prison at the hands of mean hearted peoples because of being a transgender woman of color. I hope that through my story and poem that awareness be raised to support any Trans person that has faced what I had to face. So I dedicate this poem to every women who knows what it feels like to be abused, ill treated, and mistreated.

You look at me with hate in your eyes you outcast me and then told me fruitless lies, you misled me to walk down a long and endless road, you played on my intelligence because you thought that I was slow share my best kept secrets instead you went and told what happen to a hand that would help me to be the best in life, the only thing that you were set out to do was bring me unhappiness and strife, when I needed help I couldn’t depend on you now I am broke and helpless and a feeling like a food digging up dirt was your game plan to ruin my pride the evil eye surrounds me where can I hide, you would rather see me doing bad than to see me doing good the evil eye awaits us all I hope you understood

Artwork: Jedi Master Jaina
YOU CAN’T BULLY ME
LISA STRAWN

Why do you bully me? Is it because I’m smart, funny, or because I have red hair. Is it because I love everyone, and you are filled with hate. Why do you bully me? Maybe because I’m transgender. I didn’t give you the right to physically, mentally, and sexually assault me. You think you won. But you didn’t. What you did to me made me try harder each day to not be the victim, but to be strong and structured. By you being my bully, the time you laughed, whispered, pointed at me and called me hurtful names, made me see that you were a lost person. What you’ve done hasn’t made me angry at the world. You helped me to be the most wonderful, kind, respectful woman that I need to be. So while you bullied me and some may do, you are the very reason I will never be you. For you are very sad and alone in your life. So for anyone that has ever been bullied and for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. And for the 21 transgenders murdered last year and the 18 reported transgender suicides in the U.S., this is for you. 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Dear Hearts,

I’m very pleased to announce that on February 2, 2016 I was transferred from SCI Benner to SCI Muncy. Muncy is one of two female facilities in PA and I am the first pre-op trans woman to live here on campus, which is incredibly exciting but I don’t always like the attention I’m given because I’m the first. For the most part... I’ve been well-received. The superintendent, Deputy Ward CCPM have been both supportive and responsive when issues have arisen. Staff has been respectful... with the exception of one CO who felt... that he was right to call me Mr. Reilly. The incident was promptly addressed by administration.

Several staff have admitted to me that I’m a very hot topic amongst staff because of my situation. This may sound flattering to some... however on the outside I live “quasi-stealth” which means I don’t disclose... unless I have to... being “outed” violates my privacy, since gender dysphoria is indeed a medical condition. I’m currently working with administration to put in place a policy prohibiting disclosure of private information of inmates. After all, medical records are NOT public records, like criminal records are. People will never stop gossip but it’s important to make the effort regardless.

As for some basics of housing etc:
- I still retain single cell status, reviewed in 6 months
- Single person showers with full door, ceiling to floor
- Strip and pat searches are done by female officers ONLY
- Commissary, same w/ addition of 2 or 3 shoe styles, yarn for knitting, and access to feminine hygiene products
- Officers call me Mrs. Reilly or just Reilly--like they do everyone else.
- The inmates are much more gender-variant/gender-diverse
- General attitude toward same-gender relationships is infinitely more open (affection isn’t allowed though :))
- People actually sit with me at meals
- I don’t hear “faggot” all the time anymore
- So far, no one has thrown anything at me
- I finally feel physically safe and relate to my peers much better
- No hair length restrictions
- Feel free to ask specifics!

Make no mistakes-while this has been a huge victory, "the fight" for me is far from over... I intend to continue to push to make things better for our community, and will write to update you...to anyone who may want to write--I welcome your letters!

Keep fighting the good fight, if you give up, the haters win!
Namaste, Kelli Reilly
OX7677 / SCI Muncy / PO Box 180 / Muncy, PA 17756

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Possible Transfer of Transgender People to Prisons Matching Their Identity

Are you a transgender person currently incarcerated in the Federal Bureau of Prisons? Are you interested in getting moved to the gendered prison that matches your identity (for example, if you’re a transgender woman, do you want to be moved to a women’s prison)? The BOP claims that they are moving some transgender people to prisons that match their gender identity, we have never heard of any examples of this. We are working with a team of people trying to advocate for specific individuals to be transferred. We cannot promise anyone will get moved, but we do want to collect information from people who might want to be moved. If you are one of these people, please send us the following information:

- Name, number, address, sentence length (including likely release date), any history with disciplinary tickets, current classification level (if you know it), whether or not you have been diagnosed with gender dysphoria or gender identity disorder, what types of gender affirming recognition you already have from the BOP (such as if they allow you to get gender appropriate underwear, medical care, etc.), and any other information you think would be important to know.

Please send this information to:
Black and Pink – Federal Housing 614 Columbia Rd. Dorchester, MA 02125

(submitted by hoaw member: Jaina)

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Dear Kings and Queens,

We as a team need to recognize that the fight is not over. So I know many of us wish to have our “z” codes removed and/or have our own blocks (housing unity). I would like for us to bring in a class action... We are not... legally bound to be "z" coded and/or placed in RHU due to someone’s ignorance... join me in this struggle if not for us then for the next family member who will suffer... many of us are capable and able to live with someone of our liking, just as anyone else...

In loving solidarity
Charles "SmooK" Brown

SRTU program at SCI Rockview... I was supposedly reduced from a phase 2 to a phase 1... told... that because I am a transgender female I am staying in this SRTU program forever... The group sign in [and] my "Incentive Sheet" says phase 2... told that my "Z-code paperwork was lost"... avoid me when I ask about... going to general pop... the MRT people have/are lying to me... a lot of the BS your sister... is going through here... stay away from this program. I would never want one of my sisters to suffer.

Love you all, Jaina Yukari Sakura.

May gender equality one day come about and remain forever and ever.