

## Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award

The caucus established the Distinguished Lifetime Membership Award in 2009 and confers it on those leaders who have devoted their time, knowledge, and abilities to the advancement of LGBT public health. It is expected that all nominees will be truly outstanding.

- Caucus membership is not mandatory.
- Candidates for the award may be nominated by any caucus member, who is expected to provide background material, including a concise statement of accomplishments and rationale for the nomination to the Executive Committee no later than July 1 of each year.
- No more than two individuals will be nominated each year.
- Distinguished Lifetime Membership will be approved by a simple majority of the caucus executive committee.
- The caucus executive committee will confer one distinguished lifetime membership award each year. The award will be presented in person. The recipient is encouraged to be present at the caucus social during the APHA annual meeting to receive the award.
- The Distinguished Life Members are not required to pay membership dues.
- No candidate shall be selected for an award posthumously.

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
and Transgender Caucus  
of Public Health Professionals

*since 1975*

in association with the  
American Public Health Association



# LGBT CAUCUS

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Caucus is an association of public health professionals committed to furthering LGBT issues within the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the field of public health at large. Since its founding in 1975, the LGBT Caucus has provided a forum for educational exchange and networking among its members and their allies. The caucus is committed to combating discriminatory health policies and practices against lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals and communities.

[www.aphalgbt.org](http://www.aphalgbt.org)



## Mission Statement

- To provide a forum for the supportive educational interchange among LGBT APHA and caucus members.
- To provide the opportunity for APHA members and other professionals to learn about LGBT public health-related issues.
- To improve public health and combat homophobia and heterosexism within APHA as an organization.
- To ensure that LGBT public health issues are addressed in APHA's policy statements.

## Membership

Membership in the caucus is open to anyone who expresses an interest in LGBT issues. While APHA membership is suggested, it is not a prerequisite of membership to the caucus. Membership categories include regular members, student members, and lifetime (honorary) members. Caucus membership runs from the opening of each year's caucus business meeting at the APHA annual meeting through the opening of the following year's caucus business meeting. Voting members are those who are current dues-paying caucus members. Student members must be currently enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, or professional degree program.

Membership information is available at our web site: [www.aphalgbt.org](http://www.aphalgbt.org).

## Caucus Activities

The LGBT Caucus...

- Organizes and presents a number of scientific sessions about LGBT public health issues at APHA's annual meeting;
- Co-sponsors scientific sessions relevant to LGBT public health with other sections, special interest groups, and forums within APHA;
- Disseminates to its members information regarding published scientific literature, funding and employment opportunities relevant to LGBT public health;
- Promotes professional networking among its members through the caucus's annual social events, the caucus web site, and Facebook;
- Sponsors the Walter J. Lear, MD, Outstanding Student Research Award; and
- Sponsors the Lifetime Membership Award in recognition of outstanding contributions to LGBT public health.

## Walter J. Lear, MD, Outstanding Student Research Award

The LGBT Caucus established the Walter J. Lear, MD, Outstanding Student Research Award in 2003 to recognize exceptional scientific research conducted by students on LGBT issues. Intended to promote emerging LGBT public health leaders, the award consists of a plaque, stipend, and caucus membership for 1 year. The award is conferred at the caucus's annual dinner. Award recipients are selected from students who present an oral or poster presentation during a LGBT Caucus scientific session at the APHA annual meeting. Past award recipients are detailed on the caucus's web site ([www.aphalgbt.org](http://www.aphalgbt.org)). The Walter J. Lear, MD, Outstanding Student Research Award is supported by a donation from Pfizer.

Walter J. Lear, M.D., was a co-founder and longtime chair of the caucus. He was instrumental in the emerging LGBT health and human rights movement. Dr. Lear taught through his actions in many ways. He advocated for the poor and oppressed, picketed, protested, conducted sit-ins, wore buttons, sent out mailings, wrote policies, lobbied, and created archives to document many social justice causes. The LGBT Caucus established the Walter J. Lear, MD, Outstanding Student Research Award in recognition of his longtime dedication to LGBT public health. Dr. Lear is admired and respected throughout the public health community.