

421 SW 6th Avenue Suite 500 · Portland, OR 97204 503.823.4433 · portlandoregon.gov/oehr/hrc

July 19, 2018

Re: Portland Trans Woman Completes Suicide

We extend our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Chloe Segal, who one month ago today, completed suicide on June 19, 2018. In honor of Chloe, we reaffirm our commitment to defending the right of self-determination, dignity, and freedom for every Portlander to have their gender identity and expression recognized and affirmed. Furthermore, we affirm the need for continued mental health and housing services available for our most vulnerable community members and the need for dignified and respectful treatment when detained by police.

Approximately 19,750 transgender and nonbinary people live in the state of Oregon with the lion's share living in Portland. This number continues to rise given Portland's progressive human and civil rights laws. Yet, even with these laws on the books, our culture has not shifted fast enough to neutralize the harsh realities far too many transgender & non-binary people endure.

While Portland is the nation's 26th largest municipality, it is the seventh largest city when it comes to transgender & nonbinary people calling the area home. As such, our Commission and other progressive leaders in the City have a responsibility to reduce these harsh realities. We also have an incredible opportunity to develop inclusive policies and allocate resources for programs designed to improve the health and wellbeing outcomes for transgender & nonbinary people.

In this spirit, we ask the Mayor, Elected Officials, and the City Bureaus they guide that whenever possible, we center our policy priorities around the most vulnerable and disenfranchised communities using an intersectional lens inclusive of transgender and nonbinary people. We are committed to serve as an advisory body to offer support and defend the basic dignity and human rights of all Portlanders, including transgender and nonbinary people.

Everyone plays a role in suicide prevention. If you are seeking support or resources for yourself or a loved one, please consider the following free, confidential, and 24/7 services below:

- Trans Lifeline: https://www.translifeline.org/ 877-565-8860
- Trevor Project: https://www.thetrevorproject.org/ 866-488-7386
- National Suicide Prevention Hotline: https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/ 800-273-8255
- Multnomah County: 503-988-4888 or 1-800-716-9769
- Clackamas County: 503-655-8585Washington County: 503-291-9111
- Southwest Washington: 1-800-626-8137 or 866-835-2755

Sincerely,

The City of Portland Human Rights Commission