

Sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) information helps us understand clients as a whole person, which is necessary to ensure positive outcomes. Asking SOGI questions also helps us reduce stigma and bias faced by members of the LGBTQ+ community. People within the LGBTQ+ community have individualized needs and too often have their identities overlooked as being a factor in providing culturally affirming care. Knowing SOGI information about our clients can help ensure that all clients and families receive the care that they need.

To enter **Gender Identity**, go to the **Client Profile** tab and select from the Gender Identity options by clicking on the down arrow of the field. The **Sex** field should be completed using the sex assigned at birth.

The screenshot shows the 'Client Profile' form. The left sidebar has 'Client Profile' selected. The main form area contains the following fields:

- Current First Name: Test
- Middle Name: (empty)
- Current Last Name: Client
- Birth First Name: Test
- Birth Last Name: Client
- Mother's First Name: Mother
- Sex: 1-Male
- Gender Identity: Trans Woman (highlighted with a red box and arrow)
- DOB: 1/1/1990
- No Readmit Until: (empty)
- Record Created By: Mitchell, Susanne
- Last Updated By: Mitchell, Susanne
- State Client ID: CT1010190
- State Client No: (empty)
- Provider Client ID: (empty)
- SSN: 111-00-1101
- Driver's License: (empty)
- Medicaid #: (empty)
- Date of Death: (empty)
- Place of Birth: (empty)
- Consent on File for Future Contact: No
- Has Paper File: Yes
- Created Date: 12/2/2021 7:24 AM
- Last Updated Date: 12/2/2021 7:24 AM

Buttons at the bottom right: Cancel, Save, Finish, and a right arrow.

To enter **Sexual Orientation**, go to the **Client Profile**, select the **Additional Information** subtab, and select from the Sexual Orientation options by clicking on the down arrow of the field.

The screenshot shows the 'Additional Information' subtab. The left sidebar has 'Additional Information' selected. The main form area contains the following fields:

- Ethnicity: 1-Not Hispanic
- Races: 02-Black / African-American, 03-American Indian, 04-Alaskan Native, 05-Asian Indian, 06-Cambodian
- Selected Races: 01-White
- Disabilities: 2-Visual, 3-Hearing, 4-Speech, 5-Mobility
- Selected Disabilities: 1-None
- General Client Comments: (empty text area)
- Are you a Veteran?: 0-No
- Sexual Orientation: Bisexual (highlighted with a red box and arrow)
- Religious Preference: (empty)
- Preferred Language: English
- Interpreter Needed: (empty)

# As part of the intake process, BHRS asks how people identify their sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI).

Everyone is asked questions about sexual orientation and gender identity. SOGI information helps us understand you as a whole person, which is necessary to ensure positive outcomes. Asking SOGI questions also helps us reduce stigma and bias faced by members of the LGBTQ+ community.

People within the LGBTQ+ community have individualized needs and too often have their identities overlooked as being a factor in providing culturally affirming care.

Knowing SOGI information about our clients can help ensure that all clients and families receive the care that they need.

This information will remain confidential and is protected under Marin County's non-discrimination policy.

Marin County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Website:

<https://www.marinbhers.org/>

## The BHRS LGBTQ+ Collaborative

The BHRS LGBTQ+ Collaborative is open to LGBTQ+ identified residents of Marin who want to help develop resources, trainings, and oversight of BHRS services to ensure an inclusive and affirming environment for the LGBTQ+ community receiving care through BHRS and our contracted providers.

The LGBTQ+ Collaborative is dedicated to building and maintaining a safe, inclusive, and equitable environment for LGBTQ+ clients, employees, and families of Marin county. The LGBTQ+ Collaborative recognizes the stress associated with holding intersectional identities and aims to bring light to issues of marginalization within the LGBTQ+ community by lifting up voices of people of color within the LGBTQ+ community.

### Contact

[bhrs\\_lgbtq@marincounty.org](mailto:bhrs_lgbtq@marincounty.org)



Please use the QR code to provide any comments or suggestions you have related to LGBTQ+ services provided through BHRS or our contracted providers.



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# Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

## Client Guide to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)



## What is Sexual Orientation?

Our sexual orientation is a combination of who we are sexually, romantically, and emotionally attracted to.

- ❖ Asexual = low or lack of sexual interest in others; includes a spectrum of sub-identities.
- ❖ Bisexual = an attraction to more than one gender. Those who identify as bisexual feel a sexual and/ or romantic attraction to people of a different gender as well as their own.
- ❖ Pansexual = the romantic, emotional, and/or sexual attraction to people regardless of their gender.
- ❖ Queer = an umbrella term for those who those who do not identify as straight/heterosexual.
- ❖ Lesbian, Gay = adjectives to describe attraction to same sexed people (homosexual).
- ❖ Straight = an attraction to different sexed people (heterosexual).

## What is Gender Identity?

Our gender identity is how we think of our own gender.

Examples of gender identity include:

- Woman / Girl / Trans Woman
- Nonbinary
  - Refers to someone who does not identify exclusively as male or female
- Genderqueer
  - An umbrella term. Refers to someone whose gender identity is not cisgender
- Man / Boy / Trans Man

Our sense of our gender can be different from the sex we were assigned at birth. Our gender identity may change as we grow to accommodate developments in language and culture.

## What is Sex Assigned at Birth?

Our sex assigned at birth is the label given at birth based on medical factors, including hormones, chromosomes, and genitals.

Examples include:

- Female
- Male
- Intersex



## What is Gender Expression?

Though we are not gathering information about gender expression, it is still an important part of our identity. Gender expression is how we publicly present our gender through clothes, mannerisms, behavior, etc. This is often measured in terms of masculinity and femininity and is based on stereotypes about gender roles.

Our gender expression does not necessarily always align with our gender identity.

For example, we may appear to others as masculine by having facial hair, broad shoulders and a deep voice, but we may internally think of ourselves as a woman.

Please note that these terms do not capture all identities within the LGBTQ+ community.

Please share with us the language you are using to identify yourself if you do not feel seen by any of these terms.

