

## General Convention of The Episcopal Church 2022 Archives' Research Report

**Resolution No.:** 2022-D030  
**Title:** Develop Resources and Training for Welcoming and Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Persons and Families  
**Proposer:** The Rev. Dr. Cameron Partridge  
**Topic:** Gender Identity

---

### Directly Related: (Attached)

2018-A088 Develop Guidelines for Amending Name and Gender in Church Records  
2018-C022 Support End of Discrimination Against Transgender and Non-Binary People  
2018-C054 Adopt Guiding Principles for Inclusion of Transgender and Non-binary People  
2012-D019 Amend Canon I.17.5 [Rights of Laity]

### Indirectly Related: (Available in the [Acts of Convention](#) database, searchable by resolution number)

2018-A143 Study the Career Development of Female and Minority Clergy

*In preparing this report, the Archives researched the resolutions in the Acts of Convention database for the period 1973 through 2018, selecting “direct” resolutions that have a substantive bearing on the proposed legislation. The “direct” resolutions are attached and “indirect” resolutions are available in the Acts of Convention database. Committee members who require other research assistance should contact the Archives through the [Research Request Form](#) or call 800-525-9329.*

# D030 - Develop Resources and Training for Welcoming and Supporting Transgender and Non-Binary Persons and Families

---

**Final Status:** Not Yet Finalized

**Proposed by:** The Rev. Dr. Cameron Partridge

**Endorsed by:** The Rev. Lisa Fry, Ms. Sarah Lawton

**Requests New Interim Body:** No

**Amends C&C or Rules of Order:** No

**Has Budget Implications:** Yes

**Cost:** \$50,000.00

**HiA:** HD

**Legislative Committee Currently Assigned:** 14 - Christian Formation & Discipleship

**Completion Status:** Incomplete

**Latest House Action:** N/A

**Supporting Documents:** No

---

## Resolution Text

*Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring,

That the 80th General Convention of the Episcopal Church direct the Church Center to develop multilingual, multicultural churchwide resources to support our dioceses, provinces, churchwide leaders, and congregations in living into our commitments to welcome and support people and communities of diverse genders, including transgender and non-binary, based on the following needs:

- To affirm and support transgender and non-binary people already in our congregations, including in lay and ordained leadership;
- To provide spiritual and practical support to persons who are discerning their gender or are in the process of transitioning, and their families;
- To support congregations and dioceses in becoming welcoming and affirming of people of diverse genders, with resources and training materials that are theologically and scripturally grounded, culturally and linguistically accessible to our diverse congregations, and include voices and stories of transgender and non-binary people and their families;

- To support congregations in their community outreach and advocacy work in solidarity with transgender and non-binary people in our wider communities, as called for in General Convention resolution 2009-D012;
- To have resources that can be used in a variety of settings and formats, including diocesan, provincial, and congregational trainings, seasonal education programs for congregations, search committee and vestry trainings, pastoral conversations with individuals and families, and development or augmentation of liturgical resources to support times of discernment, occasions such as taking a new name, and congregational expressions of commitment to welcome and affirmation; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Church Center offer trainings on these resources, once they are developed, that are made widely available (such as via online webinars) for diocesan, provincial, churchwide, and congregational leaders; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$50,000 for the implementation of this resolution.

## **Explanation**

General Conventions since 2009 have passed resolutions affirming and supporting gender diverse people in and beyond our ecclesial life, including the addition of “gender identity and expression” to our nondiscrimination canons. Yet the experience of trans and non-binary people and our families in our congregations and at various levels of the wider church has been uneven. In some communities we experience deep support and respect, including liturgical affirmation of our names, faith-based advocacy for our legal protection, and sensitive pastoral care. In other communities we experience a range of difficulties, from the use of wrong names and/or pronouns, to lack of access to gender-specific spaces or activities, to not being considered for leadership positions. As transgender, non-binary, and allied leaders testified at Executive Council in January of 2022, particularly in this moment of intensified vulnerability for transgender and non-binary people in the United States, there is an urgent need for thoughtful, theologically grounded, critically engaged formation to be developed and shared at all levels of the Episcopal Church’s life. Congregations and leaders at the diocesan, provincial, and churchwide levels all need a range of specifically Christian resources in the Episcopal tradition to support transgender and non-binary people and our families in the various, diverse contexts in which we live and worship. This resolution calls for such resources to be developed and gathered by the Church Center staff with an allocation of \$50,000 to support that work over the next triennium, in consultation with transgender and non-binary communities and individuals.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-A088  
**Title:** Develop Guidelines for Amending Name and Gender in Church Records  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Substituted  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 79th General Convention appreciates the contribution of the TransEpiscopal community in articulating the need to change church records in keeping with an individual's gender identity; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention direct the Archives of The Episcopal Church to develop guidelines regarding the amending of names and gender in church records, such guidelines to be reviewed by the Executive Council and promulgated across the Church by the Archives of The Episcopal Church by the end of 2019; and be it further*

*Resolved, That the General Convention urge dioceses and other agencies and institutions of the church, including but not limited to, general church offices, the Recorder of Ordinations, and seminaries to utilize such guidelines.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 1063-1064.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-C022  
**Title:** Support End of Discrimination Against Transgender and Non-Binary People  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That the 79th General Convention of The Episcopal Church reaffirm its support for the enactment of laws at the local, state and federal level that prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or the expression of one's gender identity; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church support legislative, educational, pastoral, liturgical, and broader communal efforts that seek to end the pattern of violence against transgender people in general and transgender women in particular, calling attention especially to the rising violence against transgender women of color and gender non-conforming people; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church oppose all legislation that restricts public restroom, locker room and shower access for transgender and gender non-conforming people, recognizing that such bills disproportionately impact and contribute to a pattern of violence against transgender women and non-binary identified people; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church ask dioceses and parishes to remove barriers to full participation in congregational life by making their gender-specific facilities and activities fully accessible to all, regardless of gender identity and expression; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church direct the Office of Government Relations to advocate for passage of federal legislation that protects transgender and gender non-conforming persons from discrimination; and be it further*  
*Resolved, That The Episcopal Church urge dioceses, parishes, and Episcopalians to advocate for passage and enactment of similar legislation at the local and state level.*

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), p. 421.



**Resolution Number:** 2018-C054  
**Title:** Adopt Guiding Principles for Inclusion of Transgender and Non-binary People  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved*, That the 79th General Convention affirm the following guiding principles for the inclusion of transgender and non-binary people and urge that the Dioceses of the Episcopal Church prayerfully consider adopting and implementing the following guiding principles for the inclusion of transgender and non-binary people in their parishes, missions, schools and camps:

**Guiding Principles for the Inclusion of Transgender and Non-Binary People in Dioceses, Parishes, Missions, Schools and Camps:**

**We believe that all people are created in the image of God and that all people are beloved children of God. Because this is true,**

- 1. We will protect the rights and respect the dignity of transgender and non-binary persons, refusing to reject, judge, abuse, belittle or in any way dehumanize them.**
- 2. We will engage the complex realities for transgender and non-binary persons in our churches, schools, and camps, and not yield to the temptation to ignore those realities.**
- 3. We will recognize and accept our responsibility to protect the privacy of transgender and non-binary persons.**
- 4. We will make decisions about how to support transgender and non-binary minors in our schools and camps in sensitive and appropriate communication with their parents.**
- 5. We will provide a safe environment for transgender and non-binary persons, for those who support them, and for those who do not understand our commitment to these principles.**
- 6. We will stay flexible in response to the complex and changing ramifications of this work by being open to relevant stories, to emerging information, and to the movement of the Holy Spirit.**

And be it further

*Resolved*, That materials to help promote the Guiding Principles of this resolution be developed and curated by the Office of Formation through partnerships with organizations such as Integrity and TransEpiscopal.

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Austin, 2018* (New York: General Convention, 2018), pp. 945-946.



**Resolution Number:** 2012-D019  
**Title:** Amend Canon I.17.5 [Rights of Laity]  
**Legislative Action Taken:** Concurred as Amended  
**Final Text:**

*Resolved, That Title I, Canon 17, Sec. 5 of the Canons of The Episcopal Church be hereby amended to read as follows:*

**Sec. 5. No one shall be denied rights, status or access to an equal place in the life, worship, and governance of this Church because of race, color, ethnic origin, national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, *gender identity and expression*, disabilities or age, except as otherwise specified by Canons.**

**Citation:** General Convention, *Journal of the General Convention of...The Episcopal Church, Indianapolis, 2012* (New York: General Convention, 2012), pp. 505-506.