

Barriers to Services

Barriers can relate to perceptions about or the actual practices of service providers.

Barriers to Services for LGBT Survivors and Abusive Partners:

- Lack of knowledge of LGBT issues by service providers
- Invisibility – no mention of LGBT partner abuse in outreach materials
- Judgement and homo/bi/transphobia of service providers
- Use of non-inclusive, heteronormative language and practices
- “Outing” LGBT survivors/abusive partners to other program participants or providers
- Allowing staff or other clients to harass LGBT survivors/abusive partners with no consequences
- Refusing services on the basis of gender identity
- Unsafe practices – survivors and abusive partners in the same program
- Inconsistent organizational responses to disclosures by LGBT survivors
- Lack of programs that specialize in IPV services for LGBT survivors and abusive partners