Tulane Health named LGBT healthcare leader

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Tulane Health System received recognition as a "Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality" by the Human Rights Campaign. (Photo from Tulane Medical Center)

<u>Tulane Health System</u> has been recognized as a "Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality" by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation, the educational arm of the country's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization.

The findings were part of HRC Foundation's Healthcare Equality Index 2016, a unique annual survey that encourages equal care for LGBT Americans by evaluating inclusive policies and practices related to LGBT patients, visitors and employees.

Tulane Health System earned top marks in meeting non-discrimination and training criteria that demonstrate its commitment to equitable, inclusive care for LGBT patients, and their families, who can face significant challenges in securing the quality health care and respect they deserve.

"Serving our community is our passion," said Dr. William Lunn, president and CEO of Tulane Health System. "All members of our community deserve quality and compassionate care. One of our core principles is that we transform healthcare through acts of kindness, and we strive to do so every day through interactions with our patients and visitors."

Tulane Health System is one of a select group of 496 healthcare facilities nationwide to be named Leaders in LGBT Healthcare Equality. Facilities awarded this title meet key criteria, including patient and employee non-discrimination policies that specifically mention sexual orientation and gender identity, a guarantee of equal visitation for same-sex partners and parents, and LGBT health education for key staff members.

"Despite all the progress we've made, far too many LGBT people still lack inclusive and affirming health care. Leaders in LGBT Healthcare Equality are helping to change that, and, in the process, making the lives of LGBT patients and their families better each and every day," said Chad Griffin, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "LGBT people have a right to be treated equally in all aspects of our lives, and HRC celebrates Tulane Health System for its work to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all patients."

The Healthcare Equality Index offers healthcare facilities unique and powerful resources designed to help provide equal care to a long-overlooked group of patients, as well as assistance in complying with regulatory requirements and access to high-quality staff training.

<u>Click here</u> for more information about the Healthcare Equality Index 2016 or to download a free copy of the report.

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