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Supporting Trans People in Libraries

Stephen G. Krueger

1 VOLUME

As trans people (including those on the nonbinary spectrum) start to feel safer expressing their identities in public, libraries are making an effort to show that they welcome people of all gender identities. Yet there are many potential barriers to actively supporting trans people, including lack of knowledge about the needs of the trans community and lack of funding or institutional support. This book, written entirely by trans library workers, is designed to dismantle some of these barriers.

Supporting Trans People in Libraries is relevant for library workers of any background and position. People with little knowledge about trans identities can start with the opening introductory chapters, while those looking for guidance on a specific situation—such as adding all-gender restrooms, interacting respectfully with trans coworkers, deciding what information to require on library card applications, writing inclusive job postings, making collection development decisions, and more—can jump to a particular chapter. For each topic, there are sections on easy fixes, best practices, and example language. Readers can easily adapt the information to benefit their libraries and communities in concrete ways.

FEATURES

Provides introductory information on trans people, community needs, and preferred language

Offers specific best practices for creating inclusive library environments

for trans patrons and employees

Includes resources and suggestions for long-term support of trans people in libraries

Suggests inclusive language for various scenarios (e.g., sharing pronouns and writing job descriptions)

Stephen G. Krueger he/him or they/them) is the access and outreach services librarian at Randolph College. He holds an MSLS from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he received the University Diversity Award and the LGBTIQ Advocacy Award. He writes and presents on how libraries and institutions can support trans patrons, students, and employees. Krueger was a 2018 American Library Association Emerging Leader. In 2017 he founded the Gender Variant LIS Network, a group for trans and gender-variant library workers and students. For more information, go to www.stephengkrueger.com.

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