



## **Statement of Support for WPATH from NASW-TX SOGIE Committee**

As social workers committed to the principles of social justice, inclusion, and affirming the dignity of all individuals, we stand in support of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) amidst recent leaks. WPATH has been a vital beacon of guidance in promoting evidence-based, compassionate care for transgender and gender diverse individuals worldwide.

The leaks and resulting barrage of inaccurate information targeting WPATH undermine the crucial work being done to advance the rights and well-being of transgender and gender diverse communities. These actions not only jeopardize the integrity of the organization but also threaten the safety and rights of vulnerable individuals seeking support and affirmation.

WPATH's commitment to upholding standards of care based on the latest research and best practices has been instrumental in improving the quality of life for countless transgender and gender diverse individuals. Their dedication to fostering understanding, providing education, and advocating for the rights of transgender individuals is commendable and vital in a world where discrimination and marginalization persist.

As social workers, we recognize the importance of affirming and supporting individuals in their journey toward self-actualization and fulfillment. WPATH plays a crucial role in providing guidelines and resources that enable social workers and healthcare professionals to provide competent and affirming care to transgender and gender diverse individuals.

We urge all social workers to stand with us and respect the confidentiality and integrity of WPATH and to refrain from actions that compromise the well-being of transgender and gender diverse communities. Together, let us reaffirm our commitment to justice, equity, and the rights of all individuals to live authentically with dignity and free from discrimination and relentless harassment from those who choose to foster fear and hatred.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ashley Heidebrecht". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ashley Heidebrecht, LMSW  
Chair, NASW-TX SOGIE Committee