

**Eau Claire City-County Board of Health
Resolution 18-07
Supporting the Exploration of Regulation of Conversion Therapy**

- WHEREAS,** the *Eau-Claire City-County Health Department* has as its mission “Keeping people in all Eau Claire City/County communities safe and healthy”, and;
- WHEREAS,** Conversion Therapy has been described by the World Health Organization (WHO) as services aimed at “curing” non-heterosexual orientation, and;
- WHEREAS,** major national health associations have issued policy statements critical of conversion therapy including the World Health Organization, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Psychological Association, American Counseling Association, American Psychoanalytic Association, and the National Association of Social Workers, among others, and;
- WHEREAS,** Eau Claire Healthy Communities has prioritized Mental Health as a top priority in Eau Claire County in 2018, and;
- WHEREAS,** Many national health organizations have implicated conversion therapy as negatively impacting mental health for the LGBTQ+ population, and;
- WHEREAS,** the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) published a report in 2015 titled “Ending Conversion Therapy: Supporting and Affirming LGBTQ Youth” which stated that interventions aimed at a fixed outcome, such as gender conformity or heterosexual orientation, including those aimed at changing gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation are coercive, can be harmful, and should not be part of behavioral health treatment.
- WHEREAS,** the State of Wisconsin does not currently regulate conversion therapy in any way,
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the *Board of Health* encourages stakeholders in Eau Claire County and in the State of Wisconsin to explore best practices and regulation related to preventing harm associated with conversion therapy.

Approved by the Board of Health this 22nd day of August, 2018.

EAU CLAIRE CITY-COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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