

Event Description

Ohio House Bill 68 (HB68), which went into effect on August 6, 2024, marks an unprecedented change to Behavioral Health (BH) practice in Ohio. Since the start of licensure for BH providers in Ohio there has never been a law restricting standard practice so explicitly and discriminately without any basis in research or best practice standards. HB 68 bans gender-affirming medical care and hinders access to mental healthcare for transgender and gender-diverse youth in Ohio. It also infringes upon ethical social work and counselor practice. The bill is in effect now, putting both BH providers and their transgender and gender-diverse minor clients at risk. In response, NASW Ohio has developed written practice guidance and trainings to supply behavioral health providers with the necessary understanding of the law to equip them with the knowledge and tools needed to provide the highest quality care possible while protecting themselves from excessive liability risks and disciplinary action.

SAIGE of Ohio is excited to host the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Ohio Chapter in providing a condensed version of their Navigating New Laws: Gender Affirming Care Training for Behavioral Health Workers, traditionally a full day training. SAIGE of Ohio believes this will be a great introduction to how behavioral health providers can adapt their practice in response to HB 68 to provide the highest quality care possible to transgender and gender diverse youth while protecting themselves from excessive liability risks and disciplinary action.

Navigating New Laws: Gender Affirming Care Training for Behavioral Health Workers, full day trainings, are being offered throughout Ohio to agencies, universities, practices, and through region/local trainings. If your agency or other groups you are associated with may be interested in bringing the full day training into your agency/organization/group please visit www.naswoh.org/page/hb68guidance