

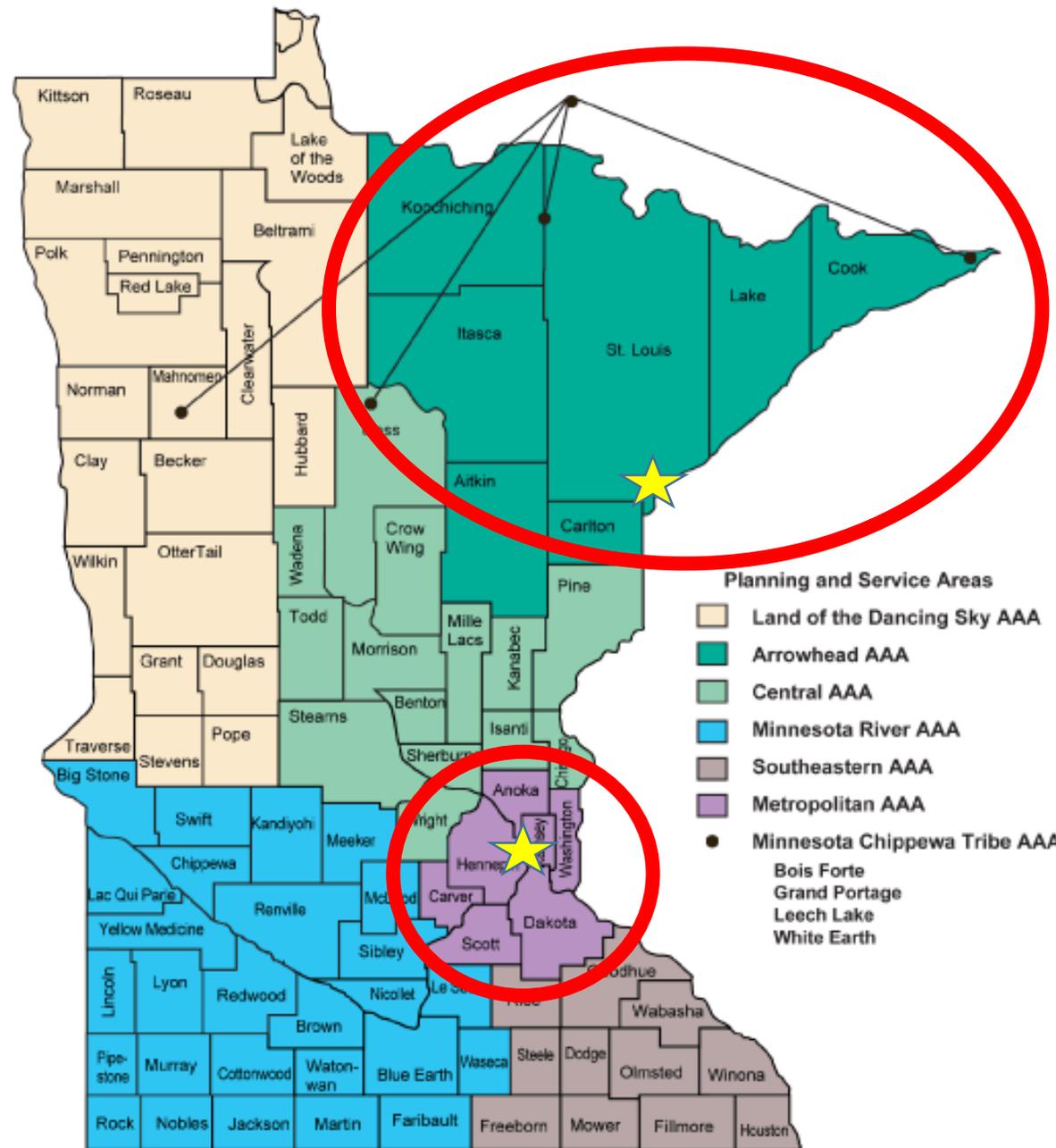
# Minnesota's Transgender Older Adults: Locating a Hidden Population and Identifying Unmet Service Needs.

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# Welcome!

1. Introduction
2. Research Process and Preliminary Results
3. Questions



Kittson, Roseau, Lake of the Woods, Marshall, Beltrami, Koochiching, Polk, Pennington, Red Lake, Hubbard, Norman, Mahnomes, Cleanwater, Itasca, Lake, Cook, Clay, Becker, Hubbard, Aitkin, St. Louis, Wilkin, Otter Tail, Wadena, Crow Wing, Carlton, Todd, Morrison, Pine, Grant, Douglas, Stearns, Benton, Kanabec, Traverse, Stevens, Pope, Sherburne, Isanti, Anoka, Hennepin, Washington, Big Stone, Swift, Kandiyohi, Meeker, Wright, Lac Qui Parle, Chippewa, Renville, McLeod, Carver, Sibley, Scott, Dakota, Lincoln, Lyon, Redwood, Nicolet, Le Sueur, Goodhue, Wabasha, Pipe-stone, Murray, Cottonwood, Watonwan, Blue Earth, Waseca, Steele, Dodge, Olmsted, Winona, Rock, Nobles, Jackson, Martin, Faribault, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore, Houston

# Research Process

- Provider survey
- Interviews with transgender older adults
- Recruitment process and challenges

# Preliminary Survey Results

As of November 1<sup>st</sup>, 93 usable survey responses

Of all usable survey responses, 50 provide medical services, 22 provide housing services, 30 provide social services, and 36 provide aging services.

52 have ever served trans people. Of those, 41 are currently serving trans people.

# Preliminary Survey Results

**32 have ever served trans older adults. Of those, 24 are currently serving trans older adults.**

About one-fourth of providers who have served trans older adults provide services in the Duluth/Arrowhead Region and the rest are in the Twin Cities Metro Area.

Most who serve trans older adults report they have all or most of the skills they need to provide adequate care.

# What do you need to provide the quality of care you would like to provide trans older adults?

- 1. Knowledge about aging-specific needs of transgender people**
- 2. Policies that protect transgender people from discrimination**
- 3. Training on how to talk to transgender people about aging**
4. Training for other staff and supervisors
5. Knowledge about trans-specific care needs
6. Training on how to talk to trans people about gender identity/their bodies
7. Practices that are inclusive and welcoming of trans people
8. Training on creating a safe, welcoming environment
9. Knowledge about being trans/having a trans identity
10. Training for residents/clients
11. Knowledge about living in the world as a trans person

# Insight from Provider Survey Comments

- Need to connect across services
- Training vs. “treat everyone the same”
- Need for local, comprehensive set of medical AND social services

*“I do not always have the resources to serve this population with excellence, in terms of providing adequate social services, or primary care--particularly for patients who are traveling from long distances.”*

*“I have very little actual formal training on working with transgender clients. It has been a learning by experience, reading, an occasional consultation, seeing a topical and highly relevant play, and the generosity of transgender clients teaching me about the experience. I will always have more to learn.”*

# Preliminary Interview Results

As of November 10th, 26 interviews conducted. 19 trans women, 5 trans men, 2 non binary people

Ages range from 56-73, with the bulk of interviewees in the mid 60s

6 live in Arrowhead region, 1 lives in rural southwest Wisconsin but receives care at the Minneapolis VA, 6 live in Minneapolis/St. Paul, and 13 live in Greater Metro Area

Almost all current respondents are white (one Latino, one multiracial)

# Preliminary Interview Results - Themes

- Negative Provider Experiences
- “Positive” Provider Experiences
- Isolation from trans community
- Complex family relationships
- Aging is not chronological
- Rarely articulate clear plans for aging
- Concerns about becoming dependent

# Preliminary Interview Results – Concerns about dependency

*“Being dependent on others who may not get you”*

*“Would rather drop dead than get sick.”*

*“I just want to be treated like an old lady: that’s what I am”*

# Questions?

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