



LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

HEARING DATE: APRIL 7, 2021

Filing Date: March 11, 2021
Case No.: 2021-002579LBR
Business Name: Lyon-Martin Health Services
Business Address: 1735 Mission Street
Zoning: PDR-1-G (PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION & REPAIR - 1 - GENERAL) Zoning District
68-X Height and Bulk District
Block/Lot: 3531/028
Applicant: JM Jaffe, Director of Clinic Operations
1735 Mission Street San Francisco, CA 94103
Nominated By: Supervisor Hillary Ronen
Located In: District 9
Staff Contact: Ryan Balba - 628-652-7331
Ryan.Balba@sfgov.org

Recommendation: Adopt a Resolution to Recommend Approval

Business Description

Lyon-Martin Health Services (also referred to as Lyon-Martin) was originally founded in 1979 by UCSF OBGYN Residents Sherron Mills, Patty Robertson, and Alana Schilling. After completing a study that documented the lack of understanding for how to provide evidence-based health care to lesbians and the subsequent avoidance of health care services by lesbians, they saw the need for a free-standing clinic to give lesbians in the San Francisco Bay Area access to nonjudgmental, affordable health care. Originally known as Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, the nonprofit was named in honor of pioneering lesbian activists, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin.

Lyon-Martin first opened at an unknown address within the Fillmore neighborhood where it remained until 1983. The business subsequently moved to 2480 Mission Street, Suite 214, where they served 200 patients per year until the 1990s. In 2015, Lyon-Martin merged with HealthRIGHT 360, and in 2019, HealthRIGHT 360 facilitated

Lyon-Martin's move to its current location at 1735 Mission Street. This move allowed Lyon-Martin to expand their services to include abortion care and outreach services to unhoused communities.

Lyon-Martin's consistent advocacy has undoubtedly changed how gender affirming surgery coverage is being handled on the local, state and national level. They are a leader in, and is consistently at the forefront of, policy change efforts relating to transgender and lesbian healthcare. Lyon-Martin was the first clinic to successfully obtain Medi-Cal coverage for a variety of gender affirming surgeries including vaginoplasty, phalloplasty, facial feminization surgery, and hair removal. In the early 2000s, Lyon-Martin also became one of the first community clinics in the country with a formalized program to ensure safe access to gender affirming hormone therapy prescriptions and surgery referrals. The business concurrently changed their name from Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services to Lyon-Martin Health Services to be inclusive on the transgender clients that didn't identify as women. Lyon-Martin's commitment to the San Franciscan LGBT community can also be seen through their involvement on the Transgender Advisory Committee to the Mayor's Office of Trans Initiatives, where the business is represented by their current Clinic Director, J.M. Jaffe. 65% of their over 3,000 yearly patients identify as transgender, non-binary, or gender non-conforming.

The business's location at 1735 Mission Street is a Category C (No resource Present / Not Age Eligible) structure on the east side of Mission Street between 13th and Erie streets in the Mission neighborhood. It is within a PDR-1-G (Production, Distribution & Repair - 1 - General) Zoning District, a Fringe Financial Service Restricted Use District, and a 68-X Height and Bulk District. Lyon-Martin is currently looking to move into a new location in the Compton's Transgender Cultural District in the Tenderloin, where the business hopes to incorporate murals created by local transgender and queer artists.

Staff Analysis

Review Criteria

1. *When was business founded?*

The business was founded in 1979.

2. *Does the business qualify for listing on the Legacy Business Registry? If so, how?*

Yes. Lyon-Martin Health Services qualifies for listing on the Legacy Business Registry because it meets all of the eligibility Criteria:

- a. Lyon-Martin Health Services has operated continuously in San Francisco for 42 years.
- b. Lyon-Martin Health Services has contributed to the history and identity of the Mission neighborhood and San Francisco.
- c. Lyon-Martin Health Services is committed to maintaining the physical features and traditions that define the organization.

3. *Is the business associated with a culturally significant art/craft/cuisine/tradition?*

Yes. The business is associated with the medical and health care profession, catering to women, gender non-conforming people, and transgender people of all gender identities and sexual orientations.

4. *Is the business or its building associated with significant events, persons, and/or architecture?*

Yes. The business was named after Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, the lesbian couple known for their activism work fighting for social justice LGBTQ rights. Lyon-Martin is also associated with Dr. Nick Gorton, M.D. Since 2005, Dr. Gorton has been a Clinical Instructor and Primary Care Provider at Lyon-Martin. He is known for co-authoring and co-proposing a resolution to amend the American College of Emergency Physicians "Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians," which was accepted in 2005. He also supported the American Medical Association's adoption of transgender inclusive language within the association's policy, which was accepted in 2007.

Lyon-Martin is also responsible for the creation of TransLine, the first freely available health e-consultation service for transgender people. TransLine is the only service of its kind, connecting experts in transgender care to providers around the nation.

5. *Is the property associated with the business listed on a local, state, or federal historic resource registry?*

No. 1735 Mission was included in the Showplace Square/Northeast Mission Historic Resource Survey (2011), where it received a survey rating of "6Z" (Found ineligible for Nation Register, California Register, or Local designation through survey evaluation).

6. *Is the business mentioned in a local historic context statement?*

No, not as of the date of this Executive Summary.

7. *Has the business been cited in published literature, newspapers, journals, etc.?*

Yes. Lyon-Martin Health Services has been referenced in newspapers, publications, newsletters, and even zines. Some of these include the San Francisco Chronicle, San Francisco Business Times, Bay Area Reporter, and many more. In 1996, the California State Assembly gave Lyon-Martin Health Services a resolution of commendation. In 2019, Transgender Day of Visibility awarded the business with the Heritage Allyship Award.

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business

Location(s) associated with the business:

Current Locations:

- 1735 Mission Street (2018 – Present)

Previous (No Longer Extant) Locations:

- Fillmore (1979 – 1983)
- 2480 Mission Street, Suite 214 (1983 – 1990)
- 1748 Market Street (1990 – 2018)

Recommended by Applicant

- The populations they serve
- Commitment to provide service regardless of ability to pay
- Staff demographics that reflect the community they serve

Additional Recommended by Staff

- Business's logo
- Purple branding
- Purple-accented interior

Basis for Recommendation

The Department recommends the Historic Preservation Commission adopt a resolution recommending the business listed above be adopted by the Small Business Commission to the Legacy Business Registry.

ATTACHMENTS

Draft Resolution

Legacy Business Registry Application:

- Application Review Sheet
- Section 1 – Business / Applicant Information
- Section 2 – Business Location(s)
- Section 3 – Disclosure Statement
- Section 4 – Written Historical Narrative
 - Criterion 1 – History and Description of Business
 - Criterion 2 – Contribution to Local History
 - Criterion 3 – Business Characteristics
- Contextual Photographs and Background Documentation



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION DRAFT RESOLUTION NO.

HEARING DATE: April 7, 2021

Case No.: 2021-002579LBR
Business Name: Lyon-Martin Health Services
Business Address: 1735 Mission Street
Zoning: PDR-1-G (PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION & REPAIR - 1 - GENERAL) Zoning District
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Located In: District 9
Staff Contact: Ryan Balba - 628-652-7331
Ryan.Balba@sfgov.org

ADOPTING FINDINGS RECOMMENDING TO THE SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION APPROVAL OF THE LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY NOMINATION FOR LYON-MARTIN HEALTH SERVICES CURRENTLY LOCATED AT 1735 MISSION ST, BLOCK/LOT 3531/028.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Administrative Code Section 2A.242, the Office of Small Business maintains a registry of Legacy Businesses in San Francisco (the "Registry") to recognize that longstanding, community-serving businesses can be valuable cultural assets of the City and to be a tool for providing educational and promotional assistance to Legacy Businesses to encourage their continued viability and success; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years; and

WHEREAS, the subject business has contributed to the City's history and identity; and

WHEREAS, the subject business is committed to maintaining the traditions that define the business; and

WHEREAS, at a duly noticed public hearing held on April 07, 2021, the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed documents, correspondence and heard oral testimony on the Legacy Business Registry nomination.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends that Lyon-Martin Health Services qualifies for the Legacy Business Registry under Administrative Code Section 2A.242(b)(2) as it has operated for 30 or more years and has continued to contribute to the community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby recommends safeguarding of the below listed physical features and traditions for Lyon-Martin Health Services.

Location(s):

Current Locations:

- 1735 Mission Street (2018 – Present)

Previous (No Longer Extant) Locations:

- Fillmore (1979 – 1983)
- 2480 Mission Street, Suite 214 (1983 – 1990)
- 1748 Market Street (1990 – 2018)

Physical Features or Traditions that Define the Business:

- The populations they serve
- Commitment to provide service regardless of ability to pay
- Staff demographics that reflect the community they serve
- Business's logo
- Purple branding
- Purple-accented interior

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission's findings and recommendations are made solely for the purpose of evaluating the subject business's eligibility for the Legacy Business Registry, and the Historic Preservation Commission makes no finding that the subject property or any of its features constitutes a historical resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5(a).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Historic Preservation Commission hereby directs its Commission Secretary to transmit this Resolution and other pertinent materials in the case file to the Office of Small Business April 07, 2021.

Jonas P. Ionin
Commission Secretary

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Resolution No. ###
April 07, 2021

CASE NO. 2021-002579LBR
1735 MISSION ST

RECUSE:

ADOPTED: April 7, 2021



Legacy Business Registry

Application Review Sheet

Application No.: LBR-2020-21-038
Business Name: Lyon-Martin Health Services
Business Address: 1735 Mission Street
District: District 9
Applicant: J.M. Jaffe, Director of Clinic Operations
Nomination Letter Date: March 1, 2021
Nominated By: Supervisor Hillary Ronen

CRITERION 1: Has the applicant has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years, with no break in San Francisco operations exceeding two years?
☒ Yes ☐ No

Fillmore (unknown address) from 1979 to 1983 (4 years)
2480 Mission Street, Suite 214, from 1983 to 1990 (7 years)
1748 Market Street, Suite 201, from 1990 to 2018 (28 years)
1735 Mission Street from 2018 to Present (3 years)

CRITERION 2: Has the applicant contributed to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community?
☒ Yes ☐ No

CRITERION 3: Is the applicant committed to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms?
☒ Yes ☐ No

NOTES: Lyon-Martin Health Services is seeking separation from HealthRIGHT 360 to become an independent clinic once again. Success of the separation process will be required in order for Lyon-Martin Health Services to remain on the Legacy Business Registry; otherwise the applicant would need to be HealthRIGHT 360.

DELIVERY DATE TO HPC: March 11, 2021

Richard Kurylo
Program Manager, Legacy Business Program

Legacy Business Program
Office of Small Business
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(415) 554-6680
legacybusiness@sfgov.org
www.legacybusiness.org



Member, Board of Supervisors
District 9



City and County of San Francisco

HILLARY RONEN

March 1, 2021

Richard Kurylo, Legacy Business Program Manager
Legacy Business Program
San Francisco Office of Small Business
LegacyBusiness@sfgov.org

Dear Mr. Kurylo:

I am writing to nominate Lyon-Martin Health Services to the Legacy Business Registry.

Lyon-Martin Health Services was founded in San Francisco in 1979 to provide access to health care for lesbians and soon became a model for culturally sensitive community-based health care. The clinic was named for Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, the dynamic couple who spent their lives together fighting for LGBTQ rights and social justice.

Now in its 42nd year, Lyon-Martin Health Services is a community-run nonprofit clinic serving low-income cisgender women and transgender people, with both sensitivity to and familiarity with the specific health care needs of their diverse patient mix. Lyon-Martin currently offers a wide array of services, including routine physicals and general primary care, mental health services, transgender health care, hormone therapy, gender affirming surgery referrals and associated care, gynecological care, reproductive care, and more.

They now report that nearly 65% of their patient population identifies as transgender. The value of Lyon-Martin as a tested and trusted provider of care to transgender San Franciscans cannot be overstated. According to data reported on the National Institutes of Health website¹, the biggest barrier to health care reported by transgender individuals is lack of providers who are sufficiently knowledgeable about their health care needs. LMHS is a unique and life-saving resource for a community that has been the target of horrific discrimination and violence.

Lyon-Martin is a vital asset for the queer and trans communities of San Francisco, and I enthusiastically support their application to be placed on the Legacy Business Registry. For any additional information, please call my Legislative Aide, Amy Beinart, at amy.beinart@sfgov.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Hillary Ronen".

Hillary Ronen, Supervisor, District 9

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4802845/>

Section One:

Business / Applicant Information.

Please provide the following information:

- The name, mailing address and other contact information of the business;
- The name of the person who owns the business. For businesses with multiple owners, identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business;
- The name, title and contact information of the applicant;
- The business's San Francisco Business Account Number and entity number with the Secretary of State, if applicable.

NAME OF BUSINESS:	
Lyon-Martin Health Services	
BUSINESS OWNER(S) (Identify the person(s) with the highest ownership stake in the business):	
HealthRIGHT 360	
CURRENT BUSINESS ADDRESS:	TELEPHONE NUMBER:
1735 Mission Street	(415)565-7667
	EMAIL ADDRESS:
	info@lyon-martin.org
MAILING ADDRESS – STREET ADDRESS:	MAILING ADDRESS – CITY AND STATE:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Business Address	San Francisco, CA
	MAILING ADDRESS – ZIP CODE:
	94103
WEBSITE ADDRESS:	
www.lyon-martin.org & www.savelyonmartin.com	
FACEBOOK PAGE:	
@lyonmartinhealth & @savelyonmartin	
TWITTER NAME:	
@lyonmartinHS& @savelyonmartin	
APPLICANT'S NAME:	APPLICANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER:
JM Jaffe	
APPLICANT'S TITLE:	APPLICANT'S EMAIL ADDRESS:
Director of Clinic Operations	
SAN FRANCISCO BUSINESS ACCOUNT NUMBER:	
SECRETARY OF STATE ENTITY NUMBER (If applicable):	

Section Two:

Business Location(s).

List the business address of the original San Francisco location, the start date of business and the dates of operation at the original location. Check the box indicating whether the original location of the business in San Francisco is the founding location of the business. If the business moved from its original location and has had additional addresses in San Francisco, identify all other addresses and the dates of operation at each address. For businesses with more than one location, list the additional locations in section three of the narrative.

ORIGINAL SAN FRANCISCO ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	START DATE OF BUSINESS
Fillmore		1979
IS THIS LOCATION THE FOUNDING LOCATION OF THE BUSINESS? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		DATES OF OPERATION AT THIS LOCATION 1979 - 10/1983

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
2480 Mission St. Suite 214	94110	Start: 10/1983 End: 1990

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
1748 Market St. San Francisco, CA Suite 201	94102	Start: 1990 End: 05/2018

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
1735 Mission St. San Francisco, CA	94103	Start: 05/2018 End: Current

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start: End:

OTHER ADDRESSES (If applicable)	ZIP CODE	DATES OF OPERATION
		Start: End:

Section Three:

Disclosure Statement.

San Francisco Taxes, Business Registration, Licenses, Labor Laws and Public Information Release.

This section is verification that all San Francisco taxes, business registration and licenses are current and complete, and there are no current violations of San Francisco labor laws. This information will be verified. A business deemed not current with all San Francisco taxes, business registration and licenses, or has current violations of San Francisco labor laws, will not be eligible to apply for grants through the Legacy Business Program.

In addition, we are required to inform you that all information provided in the application will become subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act.

Please read the following statements and check each to indicate that you agree with the statement. Then sign below in the space provided.

- ☒ I am authorized to submit this application on behalf of the business.
- ☒ I attest that the business is current on all of its San Francisco tax obligations.
- ☒ I attest that the business's business registration and any applicable regulatory license(s) are current.
- ☒ I attest that the Office of Labor Standards and Enforcement (OLSE) has not determined that the business is currently in violation of any of the City's labor laws, and that the business does not owe any outstanding penalties or payments ordered by the OLSE.
- ☒ I understand that documents submitted with this application may be made available to the public for inspection and copying pursuant to the California Public Records Act and San Francisco Sunshine Ordinance.
- ☒ I hereby acknowledge and authorize that all photographs and images submitted as part of the application may be used by the City without compensation.
- ☒ I understand that the Small Business Commission may revoke the placement of the business on the Registry if it finds that the business no longer qualifies, and that placement on the Registry does not entitle the business to a grant of City funds.

JM Jaffe

12/16/2020



Name (Print):

Date:

Signature:

LYON-MARTIN HEALTH SERVICES

Section 4: Written Historical Narrative

CRITERION 1

a. Provide a short history of the business from the date the business opened in San Francisco to the present day, including the ownership history. For businesses with multiple locations, include the history of the original location in San Francisco (including whether it was the business's founding and or headquartered location) and the opening dates and locations of all other locations.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services, Inc. ("Lyon-Martin Health Services" or "Lyon-Martin"), currently located at 1735 Mission Street, was established with the California Secretary of State on June 8, 1979.

In 1979, UCSF OBGYN Residents Sherron Mills, Patty Robertson, and Alana Schilling established a free-standing clinic to give lesbians in the San Francisco Bay Area access to nonjudgmental, affordable health care. They founded the clinic in response a study they completed documenting the lack of understanding for how to provide evidence-based health care to lesbians among healthcare providers, and the subsequent avoidance of health care services by lesbians. They named the clinic Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services in honor of pioneering lesbian activists, Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin. The clinic was located in the Fillmore at an unknown address.

In 1983, the clinic moved to 2480 Mission Street, Suite 214. In the 1980s, its staff of seven was led by Executive Director Fran Miller and Medical Director Lisa Capaldini, and they served 200 patients per year.

In the 1990s, the clinic relocated to 1748 Market Street, Suite 201. At that time, Marj Plumb was the Executive Director (1989-1993).

Though Lyon-Martin always provided care to transgender and gender non-conforming communities, in the early 2000s, Lyon-Martin Medical Director Dawn Harbatkin and renowned trans doctor Nick Gorton fully integrated transgender care, becoming one of the first community clinics in the country with a formalized program to ensure safe access to gender affirming hormone therapy prescriptions and surgery referrals within a harm reduction model. At the same time, they also integrated behavioral health care services and changed the organization name through a fictitious business name to Lyon-Martin Health Services rather than Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services to be more inclusive of trans clients that do not identify as women.

In 2015, with Marj as Board President, Lyon-Martin merged with HealthRIGHT 360, headed by CEO Vitka Eisen. HealthRIGHT 360 facilitated Lyon-Martin's relocation its current location at 1735 Mission Street in May 2018 as well as the acquisition of an electronic health record. In

May 2019, HealthRIGHT 360 merged Women's Community Clinic with Lyon-Martin Health Services at 1735 Mission Street, allowing Lyon-Martin to expand services to include abortion care and outreach services to unhoused communities.

Women's Community Clinic was established in 1999. In February 1999, San Francisco faced a crisis when the Women's Needs Center, an organization that provided free health care services to over 4,000 women annually, was forced to shut its doors as the result of financial cutbacks at its parent organization, Haight-Ashbury Free Clinics. Out of concern for the impact the Women's Needs Center's closing would have on the local health care landscape, a group of volunteers and clinicians came together and, with the support of community members, colleagues, family and friends, decided to re-open the clinic as an independent entity. On June 28, 1999, just four months after the Women's Needs Center closed, the Women's Community Clinic opened its doors. The Women's Community Clinic has used an innovative volunteer-based business model to provide affordable and accessible health care services to Bay Area women and girls. With a proven track record of success, the Clinic has earned a reputation as a safe, welcoming environment where uninsured women can access high-quality health services.

Lyon-Martin Health Services and Women's Community Clinic are now, together, seeking separation from HealthRIGHT 360 to become an independent clinic once again. When they separate as one entity from HealthRIGHT 360, their name will be "Lyon-Martin Community Health Services."

Today, Lyon-Martin stands at the forefront of lesbian and transgender health care issues and has assumed a position of national prominence in the area of LGBTQIA+ health services.

b. Describe any circumstances that required the business to cease operations in San Francisco for more than six months?

Lyon-Martin Health Services has not ceased operations in San Francisco since it was established in 1979.

c. Is the business a family-owned business? If so, give the generational history of the business.

Lyon-Martin Health Services is a non-profit organization and not a family-owned business.

d. Describe the ownership history when the business ownership is not the original owner or a family-owned business.

Lyon-Martin was a free-standing nonprofit clinic from 1979-2015. In 2015, HealthRIGHT 360 acquired Lyon-Martin through a merger. Lyon-Martin is now seeking separation to regain independence as a stand-alone nonprofit clinic.

e. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years, the applicant will need to provide documentation of the existence of the business prior to current ownership to verify it has been in operation for 30+ years. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

Documentation of the existence of the business verifying it has been in operation for 30+ years is provided in this Legacy Business Registry application, including newspaper articles from the Bay Area Reporter archives referencing Lyon-Martin Health Services being open since 1979.

f. Note any other special features of the business location, such as, if the property associated with the business is listed on a local, state, or federal historic resources registry.

The historic resource status of the building at 1735 Mission Street is classified by the Planning Department as Category C, No Historic Resource Present / Not Age Eligible, with regard to the California Environmental Quality Act. The building is located in the Showplace Square/Northeast Mission Historic District, but it is not a contributing structure.

Lyon-Martin Health Services has donated much of their historical items to the Bay Area Lesbian Archives. Of note, Lyon-Martin is looking to move into the Transgender District within the next six months, which was the site of the historic Compton's Cafeteria Riots.

CRITERION 2

a. Describe the business's contribution to the history and/or identity of the neighborhood, community or San Francisco.

San Francisco has long been a refuge for LGBTQIA+ communities from around the world. As a leader in transgender and lesbian healthcare, Lyon-Martin not only serves as a safety net clinic for low-income or uninsured lesbian and transgender communities, but it is also as a clinic of choice. Few other community clinics and hospitals truly integrate and prioritize lesbian and transgender communities the way Lyon-Martin has and does. Lyon-Martin was and is on the forefront of policy change efforts to ensure that discrimination based on gender identity is prohibited in the city of San Francisco and state-wide throughout California. Staff at Lyon-Martin played a key role in forcing Healthy San Francisco to lift exclusions of gender affirming surgery from their coverage policies, for the creation of Gender Health SF, for the establishment of the Insurance Gender Non-Discrimination Act, and its enforcement through appealing unlawful denials on a case-by-case basis. Lyon-Martin also provides training and technical assistance to clinics and hospitals across California that want to learn how to integrate trans care organization-wide. Project HEALTH, Lyon-Martin's Trans Health Training program, formalized and expanded the provider training and technical assistance program by adding a student rotation, and a National E-Consultation Service called the TransLine.

Lyon-Martin Health Services hopes to move into, and renovate, a space in the Transgender District with hopes that the physical features of the space will be reflective of Lyon-Martin's commitment to serving these populations with the respect and dignity they deserve. Founded by three Black trans women in 2017 as Compton's Transgender Cultural District, The Transgender District is the first legally-recognized transgender district in the world. Originally named after the first documented uprising of transgender and queer people in United States history, the Compton's Cafeteria Riots of 1966, the district encompasses six blocks in the southeastern Tenderloin and crosses over Market Street to include two blocks of 6th Street.

b. Is the business (or has been) associated with significant events in the neighborhood, the city, or the business industry?

In 2012, Dr. Harbatkin and Dr. Gorton created TransLine, the first and only freely available transgender health e-consultation service. TransLine is an online platform that connects providers nation-wide in need of timely clinical support to experts in transgender care. These experts provide answers to the provider's inquiries within 2 business days.

Lyon-Martin's current Clinic Director, J.M. Jaffe, is the co-chair of the National LGBT Primary Care Alliance, a federal advocacy group that successfully lobbied to HRSA's Bureau of Primary Healthcare to require federal meaningful use Unified Data Systems or UDS reporting (standardized federal data reporting requirements for Federally Qualified Health Centers) to include Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SO/GI) Data. Prior to this, no SO/GI information had been collected on a federal level.

J.M. also represents Lyon-Martin on the Transgender Advisory Committee to the Mayor's Office of Trans Initiatives, which successfully lobbied for the funding and establishment of Our Trans Home SF, the first housing program in the country dedicated entirely to addressing the housing needs of the transgender community.

Through navigating the appeals process, Lyon-Martin was the first clinic to successfully obtain Medi-Cal coverage of a variety of gender affirming surgeries such as vaginoplasty, phalloplasty, facial feminization surgery, and hair removal. This case-by-case appeals advocacy has slowly changed the landscape of gender affirming surgery coverage throughout the state, and now many states are following in California's footsteps, replicating what we have accomplished here across the nation.

In 2012, in collaboration with the Transgender Law Center, Lyon-Martin played a major role in successfully advocating for Healthy San Francisco to remove its exclusions of gender affirming surgery. At the time, it was pre-Affordable Care Act, so most of Lyon-Martin's clients were uninsured and only could access care covered by the city's coverage program.

Each year, Lyon-Martin makes sure to have a presence at San Francisco Pride.

c. Has the business ever been referenced in an historical context? Such as in a business trade publication, media, or historical documents?

Lyon-Martin Health Services has been referenced in countless articles in newspapers, in newsletters, in publications, in zines, and on websites. These include Bay Area Reporter, Hoodline, L-Word Newsletter, Mission Local, NBC News, San Francisco Bay Times, San Francisco Business Times, San Francisco Chronicle, The Potrero View, and more. Lyon-Martin Health Services received a resolution of commendation from the California State Assembly in 1996 and a Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) Heritage Allyship Award in 2019.

d. Is the business associated with a significant or historical person?

Lyon-Martin Health Services was named for Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, two women whose lives and work were intertwined with their enduring dedication to social justice. In 1990, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Northern California awarded the couple with its highest honor, the Earl Warren Civil Liberties Award.

Dr. Nick Gorton, M.D., has been a Primary Care Provider and Clinical Instructor at Lyon-Martin Health Services since March 2005 and was the Acting Medical Director in 2005-2006. He authored and proposed with Vernon A., and Maxey K. a resolution to amend the American College of Emergency Physicians "Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians." It was accepted as policy in October 2005 and now reads (amended language underlined): "Provision of emergency medical treatment should not be based on gender, age, race, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, real or perceived gender identity, or cultural background." Dr. Gorton also supported, as a physician member of the American Medical Association, adoption of inclusive language for transgender people within AMA policy: "Recommendations to Modify AMA Policy to Ensure Inclusion for Transgender Physicians, Medical Students and Patients." It was accepted by the AMA Board of Delegates in July 2007.

e. How does the business demonstrate its commitment to the community?

Lyon-Martin demonstrates its commitment to the community by providing full scope primary care, gynecological care, and mental health services regardless of ability to pay.

One specific project that demonstrates Lyon-Martin's commitment to the community is Project HEALTH (Harnessing Education Advocacy and Leadership in Transgender Health). In 2009, in collaboration with the Transgender Law Center, Lyon-Martin established Project HEALTH to increase access to transgender healthcare nationally through provider education. Project HEALTH aimed to accomplish this through a three-prong approach: by providing didactic trainings and in-depth technical assistance, by establishing a student rotation in transgender health at Lyon-Martin, and by creating TransLine, an e-consultation clinical support service modeled after UCSF's National HIV Warmline to provide expert consultation to other providers in search of clinical support regarding transgender health issues.

f. Provide a description of the community the business serves.

The community served by Lyon-Martin Health Services includes transgender, non-binary, gender non-conforming individuals; intersex individuals; and cis-gender women with specific focus on LGBTQ women. Patients are diverse in age, diverse in ethnicity, and diverse in social circumstance.

Lyon-Martin Health Services believes preventive, educational care is essential to lifelong health and that all people deserve excellent health care, regardless of their ability to pay. They work hard to ensure that each client feels comfortable and safe using their voice to direct the care they receive.

g. Is the business associated with a culturally significant building/structure/site/object/interior?

The organization is not currently associated with a culturally significant building/structure/site/object/interior, but is looking to move from their current location into the Transgender District within the next 6 months.

h. How would the community be diminished if the business were to be sold, relocated, shut down, etc.?

Because Lyon-Martin is the only community clinic that provides dedicated services to lesbian and transgender communities regardless of ability to pay, they never send anyone to collections for not being able to pay their bill. Thus, they are the only safety net clinic in the Bay Area that lesbian and transgender individuals with little to no income or coverage can access readily. Lyon-Martin is small but impactful to those most affected by systemic transphobia, homophobia, racism, ableism, xenophobia, fatphobia, homelessness, and drug use in the Bay Area. Currently, Lyon-Martin is the medical home and mental health provider to over 3,000 patients per year, 65% of which identify as a transgender, non-binary, or gender non-conforming. If Lyon-Martin Health Services were to close, it would be a devastating loss to San Francisco and the Bay Area.

CRITERION 3

a. Describe the business and the essential features that define its character.

Founded in 1979 by a group of medical providers and health activists as a clinic for lesbians who lacked access to nonjudgmental, affordable health care, the clinic soon became a model for culturally sensitive community-based health care. Lyon-Martin Health Services provides primary medical care, sexual and reproductive health care, and mental health services for women, gender non-conforming people, and transgender people of all gender identities and sexual orientations. The organization treats people regardless of ability to pay and assists people with enrollment into a variety of health coverage programs.

Lyon-Martin advocates for the improved health and healthcare of all people, especially the populations they serve. They are a safe, warm, welcoming environment. They recognize each person as unique and value their distinctive point of view. They believe good health means caring for both the body and the mind. They listen to their patients. Their promise is to meet people where they are. Their hope is to help them positively change their life experience. They are non-judgmental and down to earth. Lyon-Martin understands they must both provide health care today and shape the health care of tomorrow.

b. How does the business demonstrate a commitment to maintaining the historical traditions that define the business, and which of these traditions should not be changed in order to retain the businesses historical character? (e.g., business model, goods and services, craft, culinary, or art forms)

Lyon-Martin's most defining traditions are the populations they serve and their commitment to continue to provide service regardless of ability to pay. They also are committed to a by us/for us model of care, ensure their hiring practices reflect the community they serve. For example, Lyon-Martin's leadership team is 5 of 6 transgender and 4 of 6 people of color, with two Black transgender people included.

c. How has the business demonstrated a commitment to maintaining the special physical features that define the business? Describe any special exterior and interior physical characteristics of the space occupied by the business (e.g. signage, murals, architectural details, neon signs, etc.).

Lyon-Martin Health Services hopes to recruit local queer and trans artists to paint murals in our new space in the Transgender District.

d. When the current ownership is not the original owner and has owned the business for less than 30 years; the applicant will need to provide documentation that demonstrates the current owner has maintained the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary, or art forms. Please use the list of supplemental documents and/or materials as a guide to help demonstrate the existence of the business prior to current ownership.

Documentation that demonstrates the business has been a health services organization for 30+ years is included in this Legacy Business Registry application, including a mission statement retained and newspaper articles from the Bay Area Reporter archives.





health
services
**LYON
MARTIN**
A COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHT

**Lee Woodward
Counseling Center
For Women**
ASIAN AMERICAN
RECOVERY SERVICES
A COMMITMENT TO THE RIGHT









ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
Lyon-Martin Community Health Services
A California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

ARTICLE 1.
NAME

The name of the corporation is Lyon-Martin Community Health Services (the "Corporation").

ARTICLE 2.
PURPOSE

Section 2.1 This Corporation is a nonprofit public benefit corporation and is not organized for the private gain of any person. It is organized under the California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation Law for charitable purposes. The general purpose of this Corporation is to have and exercise all rights and powers conferred on nonprofit corporations under the laws of California, provided that this Corporation shall not, except to an insubstantial degree, engage in any activities or exercise any powers that are not in furtherance of the primary purposes of this Corporation.

Section 2.2 This Corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes in accordance with Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). The specific charitable purpose of the Corporation is for relief of the poor, the distressed, and the underprivileged, lessening the burdens of government, and elimination of prejudice and discrimination by providing high quality, compassionate and trauma-informed medical, gynecological, and mental health care services to trans, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and intersex communities and cis-gender women with specific sensitivity to sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, race, ethnicity, and language regardless of immigration status or ability to pay. The Corporation will work to address and eliminate health inequities for the communities it serves by (i) rooting its clinical practice in core foundational frameworks of intersectionality, self-determination, harm reduction, and reproductive and disability justice, (ii) engaging in community outreach leadership development; and (iii) increasing access to culturally responsive care through provider training and education, and policy advocacy. Additionally, this Corporation may engage in any activities that are reasonably related to or in furtherance of its stated charitable purpose.

ARTICLE 3.
CORPORATE OFFICE

The principal office of the Corporation will be located at 1735 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103.

ARTICLE 4.
AGENT OF SERVICE

The name and address in California of the Corporation's initial agent for service of process is Jackson James Miller "JM" Jaffe at 1735 Mission Street, San Francisco, California 94103.

ARTICLE 5.
DEDICATION AND DISPOSITION

Section 5.1 The property of this Corporation is irrevocably dedicated to charitable purposes, and no part of the net income or assets of this Corporation shall ever inure to the benefit of any director, officer, or member of this Corporation or to the benefit of any private individual, except that the Corporation is authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of its exempt purposes.

Section 5.2 Upon the winding up and dissolution of this Corporation, and after paying or adequately providing for the debts and obligations of the Corporation, the remaining assets shall be distributed to a nonprofit fund, foundation, or corporation that is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, and which has established and maintained its tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law.

ARTICLE 6.
LIMITATION OF CORPORATE ACTIVITIES

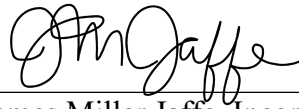
Section 6.1 This Corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles, the Corporation shall not carry on any activities not permitted to be carried on by: (i) a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provision of any future United States internal revenue law; or (ii) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding provisions of any other United States internal revenue law.

Section 6.2 No substantial part of the activities of this Corporation shall consist of lobbying or propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, except as provided in Section 501(h) of the Internal Revenue Code, and this Corporation shall not participate in or interfere in (including publishing or distributing statements) any political campaign on behalf of any candidate for public office.

ARTICLE 7.
DIRECTORS

The number of directors and the manner in which directors shall be chosen and removed from office, their qualifications, powers, duties, term of office, the manner of filling vacancies on the board of directors and the manner of calling and holding meetings of directors shall be as stated in the bylaws.

Adopted February 22, 2021.

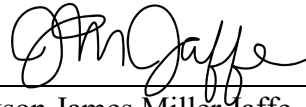
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jm Jaffe", written over a horizontal line.

Jackson James Miller Jaffe, Incorporator

DECLARATION

I declare that I am the person who executed the foregoing articles of incorporation, and such execution is my act and my deed.

Date: February 22, 2021

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jm Jaffe", written over a horizontal line.

Jackson James Miller Jaffe, Incorporator

25 YEARS

The Lyon-Martin Clinic and the rise of lesbian health

by Mary Ann Swissler

In 1979 a fledgling medical clinic in San Francisco was driven by a distinctive guiding principle: that a surprising number of otherwise brave lesbians and bisexual women would rather skip routine medical care altogether than face coming out to a potentially homophobic physician. Those women needed a place to attend to their health needs in comfort, and the newly-formed Lyon-Martin Clinic was it.

"The main thing was that lesbians didn't feel safe going into the traditional system, which is all there was then," said Lyon-Martin co-founder Sharren Mills, who went on to start one of the first sperm banks for lesbians in the country, Pacific Women's Health and Reproductive Services. Other co-founders include Alana Schilling, now an administrator at UCSF Medical Center in the Anatomy Department, and Eileen Title, a Licensed Practical Nurse who still works in the city.

Initially, Lyon-Martin was a twice-weekly night clinic that lasted for four months during 1978 through the efforts of Schilling, Title, Mills and lesbian physician Patty Robertson, who was in her third-year residency at San Francisco General Hospital. The clinic doubled as Robertson's research program in the obstetrics and gynecology dept. which sought to determine the special needs of lesbians. According to Dr. Robertson, who went on to publish some of the first research on lesbians in a mainstream medical journal and is now an associate professor in the OB/GYN Department at UCSF, it turned up an alarming number of women who had not seen a gynecologist in years.

In the 19 years that have passed since the first 148 women came to Patty Robertson's home for patient intake and pap smear results, Lyon-Martin has become a full-range healthcare services agency with a \$3 million annual budget. In addition to the primary medical care clinic, Lyon-Martin's parenting program for lesbian, gay, and bisexual parents and pregnant parents has seen upwards of 1,500 people, and its administrators have visited schools to discuss gay-friendly curriculums. They also have HIV services, cancer support groups, and community health education.

But that progress came one step at a time. After its first four months in the UCSF gynecology area, the clinic was ousted by the returning department chair—but was adopted, ironically, by the Family Planning Clinic right next door.

In fact, Robertson discovered that many of her colleagues who were straight (or at least not openly gay, lesbian, or bisexual), admired her efforts to change the system from within. And although, she told the *B.A.R.*, "I was trying to keep it quiet because I had a very homophobic department chair," word got out anyway. During the chief resident banquet in 1980, Robertson was bestowed a half-serious, half-kidding Public Service Award for her lesbian health clinic.

"There was a shocked silence, because I hadn't been out," said

Robertson, a mother of three.

The early years

According to Mills, the women decided on the clinic's name during one of their many talks in Robertson's living room. Robertson said she thought of it after spotting Del Martin's book *Lesbian/Woman* on her bookshelf. Martin and her longtime lover Phyllis Lyon agreed to be the center's namesakes—and have attended every fundraiser through the years, Mills said.

Lyon-Martin started to come into its own when it moved from the city's Public Health Department clinic in the Castro to the Portolas Medical Building in the Mission District, where it remained for the next ten years. The level of visibility and of fundraising rose considerably in 1982, Schilling said, when Deborah Friedland, M.D. became medical director. That was also the year that San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein issued a city proclamation for Lyon-Martin Appreciation Day.

Lyon-Martin's uniqueness also got the word out to the straight community, said Mills. "Its existence was talked about. The papers that were published about forming Lyon-Martin went into some major journals." Many residents and interns from Bay Area medical schools logged some of their required clinic hours through the clinic, not all of whom were lesbian.

What all three women remember now about that time was the spirit of giving and cooperation. "I think the wonderful thing about Lyon-Martin's early years was the number of volunteers," Schilling said. "Just this really great spirit."

"It was definitely a big part of the gay community. Gay rights really caught fire and took off in 1977. For a lot of us it became a way to get involved in the lesbian community."

"Volunteering was a great way to get involved in the lesbian community," and it became an instant focal point in the women's medical community, not only among lesbian activists.

The '90s

Health administrator Mari Plumb entered the picture as director in 1986. Along with a small group of other lesbian health activists, she went on to push the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 1993 to include lesbians in National Institutes of Health-sponsored medical research. She is also the director of the Office of Gay and Lesbian Health Concerns for New York City, where she lives with her partner Amber Hollibaugh. Hollibaugh was a lesbian activist in San Francisco for many years, and is now the director of the New York-based Women and AIDS Project for the Gay Men's Health Collective.

Plumb, like Schilling, remembers the unique camaraderie of the clinic. "Once we moved to Market Street ('91) and you walked in," she said, "you walked past a buttoned-up white professional lesbian getting ready to go downtown to her job, but stopping in to get her annual pap smear: an African-American



LMC's (l to r) Patty Robertson, Sharren Mills and Alana Schilling.

woman from that neighborhood with children sitting in the exam room; then you had a lesbian punk with rings out of every orifice and places where there are now orifices where there didn't used to be.

"And they were all sitting next to each other. It really was magic."

"I have never had a work experience like that and I would wish that every single human being would have a work experience like that."

Plumb has moved on, but most things have remained the same at Lyon-Martin: the current director, Donna Canali, a regis-

tered nurse, told the *B.A.R.* the clinic sees about 5,000 women every year, straight and bisexual as well as lesbian. "Women come to us because they feel safe, respected, empowered, and confident that they will receive high quality care regardless of ability to pay."

Another thing that hasn't changed for the clinic is that funding is still tricky for a clinic that serves a non-traditional population of women. Lyon-Martin received some special federal funding from healthcare for the homeless money, from state

Proposition 99 dollars, from the San Francisco Department of Public Health, and of course, from private donations, according to Canali; Robertson commented that the complex funding structure is a testament to what the clinic has become.

And, she said, now that the social net that provided a modicum of health insurance for Americans is unraveling, women and children are hit especially hard because they are the most financially vulnerable as a group. Lesbians are hurt more than heterosexual women because they partner with women, giving them less health insurance access.

"And there's an incredible amount of insensitivity out there," she said. "This provides a safe and empowering place to come and have her needs met. It's still important because lesbians are still being discriminated against in the medical establishment."

"As long as lesbians want to be assured that their voice will be heard when healthcare is discussed, Lyon-Martin will continue to be an essential part of our community," she said. ▽

Lyon-Martin is located at 1748 Market Street, Suite 201, across from Valencia Street, in San Francisco, and can be reached at (415) 565-7667.

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FORWARD TOGETHER

NO TURNING BACK!

Lyon-Martin: Women Taking Care of Women

Clinic Care for Women's Physical, Emotional Health
Works to Give Attention to Lesbian Concerns

by Sharon Page

Underrated, underresearched, and underreported, lesbian health issues are still emerging from a closet of neglect and invisibility. In the movements to redress the failings of the medical establishment, lesbian-specific concerns have taken a back seat to heterosexual women's and, more recently, gay men's health needs.

Working to ensure attention to lesbian wellness is the Lyon-Martin Clinic for Women's Health Services. Now in its sixth year, the clinic is unique in three respects. It goes beyond gynecological care to provide comprehensive primary services. It is San Francisco's only such women's health care facility that is not for profit. And it is especially concerned with lesbian medical and emotional needs.

What are the health concerns specific to lesbians? Executive director Fran Miller and medical director Lisa Capaldini targeted lack of access to informed and sensitive care as the root problem. Rather than undergo demeaning, homophobic treatment by medical providers, many lesbians defer routine health examinations, causing delayed diagnosis and intervention. Some lesbians have gone without attention for as long as ten years, said Miller, after a negative experience with the medical system.

Miller noted that average intervals between pap smears, a simple, routine test for cervical cancer, is more than twice as long for lesbians as for heterosexual women. She explained that,

though the cervical cancer rate for lesbians is not higher than that of other women, abnormalities are often not detected until later, less treatable stages.

Many conditions thought of as "women's health issues" are related to heterosexual activity, such as contraception, pregnancy and sexually-transmitted disease, Capaldini pointed out. "The medical establishment has focused on reproductive health to the detriment of women's other concerns, like breast cancer and osteoporosis," she said.

Lesbians are at high risk for "environmentally-related" conditions, such as substance abuse, stress, and depression.

With a staff of seven, Lyon-Martin Clinic currently serves

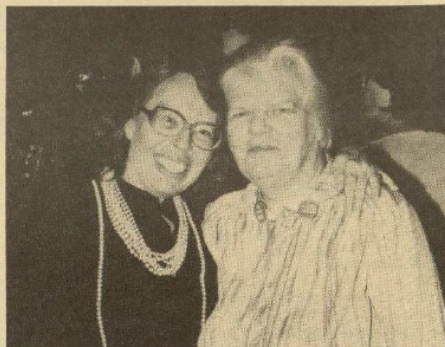
over 200 women each month. Almost three-quarters of these are lesbians and about one-quarter women of color. The clinic's location in the heart of the Mission district and its bilingual, multicultural staff are drawing in growing numbers of Latinas of all sexual orientations.

Miller described the clinic's most effective means of promotion as word of mouth. In a recent survey of community health clinics, she said, 92 percent of Lyon-Martin clients reported being "very satisfied" with their experience.

In response to community demand, the clinic is expanding its services, with plans to offer massage, acupuncture, and chiropractic. An art gallery showcasing local talent has become a permanent feature of the facility. Miller enthusiastically encourages artists to submit exhibit proposals.

Recently Lyon-Martin kicked off an ongoing series of lectures on topical issues, held the last Thursday of each month in conjunction with the Iris Project, a substance abuse counseling service. The June 26 program features a discussion on Women and AIDS, with Nancy Shaw of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation.

The AIDS crisis has impacted lesbian health concerns in several ways, according to Miller and



Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin

(Photo: Rink)

Capaldini. Most directly affected by the medical and social implications of the emergency are lesbians who are considering or who have had gay male sperm donors, and those co-parenting with gay men. Lyon-Martin is handling increasing inquiries from such women.

More generally, Capaldini said, the epidemic has shifted the perception of gay health issues back to a contagion-centered illness mode, rather than a proactive health maintenance focus. And the pressing needs of the AIDS tragedy have further deflected attention and resources from life-threatening problems facing lesbians, such as cancer and alcoholism.

On the positive side, Miller expressed hope that a stronger alliance can be forged between lesbians and gay men in the fight for responsive and empowering health care. She recalled an AIDS panel where "hearing men describe their oppressive experiences with the medical system took me right back to the early days of the women's health movement. Lesbians have for years provided leadership in developing analysis and politics around access to appropriate care, self-help, and alternative services. It's crucial that gay men understand their self-interest in supporting lesbian health organizing."

Capaldini noted that the AIDS crisis has meant that "more people are coming out to health providers, forcing the medical estab-

lishment to deal with gayness." She stressed the growing opportunities to raise consciousness within the system and to demand access to care for all those currently discriminated against by institutionalized medicine.

Homophobia, combined with the historic trivialization of women's health concerns, has left an entrenched legacy of ignorance to overcome. "It's been so difficult to get accurate data. There's so much we still don't know about lesbian health issues," said Capaldini. To fill the informational gaps, Lyon-Martin participates in a variety of research projects in cooperation with, for example, Project AWARE, UCSF, and the National Lesbian and Gay Health Education Foundation.

With the evident need for more research, outreach, and services to lesbians, Miller identified funding as the biggest challenge facing the clinic. To ensure accessibility to low-income women, Lyon-Martin offers sliding scale fees. To cope with shrinking public funding and tough competition for private and foundation monies, Miller stresses a lean administrative budget, careful long-range planning, and an expanding fee-for-service revenue basis.

The clinic's founders chose its name to honor the pioneering work of Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin in forging a feminist movement and lesbian community. "Though not formally affiliated with the clinic, Del and Phyllis have always been very supportive of our efforts," said Miller.

Lyon-Martin maintains an extensive referral service, offering information on counselors, physical therapists, and a wealth of lesbian-positive support groups of all kinds. Capaldini summed up the clinic's mission this way: "We are committed to providing quality, comprehensive care in a relaxed and comfortable environment. We take the best from the Western medical model and combine it with other therapeutic disciplines and plain common sense for a holistic approach."

As Miller put it, "Each day we open our doors is a new measure of our success."

Lyon-Martin Clinic is located in the Los Portales Medical Building, 2480 Mission Street. For more information, call 641-0220.

MCC

(Continued from previous page)

contingent is "well received, even by people I've never seen." As he views it, the church is liked—generally respected, considered to be reasonably effective in delivering on what it says it's going to do."

Making a final point about AIDS, Mitulski said, "God does not cause AIDS. God is not punishing us. God is suffering with AIDS right now. God is the source of tremendous healing." What many do not understand, he indicated, is that the healing they receive in answer to prayer may be spiritual rather than physical.

Sandmire spoke of the impact MCC has had on mainline churches since its founding by Rev. Troy D. Perry almost 18 years ago. "There is a growing sense in other churches that gay people are there among them, and it's forcing [the churches] to minister to them in a sense of wholeness, not exception." Meanwhile, separate gay organizations and caucuses have formed in almost every denomination.

"Many of these groups," Sandmire pointed out, "started within or were sanctioned and supported by MCC because we recognized that not everyone wanted to leave their home church." Sandmire helped gay Mormons start Affirmation while he was an elder in MCC.

He sees this movement as having been "very influential in mainline churches. I don't think it's big but it's vigorous. It's causing the churches to reevaluate not only their theology but their programs."

Adding to the pressure is MCC's application to join the National Council of Churches. While it has thus far been rejected, the continuing dialogue between the organizations is, Sandmire said, "having tremendous worldwide influence that's having an effect on the whole community."

In a statement that might sound paradoxical without closer examination, Mitulski declared, "Our spirituality is a gift that we bring to the larger community."

Golden Gate MCC (474-4848) worships at 48 Belcher Sundays at 12:30 and 7 p.m. MCC of San Francisco (863-4434) has Sunday services at 10:30 a.m. at 150 Eureka and hopes to reinstate Sunday evening worship on a weekly basis in the near future. They sponsor the AIDS healing service on the third Monday of each month.

On Gay Freedom Day MCC of San Francisco will have a pre-parade communion service at 9:30. Golden Gate MCC will hold a 9 a.m. worship service. All of the Bay Area MCC's will worship together at 7 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Post and Mason. As always, visitors are welcome.



Del and Phyllis in the early years

New! Transgender Health Care Consultation Service

BY ADMIN | SEP 20, 2012 | FEATURED, PRESS RELEASES



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Lyon-Martin Health Services and Transgender Law Center Launch National Medical Consultation Service, TransLine

Transgender people have unique health care needs yet often avoid seeking medical care due to a history of discrimination and lack of knowledge or experience among health care providers. In response, Project HEALTH today launched TransLine (www.project-health.org/transline), a first of its kind online medical consultation service that provides up-to-date clinical information and individualized case consultation across a broad range of clinical transgender issues. TransLine will be staffed by transgender health experts in clinical practice and is available to health care providers nationwide, free of charge.

TransLine will give any clinician – regardless of geography – access to assistance to address difficult questions. This service will be critical for providers who have not previously cared for transgender patients.

Transgender people face a number of hurdles in accessing health care. Due to workplace discrimination, transgender people are twice as likely to be unemployed and without employer-based health insurance plans, with uninsured rates ranging from 21 to 64 percent. Those with coverage face pervasive, discriminatory “transgender exclusions” and are denied transgender-specific health services including hormones and surgery. Further, when transgender people do engage in health care, they face extreme levels of provider bias and more than 70 percent of transgender patients report experiencing some form of discrimination. Compounding the issue, most medical providers are not equipped with trans-specific medical knowledge as it is rare for medical students to receive any training in transgender health.

“No one should ever have to feel like going to the doctor is an additional risk for discrimination or mistreatment,” said Masen Davis, Executive Director of Transgender Law Center, “Doctors need access to transgender health care information so that they can fulfill their goals of providing the best possible care to all patients regardless of their gender identity or expression.”

TransLine is hosted by Project HEALTH, an innovative medical-legal collaboration between San Francisco’s Lyon-Martin Health Services (LMHS) and Transgender Law Center. Project HEALTH is dedicated to expanding access to culturally and medically competent health care for transgender individuals.

TransLine was designed by LMHS and Transgender Law Center in collaboration with Callen Lorde Community Health Center (New York), Fenway Health (Boston), Mazzoni Center (Philadelphia), Howard Brown Health Center (Chicago), and Chase Brexton Health Services (Baltimore).

Lyon-Martin Health Services, a leading community health center serving women, lesbians and transgender individuals since 1979, currently provides informal, ad-hoc transgender medical consultation to a wide spectrum of providers and advocates. “It was time for us to formalize this information and build a comprehensive resource of sound medical information about transgender patients because it has never been more urgently needed than today,” said Dawn Harbatkin, MD, Executive Director. “We know traditional health centers will begin to welcome new transgender patients next year and we want to make sure they have the tools to offer culturally and medically competent care.”

TransLine will initially be staffed by LMHS clinicians, who will respond to inquiries within two business days, and will eventually grow to include expert clinicians working at other LGBT health centers across the country. This nationwide collaboration will lead to the establishment of a national standard for transgender health care and identify best practices that can be shared.

About Project HEALTH

Founded in 2008, Project HEALTH – Harnessing Education, Advocacy, and Leadership for Transgender Health – provides training and technical assistance to health centers and providers, increases community member and provider participation in health advocacy, promotes acceptance and changes cultural norms around gender identity and gender expression, and works to bridge the gap between providers and patients. Learn more at www.project-health.org.

About LMHS

Lyon-Martin Health Services provides excellent health care to women, lesbians and transgender people in a safe and compassionate environment with sensitivity to sexual and gender identity; services are provided regardless of ability to pay. It is the only community clinic in the country with this focus. Founded in 1979 by a group of medical providers and health activists for lesbians seeking nonjudgmental affordable health care, Lyon-Martin is named after well-known feminists and LGBTQ civil rights activists Phyllis Lyon and Del

Martin and is a model for culturally sensitive community-based health care. For more information, please visit our website at www.lyon-martin.org.

About Transgender Law Center

Founded in 2002, TransgenderLawCenter is the largest organization in the United States dedicated to changing law, policy and attitudes so that all people can live safely, authentically, and free from discrimination regardless of their gender identity or expression. In partnership with constituents and allies, TransgenderLawCenter works to realize a future in which gender self-determination and expression are seen as basic rights and matters of common human dignity. In the past decade, TransgenderLawCenter has provided free legal assistance and information to more than 10,000 transgender and gender non-conforming people and their families. Over 1,500 people from across the nation called our legal help line in 2011 alone. TLC is found online at www.transgenderlawcenter.org.

Contact: Dawn Harbatkin, MD

Executive Director

dawn@lyon-martin.org

415-901-7110

ABOUT

Transgender Law Center (TLC) is the largest national trans-led organization advocating self-determination for all people. Grounded in legal expertise and committed to racial justice, TLC employs a variety of community-driven strategies to keep transgender and gender nonconforming people alive, thriving, and fighting for liberation.

CONTACT US

Transgender Law Center

PO Box 70976

Oakland, CA 94612-0976

phone: 510.587.9696

collect line for people in prison and detention: 510.380.8229

Media Requests

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Clinic Caters to Lesbian Community

Published on July, 2015 — in News — by Ben Taylor

Lyon-Martin Health Services, located in Hayes Valley, has long been known as the go-to clinic for the lesbian community. Founder Patty Robertson and a tight-knit crew of volunteers started the clinic at a time when health centers were springing up to fight against the AIDS epidemic, catering specifically to gay men.

“It came about from a study at UCSF seeing why patients were seeking care in the E.R.,” clinic director Elizabeth Sekera said. Robertson noted that lesbians were seeking emergency room treatment for health issues that could’ve been prevented, had they had access to primary care. “She found that they weren’t seeking out care, for fear of the discrimination that they were facing. So she started a little clinic in 1979, and we are still here,” said Sekera, a registered nurse who has worked at Lyon-Martin since 2008.

Lyon-Martin has been at the forefront of educating other medical clinics in lesbian and transgender health care issues, garnering national prominence in the area of LGBT health care. Today, the clinic provides care to lesbians and women of color, low-income, older, who have disabilities and are transgender.

“It was really was a natural progression,” said Sekera. “In the ‘80s and ‘90s there were definitely a lot of butch-type identities within the lesbian community, and as more options came available, some of those folks decided that as well as their butch identity they may also have a trans-identity,” Sekera said. “It was around 2002 that we decided that it made sense that if we really were a women’s clinic we should also open up to transwomen,” Sekera said.

Lyon-Martin almost closed in 2011, burdened by roughly \$1 million in unpaid taxes and delinquent loans. The financial meltdown, said clinic director Dawn Harbatkin, was the result of poor management, along with changes to a City contract, and the sale of the building in which the clinic is housed.

“Money was owed to the California Primary Care Association Venture Capital Board for a bridge loan, taken out to cover when the state was paying for Medi-Cal with IOUs,” Harbatkin said. “The lack of funds were due to a number of challenges

that the previous executive director and board faced, including a very difficult economy and decrease in grant funding and fundraising, poor billing infrastructure and oversight, and a lack of communication between the executive director and the board, which led to a misunderstanding of our financial status.”

According to Harbatkin, the financial challenges elicited an outpouring of community support. By 2012 Lyon-Martin staff and supporters had raised almost \$600,000 to stabilize operations. Since then new management and a new board of directors have been brought on.

“Our community saved us, which was a really amazing thing,” Sekera said. “With the new board of directors the goal really became how do we make Lyon-Martin stick around forever, or as long as we are needed? I think the goal ultimately is that queer healthcare can be incorporated, to a certain extent. I think it’s always nice to see your identity reflected among staff, and just wherever you are seeking services. We don’t want to be erased completely, but this sort of care should be more incorporated into general daily practices for all providers,” Sekera said.

Earlier this year Lyon-Martin merged with HealthRIGHT360, a family of health centers and behavioral health programs that serves communities throughout California. The arrangement enabled both organizations to expand their culturally competent primary care and behavioral health services to greater numbers of women and LGBT community members.

“Within the healthcare environment right now, when we’re looking at healthcare reform and just how you survive as a small, nonprofit clinic, there’s not many answers, but one of the obvious ones is a merger,” Sekera said. The union enabled the clinic to significantly reduce its overhead costs, and focus solely on the actual delivery of that care.

“We looked down a lot of avenues, but *healthRIGHT360* came out as a real ally and partner for us, and they remain very committed to us keeping our own identity. So instead of changing our name to a *health 360* clinic, we are now Lyon-Martin Health Services, A Program of Healthcare 360. We are part of their family of programs,” Sekera said.

Though multiple Bay Area organizations work in and for the LGBT community, according to Sekera it remains an underserved demographic. Lyon-Martin, she said, strives to create a safe and comfortable environment, where people can expect to receive health care regardless of their gender identity.

“If someone is coming in and seeking specifically trans-health care, maybe seeking transitional services, or perhaps just inquiring as to what that could look like for them, we can definitely provide that. But if they also have a high blood pressure, we want to help them with that too,” Sekera said.

Among the services that Lyon-Martin Healthcare Clinic provides are breast/chest health screenings and referrals, hormone therapy for gender transition, HIV and sexually transmitted disease testing and treatment, chronic disease

management, vaccinations, trans-affirmative gynecologic care, family planning, and mental health counseling.

According to Sekera, transgender individuals who are seeking mental health services can have a hard time finding a therapist or a care provider that has experience working with gender identity issues. "Having a space where people know that their therapists know what they are talking about is important. Otherwise it can be very vulnerable for individuals to seek out, without knowing how a therapist, or any care provider, feels or any sort of discrimination that they might face. So it's really just around knowing, if they do need any mental health services, they know that they can get competent services here," Sekera said.

Lyon-Martin educates and guides other clinics and organizations, raising awareness about transgender care and providing safe and respectful practices, through Project Health. Under the project Lyon-Martin doctors and nurses visit health facilities that're interested in providing trans-services but which may be nervous about providing that sort of care, due to lack of knowledge, training, and experience.

"So we'll go in and we'll do trainings starting with the front office staff, all the way back to the care providers, to get them up and running on creating systems to be able to serve their clients," Sekera said. "That really came from a lot of clients that were driving hours and hours to seek our services. And so it made a lot of sense to be like, 'oh! Well there's other qualified healthcare centers in your area. Why don't we partner with them, and train them how to do this care,'" Sekera said.

Lyon-Martin also sponsors a clinical rotation for nurse practitioner students. "The thing that is really amazing about that is that, yes, they learn about how to provide medical transition and talk about social transition with patients, but they also learn how to make it more about the patients' overall health, and not only about their trans-health. So it's really more a model of care that they're learning here," Sekera said.

Lyon-Martin runs Trans Line, a web platform in which health care providers can submit questions to the clinic's staff, receiving a response within two business days.

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TODAY'S MISSION

Rally held to protest proposed move and service reduction for Lyon-Martin Health Services, Women's Community Clinic

 by LOI ALMERON
MARCH 12, 2020



More than 80 supporters attend Thursday's rally for Lyon-Martin and the Women's Community Clinic. Photo by Loi Almeron.

More than 80 nurses, providers, and supporters came together Thursday evening to rally against the proposed relocation and reduction of services at Lyon-Martin Health Services and Women's Community Clinic.

These clinics, currently located at 1735 Mission Street near the Central Freeway, serve cis women and trans and gender nonconforming patients by providing services such as primary medical care and mental health treatment.

On March 10, clinic staff were informed by HealthRIGHT 360 Chief Healthcare Officer Ana Valdés that the parent company would be "moving the services" of Lyon-Martin and the Women's Community Clinic

from the 1735 Mission St. location to HealthRIGHT 360's main headquarters, two blocks away at 1563 Mission St., near South Van Ness.

Demonstrators at Thursday's SEIU Local 1021-organized rally argued that this consolidation of money-losing clinics would result in a drastic reduction of services for the clinics' vulnerable treatment populations.

After receiving the "clinic transition modeling" plan from HealthRIGHT 360, clinic workers are concerned that its caseload will be reduced from serving more than 3,000 patients to between 300 to 900 patients. That is a 70 to 90 percent drop in clientele served.



"Trans people are often the most marginalized in every way," said Jennifer Esteen, a psychiatric nurse and vice president of organizing at SEIU Local 1021.

Esteen said that not all HealthRIGHT 360 staff are trained to properly interact with gender nonconforming clients and meet their specialized medical needs.

Lyon-Martin "is a bastion of care," Esteen said. "They have staff who won't misgender people and they provide care that is not available in other places." Even private hospitals "don't have the capacity to offer the same level of care," she said.

The clinics' backers are turning to the Mayor's Office, the Department of Public Health, and the Board of Supervisors.

Throughout 2020, the Mission has been the center of
the pandemic in San Francisco.

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“We are in a public health crisis and a public health crisis is no time to be closing care clinics like Lyon-Martin,” said District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman at the rally.

After looking at financial possibilities with HealthRIGHT 360, clinic backers are asking the city to subsidize one-time supplementary funding of \$1.4 million for two years to help continue providing services.

“It would be enough to give them some breathing room,” Esteen said.

“The queer and trans community are no strangers to pandemic,” said JM Jaffe, former trans health manager at Lyon-Martin. “Whether we’re talking about the AIDS crisis, the opioid epidemic, suicide, targeted violence, wars, or general access to healthcare, trans people, especially trans women of color, have been in it. We are no strangers to feeling our own mentality.”

Jaffe said that Lyon-Martin offers services that no other providers can give to the trans community. “We are the only clinic that will never send you to collections when you get a bill,” they said.

Trans-inclusive SF clinic may close its doors in midst of coronavirus epidemic



By [Sam Lew](#) - Published on March 17, 2020.

[San Francisco](#) [Mission](#)

One of the nation’s leading transgender-inclusive clinics may soon be closing its doors — despite the ongoing coronavirus outbreak.

On Thursday, over 80 people gathered in front of the Mission's Lyon-Martin Health Services and Women’s Community Clinic (1735 Mission St.) to protest its imminent closure. While there is no set closure date for the clinic, it could happen as early as May.

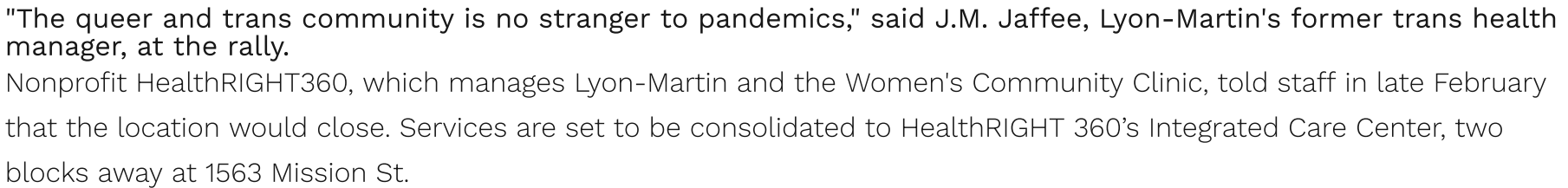
“We are here today to take back our clinic,” J.M. Jaffe, Lyon-Martin's former trans health manager, told the crowd. “We will not let it shut down without a fight.”

Lyon-Martin and the Women's Community Clinic primarily provide services to low-income, uninsured or underinsured transgender people and cisgender women. The two clinics served 3,000 patients in 2019 — an increase of over 70% from the previous year.

For transgender clients, services include hormone therapy for gender transition, trans-affirming gynecologic care, and referrals to trans-sensitive mammography. The clinic offers assistance to clients seeking genital surgery, hair restoration, chest surgery, and body contouring.

“This is as lifesaving for trans people as insulin is for diabetics,” said Dr. Nick Gorton, who has worked at the clinic for 15 years.





Many transgender clients say that Lyon-Martin is the only space where they feel safe enough to receive services.

"The clinic saved my life a lot of times," said Jae Cripe, who has been a patient at the clinic for 10 years. "Transphobia makes it hard for people to access care and to know that doctors will treat you with respect and dignity."

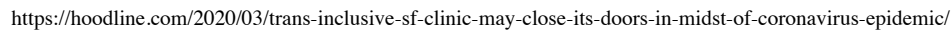
The announcement came shortly after health clinic staff unionized under SEIU 1021, which represents healthcare workers, government employees, and nonprofit agencies.

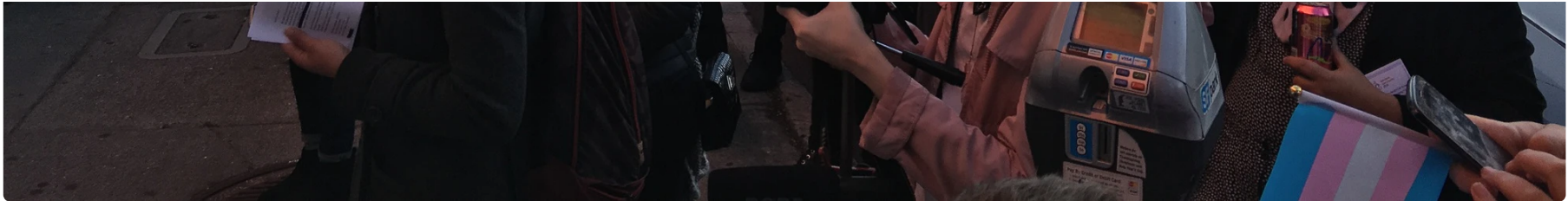
While HealthRIGHT 360 says it's committed to keeping the services that the community clinic offers, "it's completely not financially sustainable to do so," said its communications director, Lauren Kahn. Lyon-Martin and the Women's Community Clinic are operating at a loss of \$800,000 per year.

HealthRIGHT 360 and the two clinics have called on the city to provide funds to keep their doors open for the next two years, while they figure out how to sustain themselves over the long term, or seek alternatives.

The amount of money they'll need, they say, is close to \$1.4 million over two years.

“Without that happening very soon, we’re not going to have a choice but to consolidate,” said Kahn.





Over 80 people, including District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, attend the rally in support of saving the community clinic.

The clinic has at least one key supporter: District 8 Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who represents the Castro.

“I cannot allow Lyon-Martin, which has been a part of the queer community in San Francisco for 40 years, to close on my watch,” Mandelman said at the rally. “A public health crisis is no time to close care clinics like Lyon-Martin.”

A Hoodline reporter reached out to Mandelman to inquire as to his plans to help fund the clinic, but did not receive a response by press time.

In the meantime, the two clinics have started a [GoFundMe account](#) and an [Instagram page](#) to assist their efforts to keep their doors open — as they continue to face overwhelming demand.

“I’ve seen so many people pass away because they’re too afraid to go to a clinic,” said Sindura Reddy, Lyon-Martin's community engagement coordinator, noting that the clinic's patients currently face a six-month-long waitlist for mental health services. “This city needs to step up and support trans people.”


San Francisco

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In Memoriam: Phyllis Lyon, LGBTQ Civil Rights Pioneer

The loss of a legend.

Posted on April 10, 2020

LGBTQ civil rights icon Phyllis Lyon died yesterday from natural causes at her home in San Francisco. She was 95. She and her spouse Del Martin were [the first same-sex couple to marry legally in San Francisco](#) in 2008—but her contribution to LGBTQ equality goes far beyond that.



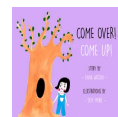
Del Martin, center left, and Phyllis Lyon, center right, are married by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom, center, in a special ceremony at City Hall in San Francisco, Monday, June 16, 2008. Also pictured are the couple's witnesses, Roberta Achtenberg, left, and Donna Hitchens. Lyon and Martin became the first officially married same sex couple after California's Supreme Court declared gay marriage legal. Photo credit: AP Photo/Marcio Jose Sanchez [via Bilerico Project California Marriage Equality Flickr set](#). Used under a [\(CC BY-NC-ND 2.0\)](#) license.

Among her many accomplishments, Lyon (along with Martin) was in 1955 one of the eight founders of Daughters of Bilitis (DOB), the first political lesbian rights organization in the United States. In 1956, the organization held the first known discussion groups on lesbian motherhood. In 2004, she and Martin, who were together for over five decades, were also the first to wed when San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom began marrying couples—marriages that were then revoked by the state. The couple were then among the plaintiffs in the 2008 case in which the state Supreme Court ruled same-sex couples have the right to marry. They wed in June of that year, just two months before [Martin's death](#).



2021

Looking Ahead to
2021



An Everyday
Backyard
Adventure (and
Two Moms) in New
Picture Book

2020

2020 LGBTQ
Parenting Year in
Review



What Queer
Parents Can Teach
All Families



Two Picture Books
Offer Joyous
Portrayals of Black
Trans Kids and
Supportive Families

Categories

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The National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), which represented the couple in the 2008 case, [adds this](#) about Lyon's life:

Phyllis began her work in civil rights activism after she received a degree in journalism from the University of California at Berkeley in 1946. Shortly after graduating, Lyon met her partner Del and the two began working on behalf of lesbians in their community. Lyon and Martin both devoted their lives to working towards full LGBTQ equality, healthcare access, advocacy on behalf of battered women, and issues facing elderly Americans. Their many contributions over the past five decades helped shape the modern LGBTQ movement.

Lyon and Del are credited by the venerable Reverend Cecil Williams for helping shape an LGBTQ-inclusive vision for Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco—including programs that helped shelter and protect LGBTQ youth who sought refuge in San Francisco to avoid discrimination and persecution in their hometowns. The couple was also co-founders of the Daughter of Bilitis, the first political and social organization for Lesbian in the United States. In 1956, they launched "The Ladder," the first lesbian newsletter, which became a lifeline for hundreds of women isolated and silenced by the restrictions of the era. Activists established Lyon-Martin Health Services named in honor of Phyllis and Del in 1979.

Former NCLR Executive Director Kate Kendell, who became close friends with the couple, [observes](#) that "Few individuals did more to advance women's and LGBTQ rights than Phyllis Lyon.... After Del's death in August of 2008, I still had Phyllis in my life, even as dementia took a lot of her memory, she never lost her spirit, joy or sense of humor. I will miss her every day, but am comforted knowing she and Del are finally together again."

As current NCLR Executive Director Imani Rupert-Gordon, put it, "Her activism changed what we thought was possible, and her strength inspired us. Her vision helped forge our path and made organizations like NCLR possible. And although the path is lonelier without her, we know the way because of her."

You can also teach young children a little about these remarkable women through Gayle Pitman's picture book [When You Look Out the Window](#) (Magination Press), which shows how they fell in love, bought a house, and worked to transform San Francisco and its LGBTQ community.

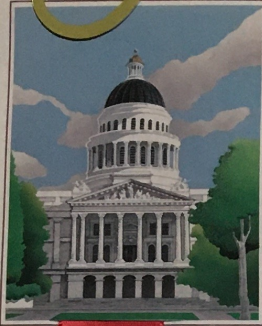
My deepest condolences to Lyon's family and friends. Her family has requested that gifts in her honor be made to the [Lyon-Martin Health Clinic](#).

Below is a trailer from *One Wedding and a Revolution*, the film by Academy Award-winning director (and lesbian mom) Debra Chasnoff, about the couple and the fight for marriage equality in California. It is but a small glimpse into the life of a pioneer and hero.

One Wedding and a Revolution Trailer



Assembly



RESOLUTION

By the Honorable Carole Migden, 13th Assembly District; and
the Honorable John L. Burton, 12th Assembly District; Relative to commending

LYON-MARTIN WOMEN'S HEALTH SERVICES

WHEREAS, Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services was established in San Francisco in 1979 to provide lesbians and bisexual women with their unmet health care needs, and continues to be a national model for lesbian health care; and

WHEREAS, Lyon-Martin never turns anyone away because of lack of ability to pay and has expanded its mission to include women of color, women with disabilities, older women, low-income, homeless women, immigrants, survivors of domestic violence, and transgender persons; and

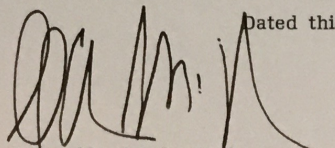
WHEREAS, Lyon-Martin has established a model HIV program specifically to meet the special prevention and treatment needs of lesbians and all women which were not being fulfilled through programs designed primarily for men; and

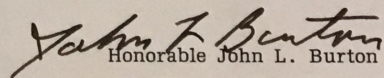
WHEREAS, Historically, the staff, board, and volunteers of Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services have not only delivered exemplary health services to their San Francisco community but have been leaders in promoting the health care needs of women, and lesbians in particular, on a local, state, and national level; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY ASSEMBLY MEMBERS CAROLE MIGDEN AND JOHN L. BURTON, That they do hereby extend their admiration and appreciation for the invaluable contribution that Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services has made on behalf of women's health care.

Members Resolution No. 1996

Dated this 15th day of November, 1996


Honorable Carole Migden
13th Assembly District

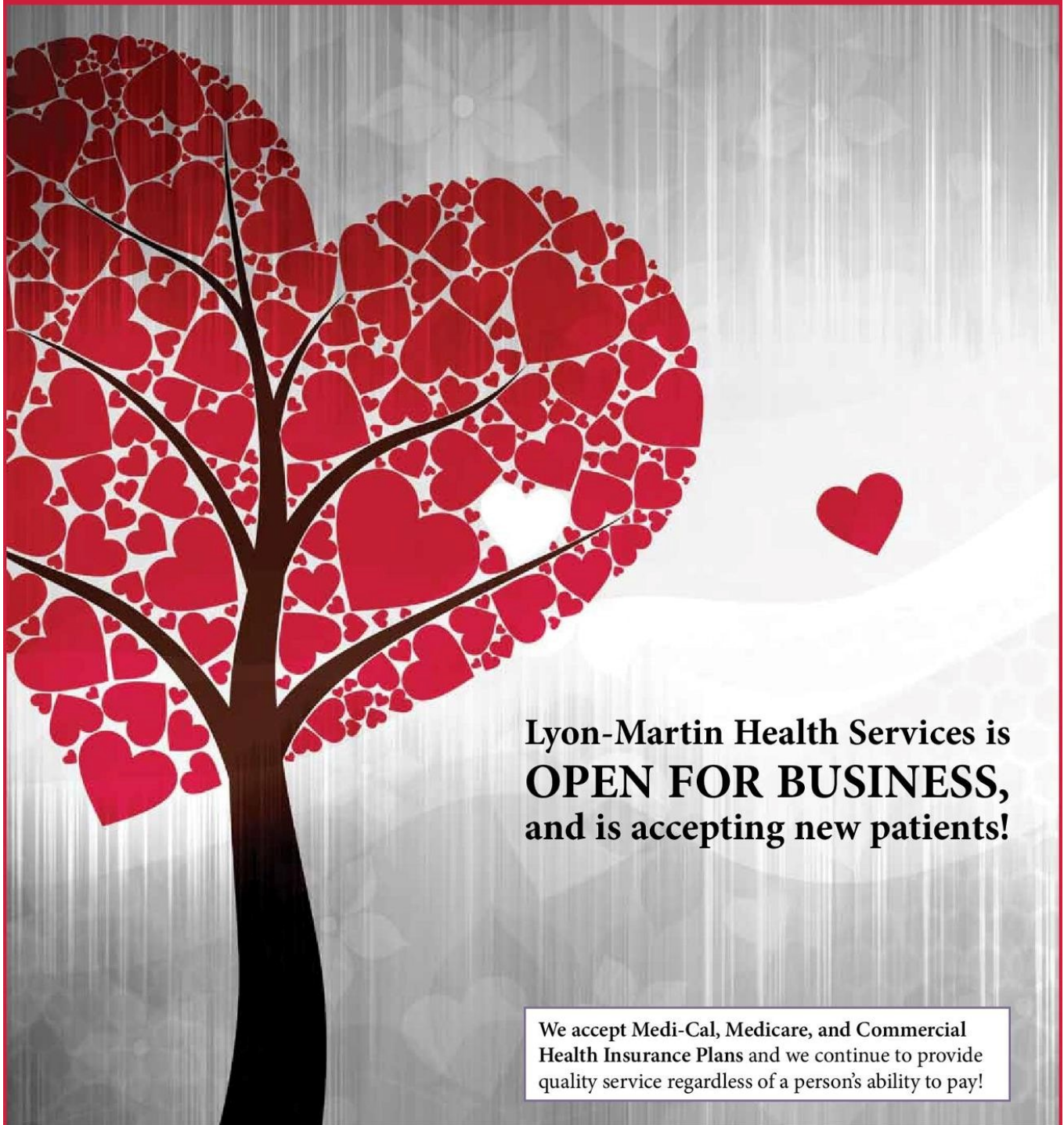

Honorable John L. Burton
12th Assembly District



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