

# WPATH 2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS

WORLD PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSGENDER HEALTH



Harry Benjamin (January 12, 1885–August 24, 1986) was a German American endocrinologist and sexologist, widely known for his clinical work with transgender people.

Apart from endocrinology and sexology, he worked on life extension and would now also be described as a gerontologist. Benjamin himself lived to be 101. Benjamin was married to Gretchen, to whom he dedicated his 1966 major work, for 60 years.

In 1979 the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association was formed, using Benjamin's name by permission. The group consists of therapists and psychologists who devised a set of Standards of Care (SOC) for the treatment of gender dysphoria, largely based on Benjamin's cases, and studies.[13] It later changed its name to The World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH), but still reveres its links to Harry Benjamin.

## WPATH Harry Benjamin Lifetime Distinguished Service Award

This is an award to honor a senior WPATH member who has made a significant contribution to the society and transgender health over the course of their career.

### Jude Patton LMHC, LMFT, PA



Jude Patton LMHC, LMFT, PA has been a member of WPATH (HBIQDA) since 1979. He served on the Board of Directors of WPATH from 1979 through 1985, and again from 1999 through 2001. During each of these time periods, he also served on the Advocacy and Liaison Committee. He is currently co-chair of USPATH's new committee for transgender aging care and most recently served on the SOC8 Institutions Chapter Committee, and the Scientific Committee for planning the 2022 WPATH Symposium.

Jude is a member of AAMFT, AASECT, and SSSS (involved in the LGBTQ+ special interest groups of all three of these organizations.) He was vice president of the Southern California Section of AASECT from 1986 to 1988. During his earlier tenure as an AASECT member, he was certified as both a sex educator and as a sex therapist. He was treasurer of FTM, International between 1997 and 2000. He served on the Board of Directors for Ingersoll Gender Center from 1997 and 2004.

Jude is a member of INELDA, a professional organization for death doula, a member of their LGBTQ+ special interest group. He currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. He is a member of GLMA's Behavioral Health Task Force Committee. He serves on the Board of Directors for Servant Hearts, a non-profit group that sponsors The Wisdom Circle, a support group in Sacramento for aging LGBTQ+ people. He is a member of the American Institute for Aging, serving on their Diversity and Inclusion Committee. He is a member of Transgender Aging Network. He is a SAGE Educational Ambassador and volunteers for SAGE Connect. He is a member of the Community Advisory Board for Gender Health Center in Sacramento. He volunteers as a researcher for Trans Lifeline. He is a volunteer online Behavioral Health Consultant for Peaceworks Medical Projects in Phoenix, AZ, a medical clinic serving low-income Hispanic transgender, non-binary, and LGB immigrants.

Jude's most recent employment for nearly seven years was serving the homeless, chronically mentally ill/dual diagnosis population in Sacramento, CA as a physician associate in psychiatry. Jude maintains a private practice as a psychotherapist. He has a focus in serving older transgender and GNC clients as a consultant in end-of-life health

care. He provides on-line psychotherapy to LGBTQ+ clients under contracts with BetterHelp and with TalkSpace. Jude is an avid life-long student, collector of LGBTQ+ history ephemera and books, conservation and environmental advocate, animal welfare advocate, and social justice advocate.

### **WPATH Harry Benjamin Individual Advocacy Award**

This is an award to honor an individual or group who has/have contributed significantly to the promotion of transgender health and rights through education and/or advocacy work.

### **Guillaume Haarman, MD**



Dr Haarman received his medical diploma in 2010 at Geneva's University Faculty of Medicine in Switzerland. He finished his training in child and adolescent psychiatry and psychotherapy in 2017 with a psychotherapy approach in psychodynamics therapy approach (FMH). He had training in group therapy and family and couple therapy between 2019-2021 (DAS) and obtained his certification in family therapy at University of Geneva. He completed his certification in transgender medicine during 2019-2021 and obtained his certification accreditation (WPATH) in 2021. He received a doctorate in Medicine in 2019. His thesis was on the burnout, depression and suicide of doctors and caregivers. He works currently as the head of an outpatient interdisciplinary consultation from the school department of Geneva's state and with a part time private practice focused on LGBT youth. He is a member on a platform on equality from the school department in Geneva's state to help the school environment to become more inclusive for diverse youth.

### **WPATH Harry Benjamin Institutional Advocacy Award**

This is an award to honor an individual or group who has/have contributed significantly to the promotion of transgender health and rights through education and/or advocacy work.

### **LGBTQ+ Victim Advocacy Initiative, Eskenazi Health**



Eskenazi Health established a Gender Health Program in Indiana to provide health care services for adolescent and adult transgender patients. As the program grew, it became apparent to the providers that many patients who came seeking safe care had past histories of assault or victimization. In 2021 Eskenazi Health launched the LGBTQ+ Victim Advocacy Initiative to ensure that all transgender and gender diverse (TGD) victims of violence can connect with a culturally competent victim advocate at any time.

The initiative funded two victim advocates, both of whom self-identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community which offers lived experience that is integral to their role. The victim advocates provide victim services to TGD survivors of violence and provide cultural competency trainings to staff throughout the organization on how to better provide culturally competent care to the LGBTQ+ patient population.

In 15 months, the LGBTQ+ victim advocates at Eskenazi Health have connected 257 TGD-identifying survivors of sexual assault and violence to 494 services. Services included mental health counseling, support groups, housing, basic needs, community resources, legal services, and more. The LGBTQ+ victim advocates have provided 6 cultural competency trainings throughout the organization. Eskenazi Health's innovative approach to delivering services to LGBTQ+ patients through dedicated and specially trained advocates has addressed an important care gap and demonstrated the clear need for victim advocacy services for the LGBTQ+ community.

The LGBTQ+ Victim Advocacy Initiative at Eskenazi Health was recognized with the Award for Professional Innovation in Victim Services by the United States Department of Justice and Office for Victims of Crime during their 2022 National Crime Victims' Service Awards.

The Eskenazi Health team will continue advocating for their LGBTQ+ patients, as they encourage other states and programs to expand services for LGBTQ+ victims of violence.

## WPATH Harry Benjamin Distinguished Education Award

This is an award to honor an individual or group who has/have contributed significantly to the promotion of transgender health and rights through education and/or advocacy work.

### Air Cmde (Dr) Sanjay Sharma (Retd) MBBS MMS



CEO & Managing Director ATHI (Association for Transgender Health in India)  
Board Member WPATH (World Professional Association for Transgender Health)

- o An alumnus of AFMC Pune (1981 Batch)
- o First Consultant Administration of the Armed Forces Medical Services, India
- o Masters in Management Studies from Osmania University.
- o Trained in Paediatrics from Army Hospital R&R, Delhi.
- o During my three decades plus service career, I served in Field, Command and Staff appointments, interacted with bureaucrats and executives, provided primary, secondary, and preventive medical care to the personnel and families residing in Air Force Stations, trained Medical and Paramedical staff and have been Medical Examiner for both Military and Civilian Aircrew. I have commanded two Air Force Hospitals and have represented the Indian Armed Forces Medical Services in international fora and have coordinated National and International Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief operations. I was awarded "Commendation by the Chief of Air Staff" in 2013.
- o Proud parent of a Transgender woman and an active member of "Sweekar: The Rainbow Parents", a parent support group for LGBTQAI+ persons.
- o I run a gender friendly holistic healthcare clinic "KHEM Clinic" at Gurugram, Haryana, India.
- o Founding Director and CEO of "Association for Transgender Health in India (ATHI)", a registered not for profit organization, working for providing Holistic healthcare through its professional arm, "Indian Professional Association for Transgender Health (IPATH)", and social inclusiveness, through its social arm "KHEM". Date of incorporation 1st November 2018.
- o Member advisory committee - Transgender Empowerment Board of Delhi, contributed towards formulation of the Transgender Persons Protection of Rights Act 2019 and the Transgender Persons Protection of Rights Rules 2020.
- o Team ATHI in association with Jamia Hamdard (Deemed University), conducted the first international conference on Transgender Healthcare in India "IPATHCON2019" with the theme "Demystifying Gender: Addressing the felt need" on the 1st of November 2019 at New Delhi.
- o Petitioned the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) Government of NCT of Delhi to pass an Order for prevention of sex assignment surgeries on intersex children .
- o Released the first Indian Standards of Care for Transgender Healthcare- ISOC1, on 1st November 2020 during IPATHCON 2020 held online in collaboration with Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi.
- o Have applied for an MOU with Jamia Hamdard for conducting Gender Education Courses and training sessions in Transgender Health.
- o Formulated two online certificate courses on Gender Education namely the Introductory course for Medical, Paramedical, Nursing and Ancillary staff of Healthcare Facilities under the "Gender Friendly Healthcare Facility Initiative (GFHFI)" launched online on the 15th of August 2020 and the Introductory course for Teachers, Educationists, Parents and students under the "Gender Friendly Educational Institute Initiative (GFEII)" launched on the 5th September 2020.
- o Proposed a Public Health Approach for delivery of Transgender Healthcare to UNAID-India and NACO (National AIDS Control Organization), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)
- o Appointed as a member of the Technical Working Group for the Transgender specific Integrated Service Delivery package in NACP (National AIDS Control Programme). Developing a White Paper on Comprehensive Health-related Services for Transgender Persons Working with the MoHFW for setting up of a Centre of Excellence in Transgender Health at AIIMS, New Delhi. Have submitted a template for a stand-alone one-stop Gender Affirmative Care Clinic (GACC) catering to the medical and social needs of the community to the MoHFW.
- o Advocated for reforms in the undergraduate and postgraduate medical curriculum, and inclusion of gender sensitization in the teacher training curriculum through online and offline activities conducted by Team ATHI.
- o Reached out to gender affirmative care providers in other countries of the Indian Subcontinent and proposed a "Unified Approach to Transgender Healthcare delivery in the Indian Subcontinent" through interaction of WPATH core group with gender affirmative care teams from Indian sub-continent on 20th May 2021.

- o Organized webinar on 29 May 2021 under the aegis of WPATH in collaboration with Dept. of Healthcare and Pharmaceutical Management Jamia Hamdard on "Addressing the felt needs of Transgender Healthcare Management in the Indian Subcontinent".
- o Active member of the World Professional Association of India (WPATH)
- o Elected as Board Member-at-large of WPATH in January 2021.
- o Have completed the Global Education Initiative (GEI) Certified Training Courses in Best Practices in Transgender Medical and Mental Health Care and am now a WPATH GEI SOC7 Certified Member.
- o Team ATHI in association with Jamia Hamdard University is holding the third international conference on Transgender Healthcare IPATHCON 2022 at New Delhi on the 1st & 2nd of November 2022. The theme of the conference being "Building foundations for transgender Healthcare delivery in the Indian Subcontinent".

I plan to extend the Global Education Initiative of WPATH to the Indian subcontinent, creating avenues for training and research, bringing benefits of scientific advances to help provide care to the community, offer a balanced view for Policy making and lay the foundation for an inclusive society.

## **WPATH Outstanding Student Contribution Award**

This award honors a graduate student or postdoctoral scholar who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of transgender health through scholarship, research, curriculum development, policy, or has demonstrated exemplary service to the WPATH.

### **Clara Leyns MS, SLP, PhD Student**



Clara Leyns (she/her) finished her MSc in Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences summa cum laude at Ghent University (Belgium) in 2017. Graduated in 2018 with a teaching degree, her academic hunger started growing. This eventually led to the start of her PhD in 2019, under supervision of prof. Evelien D'haeseleer (she/her, Ghent University, SLP), prof. Guy T'Sjoen (he/him, Ghent University, endocrinologist), and prof. Dominique Morsomme (she/her, University of Liège, SLP), she set up her protocol to investigate the effectiveness of speech therapy in transgender women. Researching this topic gave her the opportunity to write several scientific papers in high quality peer reviewed journals and going on a research stay at the Karolinska Institute (Sweden). She helps transgender women, transgender men, and non-binary persons to find a voice which fits their gender identity, not only through research, but also as a speech language pathologist in the voice clinic of the Ghent University Hospital and through other research projects. Besides her academical and clinical activities, she has been a diversity coordinator at Scouting Flanders since 2019, advocating for a more gender diverse organization. She expanded her knowledge in diverse research and clinical transgender topics and is determined to implement these in her future academical career, but also within the transgender community.