



BELMONT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION OBSERVES THE TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

The Belmont Human Rights Commission (BHRC) observes the Trans Day of Remembrance this year by committing to make Belmont a safe and welcoming space for people of all genders. We mourn the transgender people who were lost this year to violence, and we hold their memories and those that they leave behind in our hearts. We believe that the best way to honor those lost is by taking action to address the bias that transgender and gender non-conforming people face in our community. One of the ways that the BHRC strives to make our community more welcoming and safe is through education. If you would like more information on some of the issues facing transgender people, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has a document called *Dismantling a Culture of Violence: Understanding Anti-Transgender Violence and Ending the Crisis*, available through the Human Rights Campaign website at hrc.org.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, at least 34 trans people have been killed this year, the highest number since the Human Rights Campaign began recording in 2013. The majority of these were Black and Latinx trans women. It is traditional on the Trans Day of Remembrance to say the names of those lost. As we list their names, we hold them in our thoughts and prayers, strive to practice greater compassion for all people, and commit to our work to create a more just world.

Dustin Parker
Neulisa Luciano Ruiz
Yampi Mendez Arocho
Monika Diamond
Lexi
Johanna Metzger
Serena Angelique Velazquez Ramos
Layla Pelaez Sanchez
Penelope Diaz Ramirez
Nina Pop
Helle Jae O'Regan
Tony McDade
Dominique "Rem'mie" Fells
Riah Milton
Jayne Thompson
Selena Reyes-Hernandez
Brian "Egypt" Powers
Brayla Stone
Merci Mack
Shaki Peters

Bree Black
Summer Taylor
Marilyn Cazares
Dior H Ova
Queasha D Hardy
Aja Raquelle Rhone-Spears
Kee Sam
Aerrion Burnett
Mia Green
Michelle Michellyn Ramos Vargas
Felycya Harris
Brooklyn Deshuna
Sara Blackwood
Angel Unique

If you live or work in Belmont and feel like your rights have been denied as a result of your gender identity, please contact the Belmont Human Rights Commission at (617) 993-2795 or belmont.hrc@gmail.com. If you need support around your gender identity, or are looking to connect with others in the trans community, there are many great organizations in this area that are here to help. Contact us for a list or go directly to any of the following: Fenway Health, BAGLY, MASSBATS, Compass, Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance (QAPA), and the Trans Club of New England (TCNE). If you are supporting a transgender or nonbinary child, there are resources for you at PFLAG, Fenway Health, and groups that meet within our community.

Written by: Jess Hicks, Belmont Human Rights Commission