

Aging in the LGBT+ Community

Fostering a culture of respect

Key Considerations

residents affordable activities privacy Quality Location care live staff
partner respected people Loss facility Cost affordability
people physical living Lack facilities residents Safety Security Cost
discrimination Affordability Homophobia Privacy accepted
respected old staff
space Affordability privacy Need services concerns Social guests
living Quality Isolation activities ability

LGBT+ Seniors

Population estimates for Calgary & Area



FEAR OF STIGMA AND DISCRIMINATION

“My current experience with seniors’ facilities (visiting a family member) is one of the LGBT+ community being ignored or [being victimized by] hostile behavior from residents and care-givers”

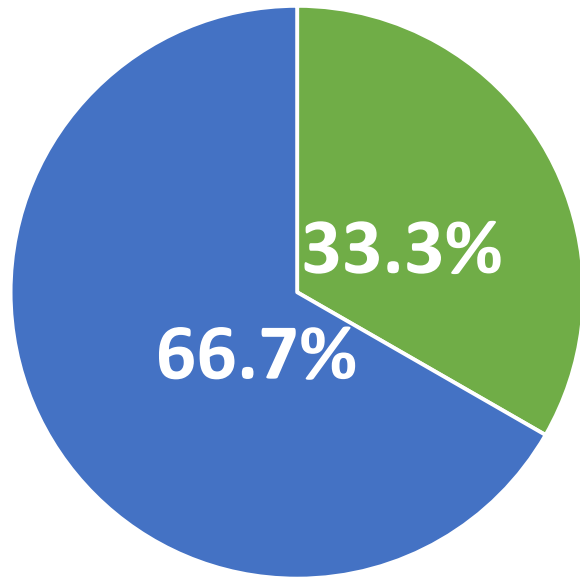
“I would be afraid to have an event for fear of what would happen to people if they were ‘outed’”

Experiences in Housing

Treatment as an LGBT+ person	Positive or Very Positive	53.3%
	Neutral	34.3%
	Negative or Very Negative	12.4%

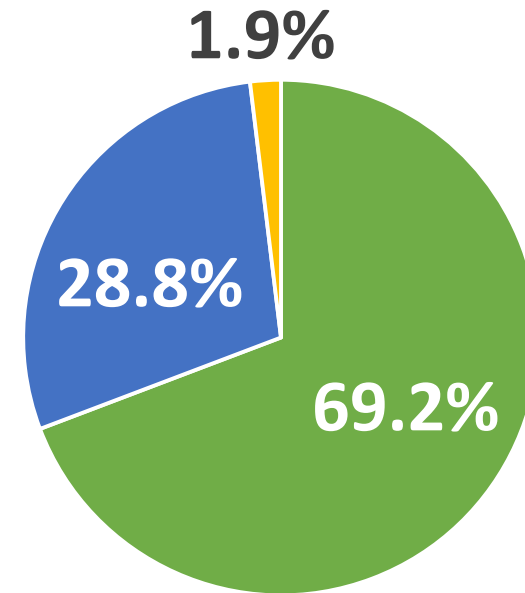
Support Networks

Child(ren) or Step Child(ren)



■ Yes ■ No

Children able to support housing or financially if necessary



■ No ■ Maybe / Not sure ■ Yes

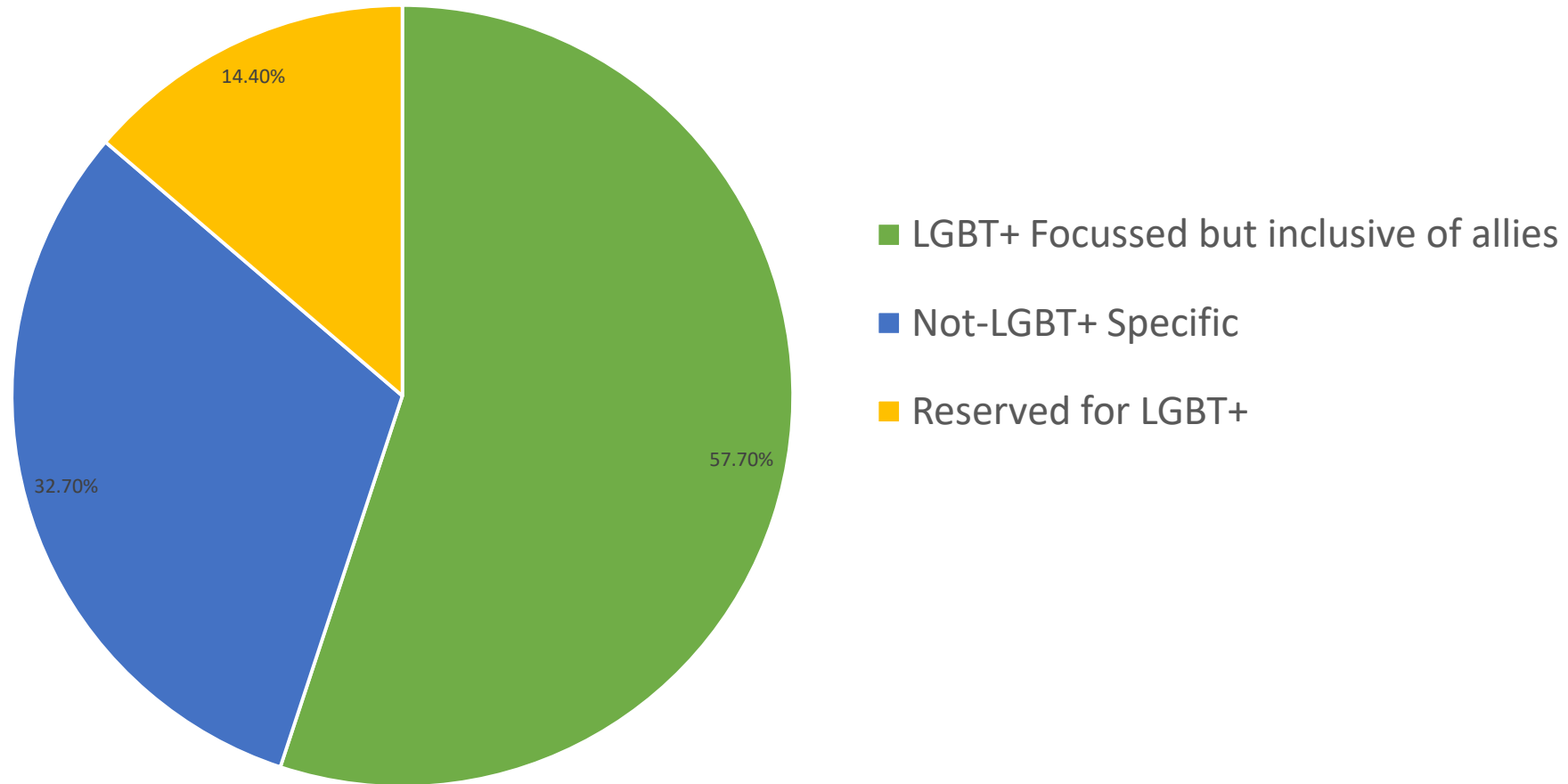
Summary

“Every time I enter a new place I have to assess.. “is it safe”?”

- Generational Context
- Stigma & Discrimination – experiences and fears
- Immediate Family v. Social support networks
- Coming ‘out’ is continuous and situational
- Diversity within the community

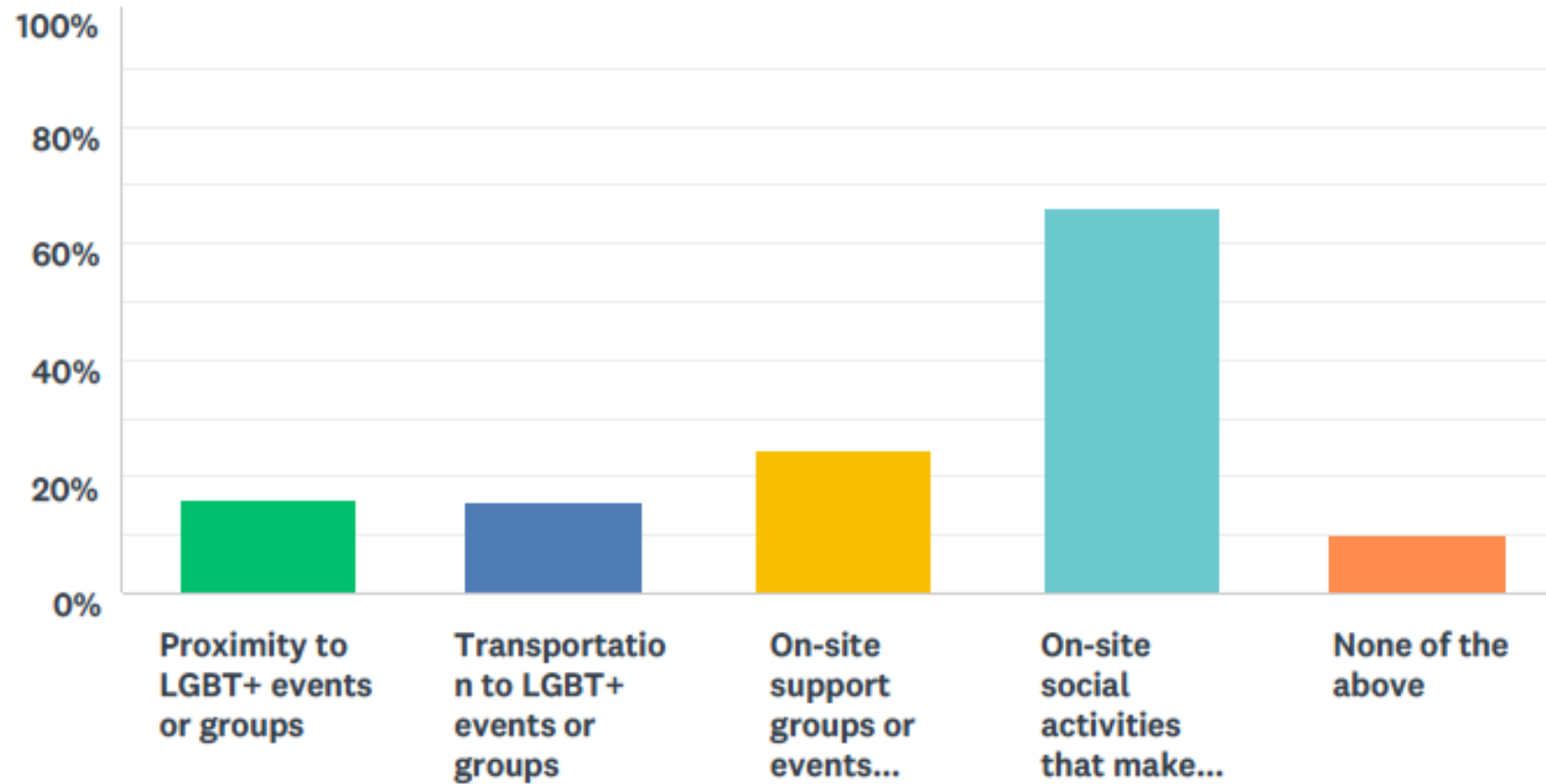
Housing Ideas and Recommendations

LGBT+ centric housing?



Q26 If you were to live in Seniors' housing (or already do) which of the following is most important to you?

Answered: 111 Skipped: 13



Inclusion and respect in mainstream organizations

“It’s not about special treatment, it’s about equal treatment”

What can you do in your practice / organization?

PRINCIPLES

- Including “Peers” in decision-making and implementation
- Creating a place that is safe to *be* or to *come* ‘out’
- Recognizing diversity within LGBT+ population – “one size does not fit all”

