

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Everyone knows a transgender person. They just may not know that they do.

For years it was something that had to be hidden from beloved family members, people at work or school-- even from the family doctor. It often meant moving to a bigger, more anonymous city.

Transgender Tuesdays is the nighttime clinic we started with the help of advocacy groups from the many ethnicities of San Francisco—as harm reduction for self-identified folks, a first in the country. But it was our pioneering patients, taking charge of their own healthcare and helping each other, that created new community.

As a medical provider I was entrusted with the stories they brought with them, chronicles of courageous lives in the “bad old days” before Transgender Tuesdays. As an arts writer who once covered the AIDS epidemic years, it’s again an honor to help share heroic but unheard stories, and this time with a general film audience.

As they get told more and more openly, we can recognize the presence of trans folks in each extended family, place of worship or work, and every ethnicity in each city and town. Truly this is a diverse group, one that is not defined by surgery or limited by any gender binary.

Still, I am concerned about the discrimination that remains. It is no longer acceptable to use hateful name for ethnic minorities, or to refer to religions not our own by derogatory terms, nor to make fun of the disabled. Yet verbal and physical violence toward transgender people may be the last place for fear to be built. Even when hate speech is couched in pseudo-philosophical phrases like “a threat to the family” or “they want to erase even the idea of men and women,” or “they’ll raise your medical bills.” it can and does encourage very real violence. Is this simply discomfort about how secure we are with our own gender? Or is it some nameless desire for the forbidden that make this last minority difficult to look at?

But as transgender people come out more visibly, they are clearly part of Us, not a “Them”. As allies and as trans folks alike, we can celebrate how far we have come in loosening the straitjacketed gender roles that have limited us all. And carry it on.

Mark Freeman, FNP, director *Transgender Tuesdays the Movie*

Transgender people come from all social levels and all walks of life.

Where did the patients in Transgender Tuesdays come from?

How did they get to the Tenderloin, a down-and-dirty inner city neighborhood?

The film suggests that these people were often courageous, and even pioneers.

What did they get from having a first medical home where they were cared for?

How did they create a larger community for themselves?

Which person in the film effected you the most?

The film's stars tell stories of "the bad old days" from the 1950s through the 1990s.

How were they out in front as roles of men and women changed in that ½-century?

Can you see examples of gender role changes in your grandparents' times?

In your parents' times? In your own?

Transgender people have often been seen as outsiders, outcasts, even threatening.

Can you point to examples of their "otherness" in news media? In popular movies?

What are examples in the media of their being seen more as a normal part of life?

How did the movie help your understanding of trans folks in your community?

BIO UPDATES – Where they are now (with photos)

Veronica Klaus, Narrator & Jazz Stylist. Get her fabulous new CD “Something Cool” at www.veronicaklaus.net.

Marilyn Robinson is still seen on the streets of San Francisco, but only when dog-walking Bella and Maggie.

Candi Guerrero put herself into remission for liver cancer with alternative medicine and her spiritual practice.

Red Jordan Arobateau's 90 books like *How's Mars* are available online. As he says, "Give me the money!"

Angel Ichord has been clean and sober for 12 years and now sponsors others. She recently traveled to Thailand.

Nyra Oeun lives with her family and is studying childhood education & design at San Joaquin Community College.

Nola VanDella kicked Hepatitis C last year. Her drawings continue to “reflect the way I hear and see music.”

Astrid Olsen and her partner now live calmly in a high-rise, not far from the docks of the Bay.

Cecilia Chung was recently appointed San Francisco Health Commissioner. She trans-advocates nationally.

Dustin H. used the film to re-connect with his family after 20 years, and has moved back to Washington State.

Kelly J. Kelly, owner of Jet Girl Worldwide Gallery, now studies pre-Law at California Institute of Integral Studies.

Claudia Quijano works at 3155 Salon in San Francisco & is graduating from Paul Mitchell Cosmetology School.

Barry Zevin, MD is heading up SF's new effort to provide surgical as well as Primary Care for TG residents.

RN Jennifer Elton, always looking for more challenges, is now doing home health care for Laguna Honda Hospital.

Maria Porch LCSW sits on DPH's Gender Competence Comm. and is building a private psychotherapy practice.

Robyn Stukalin balances her role as one of Transgender Tuesdays two Social Workers with raising two children.

Angie Davidson, as well as being an RN NP, helps her partner Tree with the Mission District's Free Farm Stand.

Mark Freeman, though retired from the clinic, now works twice as long hours—but is happy doing filmmaking.

Nathaniel Walters, Co-director and Editor, is finishing his graduate degree in film at Royal Hall, School of London.

Mitch Layno, our Line Producer, ran a film production company in the Philippines, and is working now in LA

Stephanie Roy used to manage street solicitors for ACLU and EQCA, but now just manages us and runs bakeries.

Michael Starkman, Graphic Designer, recently showed at Photo Gallery & Bolinas Museum. michaelstarkman.com

DP Kingsley Lara was last seen entering the maw of the L.A. movie industry. Check <https://vimeo.com/52112785>

Stephanie Madrinan, our own Designing Woman, runs a fashion shop and our second home at www.31rax.com/

Kenneth White, Best Boy, runs the Castro Area Books Inc. and is at [linkedin.com/pub/ken-a-white/2a/3b6/b24](https://www.linkedin.com/pub/ken-a-white/2a/3b6/b24)

LOCATING HELP

Partial list of resource organizations:

Center of Excellence for Transgender Health www.transhealth.ucst.org

Female-to-Male International: www.ftmi.org

Female to Male Resources: <http://www.femaletomale.org/resources/>

Gender Spectrum: <http://www.genderspectrum.org/child-family/resources>

Human Rights Campaign: <http://www.hrc.org/resources/entry/transgender-visibility-guide>

Int'l Transgender Info Network: <http://transgenderandinformation.wordpress.com/>

National Center for Transgender Equality, Washington DC www.nctequality.org
Ohio State University TG Guide www.multiculturalcenter.osu.edu/glbts
PFLAG's TNET (Transgender Network): <http://community.pflag.org/page.aspx?pid=380>
Sylvia Rivera Law Project: <http://srlp.org/resources/>
Trans Health: <http://www.trans-health.com/sitemap/>
Trans*Topia Youth Resource Center: www.youthresource.com/
TransYouth Family Allies: <http://imatyfa.org/>
Transgender Law Center, "My Authentic Life": www.transgenderlawcenter.org
Transgender Law & Policy Inst.: www.transgenderlaw.org/resources/index.htm
Vancouver Coastal Health: <http://transhealth.vch.ca/resources/library/>
World Professional Assoc. for Transgender Health: <http://www.wpath.org/>

Partial list of Primary Care clinics:

Callen Lorde, NY, NY: <http://callen-lorde.org/our-services/sexual-health-clinic/transgender-health-services/>
Fenway Health, Boston, MA:
http://www.fenwayhealth.org/site/PageServer?pagename=FCHC_srv_services_trans
Howard Brown Health Center, Chicago, IL: http://www.howardbrown.org/hb_services.asp?id=37
Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center Transgender Health:
http://www.lagaycenter.org/site/PageServer?pagename=YH_Transgender_Health_Care
Lyon-Martin Health Services SF, CA: <http://lyon-martin.org/services/transgender/>
Planned Parenthood: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9W_aEUY26gA
Mazzoni Center Philadelphia: <http://mazzonicenter.org/content/trans-care-mazzoni-center>
Tom Waddell Health Center Transgender Tuesdays, SF, CA:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/medSvs/hlthCtrs/TransgenderHlthCtr.asp>
Tri-City Health Center, Fremont CA: <http://transvisiontricity.org/main.html>
Whitman Walker, Washington DC: <http://www.whitman-walker.org/page.aspx?pid=475>

