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This free resource guide was lovingly assembled for sex workers in Western PA by the diligent members of SWOP Pittsburgh, and through submissions by local sex workers from across the industry.

If you are a sex worker and have additional resources to recommend, contact us so we can include them in future editions! Or, if you've had a negative experience with one of our referred resources, please alert us so we may reconsider including them in future editions.

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Cover images are screenshots taken from performers Gia Fagnelli & Chaos Waits during our virtual D17 showcase in 2020.

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This is the 2nd edition of SWOP Pittsburgh's Sex Workers' Resource Guide. There are new organizations and some refreshed categories. Included is a COVID-19 section with groups whose services have expanded to support others during the pandemic.

The global chaos we felt this past year marked a significant shift in our chapter's efforts. Like many orgs, we took a breather at the start of 2020. But in May and June, when power structures at the root of violent inequities shattered like a window, our efforts became more hands-on. We prioritized mutual aid and raised nearly \$1000 during our annual D17 event. We got a phone line and a website to make it easier for the community to reach us. We put together sex worker health kits. Most exciting of all, we gained some new volunteers!

In the coming year, our focus will remain on mutual & direct aid to the most vulnerable in our community. But our core priority remains to shift the dial to ensure that every person in this industry has the right to live free of fear.

No freedom without abolition. SWOP Pittsburgh

KNOW YOUR FIGHTS

Exerpted from a document by SexWorkersProject.org, 2012

No matter your age, gender, immigration status, or whether you are committing a crime, US law guarantees certain rights that cannot be violated.

YOU HAVE THE RIGHT:

to be free of illegal searches & arrests to remain silent to not answer questions from the police to have a lawyer

There are ways to stand up for those rights! Sadly, police may not always respect your rights. Always do what feels safest if you are afraid of violence.

If a cop approaches you on the street, you don't have to answer questions. Say: "Am I free to go?"

If they say yes, then go! If they say no, then ask: "Am I being detained?"

If they say no, then calmly leave.

If they say yes, ask why. Don't argue, but remember their badge number, what they look like, and anything they say or do. If you are detained, an officer can question you, ask for ID, or pat you down outside of your clothes to check for weapons. They can't go into your pockets or bags without asking permission, or search you to try to identify your sex.

If a cop tries to search you, say:

"I do not consent to this search."

This does not give them an excuse to arrest you. They might arrest you anyway. If they do arrest you they can search you without asking permission.

You can also be arrested by an undercover cop. It is hard to tell when someone is an undercover cop, because they are not in uniform, and they can drink, do drugs, touch, be touched, lie, and pretend not to be a police officer. If an undercover cop does something you think might be against their rules, remember and tell your lawyer.

Do not say or sign anything without your lawyer there! Police are trained to lie in order to get info, and they can put snitches in the cell with you. Anything you say to anyone except your lawyer, doctor or therapist can be used against you, even if you are innocent.

If you need medical help, ASK FOR IT, even if they say it will take longer to get out.

Police sometimes take condoms away from sex workers. Police are not allowed to arrest you only because you have condoms. It is not a crime to carry condoms!

Don't let the police scare you - carry condoms if you need to stay safe!

Never resist or fight back.

If you are being arrested, say:

"I am not resisting, officer."

If you are arrested, they may not say "You are under arrest," or read you your rights. If this happens, say:
"I am going to remain silent, and I want to speak to a lawyer."

Make an arrest plan. If you think you could be arrested, make a plan just in case. Think of everything that would need to be taken care of if you were arrested and in jail for a few days:

- Children need to be cared for
- Pets need to be fed
- Your job or school needs to be called and give an excuse
- Your lawyer needs to be called
- You need someone to show up to court to pay bail and help you get home when you are released.
- Think of a friend for each of these tasks. Think of one responsible friend who can call the others to tell them you need help. Give this friend a copy of your ID with your legal name and birthdate.

MAKE AN ARREST PLAN (continued)

- Call your friends and let them know your arrest plan. Give them keys to your apartment if they need them.
- If you have a few arrests on your record, try to save some money in case bail is set give a friend access to this money.
- Tell your most responsible friend every time you go to work. Give them as much info as possible, in case something goes wrong. Memorize their phone number.
- If you are arrested while with someone you know, ask them to call your most responsible friend.
- Usually you can make a phone call after arrest.

BLOGS AND PODS

PODCASTS

"Peepshow Column & Podcast"

Weekly column in Pittsburgh City Paper on sex work and sexuality by Jessie Sage, and a podcast by Jessie & PJ Sage.

"Strange Bedfellows" Strangebedfellowspdx.com

Sex work podcast hosted by Elle & Jon

"Masocast"

www.masocast.com

Kink, BDSM, & sex work podcast

"Sex, Magick & Dessert" On Apple Podcasts

Podcast with artists, witches, & sex workers.

"The Oldest Profession"

Changing the stories people tell about sex workers. Changing the story changes everything."

SWOP-USA's Resources page: swopusa.org/resources/

A great collection of articles on things like racial justice, trafficking, capitalism, and how to be an ally.

...AND BOOKS

Coming Out like a Porn Star: Essays on pornography, protection, and privacy, edited by Jiz Lee

Hustling Verse: An anthology of sex workers' poetry, edited by Amber Dawn & Justin Ducharme

To Live Freely in this World: Sex worker activism in Africa, by Chi Adanna Mgbako

Insatiable: Porn - a Love Story, by Asa Akira

Revolting Prostitutes: The Fight for Sex Workers' Rights, by Molly Smith & Juno Mac

Thriving in Sex Work: Heartfelt Advice for Staying Sane in the Sex Industry, by Lola Davina

Playing the Whore: The Work of Sex Work, by Melissa Gira Grant

Challenging Perspectives on Street-Based Sex Work, by Katie Hail-Jares, Corey S. Shdaimah, & Chrysanthi S. Leon

Sex Work Matters: Exploring Money, Power and Intimacy in the Sex Industry, by Melissa Hope Ditmore

Sex Lies & Statistics, by Dr Brooke Magnanti

Rent Girl, by Michelle Tea

Youth Who Trade Sex in the U.S.: Intersectionality, Agency, and Vulnerability, by Carisa R. Showden, Samantha Majic

covid—19



Pittsburgh Restaurants Workers Aid info@pghrwa.org

Email for inquiries. Go online to apply to receive PRWA care package, and to see map of distribution centers around the city. pghrestaurantworkersaid.org/



East End Community Health Center (412) 244-4700

I N. Linden St. Duquesne, PA 15110
Primary Care Health Services Inc. schedules
COVID-19 testing & vaccinations.
Locations in Braddock, Homestead, Oakland,
Hazelwood, Mckees Rocks, West End, &
Wilkinsburg.

pchspitt.org



Hugh Lane Wellness Center (412) 973-5053 info@hughlane.org

Food delivery services. Call to place delivery order.

FOOD



Just Harvest (412) 431-8960 x602 Food stamp Access assistance.



Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank (412) 460-3663

I N. Linden St. Duquesne, PA 15110

Collect and distribute food to neighborhood food pantries. You can call to find out if you qualify for food pantry support and which pantry you should go to. They also have programs providing fresh produce and food for kids.

Pittsburghfoodbank.org

Foodpantries.org

National listing of food pantries that you can search by state.

HOUSING





Suburban transitional housing program for homeless women with children and survivors of domestic abuse.

www.hearth-bp.org



sisTersPGH (412) 259-3091

2014 Monongahela Ave, Pgh, PA 15218 Supports the trans and non-binary community through multiple programs including transitional housing assistance and food aid.

info@sisterspgh.org



Women's Center & Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh

(412) 687-8005 (24 hr hotline)

Provides 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, childcare, legal advocacy, medical advocacy, and support groups.

www.wcspittsburgh.org/



Proud Haven (412) 953-4666

517 E. Ohio St. Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Helping housing-inescure LGBTQ+ youth and adults find housing and resources.
admin@proudhaven.org
www.proudhaven.org/

HOUSING (continued)



True T: Op (412) 366-9801 info@truetpgh.com

Trans-focused LGBTQIA+ emergency housing program that creates a safe space for individuals to obtain stable housing while achieving personal and professional goals.

https://www.truetpgh.com/option-u

HEALTHCARE

Your Rights as a Patient:

- To NOT answer questions from health professionals and to refuse any testing or treatment;
- To use a friend's or a public address if you don't have your own;
- To communication accommodations (like translation). Try to give clinics a heads up about your needs before visiting for best results, but accommodations should be available.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE



Planned Parenthood - Pittsburgh Family Planning Health Center (412) 434-8971 or 1-800-230-7526

933 Liberty Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 Offers:

- Hormone Therapy
- Gynecological care
- Contraceptive services
- Pregnancy testing
- Colposcopy and cryotherapy
- Pelvic and breast exams
- STI testing & treatment
- Emergency contraception options (depending on location):
- Mental Health Counseling services
- Medical and surgical abortion
- Professional counseling

Appointments encouraged, walk-ins welcome.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE (continued)



The Midwife Center for Birth & Women's Health (412) 321-6880, info@midwifecenter.org

283 i Penn Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15222
Pregnancy, childbirth, and primary gynecological and contraceptive clinic.
Walk-in clinic during "With Woman Fridays", 12:30-5pm.



Allegheny Reproductive Health Center (412) 661-8811

5910 Kirkwood St, Pittsburgh, Pa 15206 Offers abortion, gynecological car, prenatal care, contraception services, & STD testing. Dr. Sheila Ramgopal got a particular recommendation in our survey!

Call for various appointment options.

HARM REDUCTION + RESOURCE LINKAGES

Bridge Outreach (412) 699-0462 info@bridgepgh.org

A team of dedicated individuals connecting those in all walks of life to resources meant to alleviate a myriad of challenges, including, but not limited to: housing instability, food insecurity, medical and mental health inaccessibility, and unsafe substance-use.

Center for Inclusion Health (412) 362-8677 (DOCTORS)

- Transgender healthcare
- Addiction medicine
- Houseless healthcare
- Primary care for HIV
- Food insecurity
- Lanuguage inertpreters for those who are immigrants or refugees



LGBTQIA+ HEALTHCARE & SUPPORT

Central Outreach (412) 322-4151

127 Anderson Street, Suite 101, Pittsburgh, PA 15212



Offers:

- Comprehensive Gay and Transgendered Health Care
- HIV Primary Care
- Hep C Primary Care
- PrEP & nPEP HIV Prophylaxis
- Drug and Alcohol Rehab
- Housing Resources and Referrals
- Women's healthcare
- Non-emergency contraceptives
- Clothing center



Allies for Health + Wellbeing
(412) 345- 7456, info@alliespgh.org
5913 Penn Ave, 2nd Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

- Allies for Health + Wellbeing Offers:
- STI testing
- Counseling
- PrEP, PEP, HIV support services and treatment
- Hep C treatment
- Gynecological care
- Trans care
- Contraception Services

HEALTHCARE (continued)

HIV / AIDS SUPPORT



AIDS Free Pittsburgh 650 Smithfield St, Suite 2400, Pittsburgh, PA 15222 (412) 586-6706 AIDSFreePittsburgh@gmail.com

CRISIS SUICIDE HOTLINES



Resolve Crisis Center Crisis line: I-888-7YOU-CAN (796-8226)

Non-urgent line: (412) 864-5004

333 North Braddock Ave, Pittsburgh, Pa 15208 Offers:

- Phone counseling
- Mobile crisis unit
- Walk-in center
- Residential services
- Child and adolescent crisis team

National Suicide Hotline I-800-273-TALK(8255) suicidepreventionlifeline.org



MENTAL HEALTH

SW-RECOMMENDED THERAPISTS & SUPPORT

Diane Dahm, LCSW

5908 Bryant St, Pittsburgh, Pa 15206 dianedahmcounseling@gmail.com, (412) 423-8227

Gretchen Hoffer, NCC, LPC at Village Center for Holistic Therapy gretchen@villagetherapy.org

From their website:

"I am fluent in American Sign Language (ASL) and have been working to increase services for the deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing in the Pittsburgh area. I work in the fields of trauma/PTSD, substance abuse, relationship issues, and managing mood disorders."

Referral from sex worker:

"She pushes the idea that other people's responses/behaviors/actions are not your responsibility. Highly recommend her."

West End

68 Wabash Street, Suite 100 Pittsburgh, PA 15220

Shaler

1407 Mt. Royal Blvd. Glenshaw, PA 15116a

Pineapple Support: Stigma-Free Therapy

Professional mental healthcare for performers and producers working in the adult industry. Additionally offers LGBTQ+-focused therapy, sexual trauma support, and HIV support gropus. (Jamila Dawson is recommended!)

pineapplesupport.org | contact@pineapplesupport.org

Lumos Transforms

Multi-modality and personalized transformative services for recovery, deep healing, and personal growth. Woman-of-color owned. *Referral*:

"The facilitators teach a toolkit of mindfulness practices that enable you to better handle working on our own shit and the world. There are free workshops and they also offer scholarships. I highly recommend... has helped me recognize what's happening to my body when I'm triggered. Great for people with trauma."

ACCOUNTING

Megan E Haselden, Steel City Accounting (412) 626-7851, meg@steelcityaccounting.com

Provides accounting, budgeting and tax services to communities often marginalized by traditional accounting firms.

www.steelcityaccounting.com

Erica Moulinier, Moulin Consulting (215) 870-2655 moulinconsulting@gmail.com

Accounting and Tax Preparation Services for Dreamers and Misanthropes.

www.moulinconsulting.com

Daphne Roberts, Professional Accountant and Tax Preparer East End, Pittsburgh, PA daphe.ltd@gmail.com

Just Harvest - Tax Services Text your zip code to 898-211 2-1-1 or 1-888-553-5778

Walk-ins for tax services are not permitted, so please call for an appointment. There are three ways to schedule an appointment. bit.ly/PA2IITAXES

Safeword Tax Service From website:

"Providing tax planning, return preparation, and advocacy for members of alternative communities, including sex workers, prodom(me)s, exotic dancers, burlesque performers, kink retailers, sex-positive professionals, sex educators, polyamorous families, and LGBTO+ individuals."

www.safewordtax.com/

LEGAL SERVICES



Women's Law Project (412) 281-2892

428 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1710, Pittsburgh, PA 15219 Free legal help in civil cases, especially sexual assault and harassment.

www.womenslawproject.org



Buckit Bail Fund of Pittsburgh (412) 593-4355

bukitbailfund@protonmail.com Providing jail support and funds for bail.



SWOP Behind Bars (877) 776-2004 Ext 555 swopbehindbars@gmail.com

SWOP Behind Bars (SBB) provides community support for incarcerated sex workers, including a monthly newsletter, books, study materials, and sex worker pen pals

for incarcerated sex workers. Upon release from jail or prison, they help sex workers meet their basic needs, provide resources, networking, and linkages for successful reentry into their communities.

www.swopbehindbars.org



Crisis Center North

24/7 Hotline: (412) 364-5556 24/7 Textline: (412) 444-7660

Website & Web Chat: CrisisCenterNorth.org

LEGAL SERVICES (continued)

Crisis Center North provides services to victims and survivors of domestic abuse such as:

- Medical Advocacy
- Legal Advocacy (Help with Protection from Abuse orders, Magisterial Court, and Support Animals for during the Court Process)
- Counseling for All Age, Sexes, and Gender Expressions
- Economic Empowerment (Rapid Re-Housing, Micro-Loans, Financial Literacy Courses)
- Crisis Center North does **not** have a shelter but we can help arrange for shelter services if needed.



Jocelyn Kirkwood, Stonefruit Community Herbalists

Herbal consultations and education and Level One Somatic Experiencing sessions.

www.wildcherries.org

Birdie Radford

406 Melwood Ave Suite 200b

Community herbalist, sliding scale herbal consults aberdeenradford@gmail.com

MIchelle Soto, Cutting Root Farm (615) 804-0064, michelle@cuttingroot.com

Herbal farm, blends to order, consultations and education.

COMMUNITY



SWOP Community Help Line (877) 776-2004

Jointly run by volunteers from SWOP-USA and SWOP Behind Bars. This support line is operated by tireless volunteers who are trained in rape counseling and crisis intervention.

SWOP-Pittsburgh's Social Support Group

Monthly two-hour meet-up for current and former sex workers to talk about our jobs and lives and give and recieve support. Email for the next date and location.

swop.pittsburgh@gmail.com



Lysistrata

An online SW activist collective and emergency fund. Lysistrata is available to assist individuals in the case of emergencies related to illness,

injury, homelessness, wrongful arrest and incarceration, unstable or abusive working conditions, domestic violence, discrimination, and a number of other crises that can impact sex workers. Priority goes to POC and trans workers. www.lysistratamccf.org

"Self Care 101 for Sex Workers", a free webinar.

Full slideshow and notes available online.

https://tinyurl.com/swopsc

WASSAGE THERAPISTS

Roberta Guido, LMT
Text (412) 492-0140
rmguido I @gmail.com (that's a one after the name)
Massage Therapist working in Squirrel Hill specializing in
Neuromuscular Therapy and Manual Lymphatic Drainage. Sliding scale rates available, just ask!

Eli Shumaker, LMT - Body Euphoria 5268 Butler St, Pittsburgh, PA 15201 (412) 328-3717, beinclusivemassage.com **Closed until further notice, due to COVID-19.**



ABOUT SWOP

Sex Workers Outreach Project (SWOP) is a national social justice network dedicated to the fundamental human rights of people involved in the sex trade and their communities, focusing on ending violence and stigma through education and advocacy. You can learn more about the national network at www.swopusa.org.

SWOP-Pittsburgh is a local chapter of the national network, founded in 2018. We are led by current and former sex workers and accompanied by dedicated allies. Aside from our monthly sex worker support and social meet-ups, our work has included:

- Annual vigil and storytelling on D17 International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers;
- Awareness and media campaign on the impacts of FOSTA/SESTA;
- Successful pressure campaign against the Pittsburgh Police
 Department's practice of charging alleged sex workers with
 felonies for possession of condoms.;
- Successful disruption of the University of Pittsburgh's facial recognition surveillance technology Hackathon.

You can follow and contact SWOP Pittsburgh:

SWOPPITTSBURGH.COM

@SWOP_PGH on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter

Or email us at: Swop.pittsburgh@gmail.com

Venmo & PayPal: @swoppittsburgh

We're always looking for new members - both current and former sex workers - who want to build community and advocate for our rights. Allies who are dedicated to supporting a sex worker-led movement are welcome too! Introduce yourself via a DM or email, and we'll be happy to fold you into our volunteer team!





