

Creating a Storytelling Series: Helping your Clients Organize for Justice through Storytelling

By: Kaleb Dornheim & Cecilia Gentili

Who is Kaleb?

- ❖ 25, poor, trans/nonbinary, queer, mentally ill, survivor
- ❖ Baltimore and Hudson Valley grounded,
- ❖ Has their Masters in Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies concentrating in Trans Studies Education
- ❖ Works at GMHC as a Sexual and Reproductive Advocate for TGNC folks
- ❖ When they aren't working or doing activism, they like being around farm animals, plants, and engaging in Kardashian Discourse

Who is Cecilia?

- ❖ Trans Latina. Originally from Argentina
- ❖ Lived in the US for 17 years. 11 of them as a non documented person.
- ❖ Former sex worker
- ❖ History of incarceration
- ❖ In recovery from all drugs you could ever imagine.
- ❖ Fierce fashion icon (in her head)
- ❖ She tries, she tries

Who are you?

What're we doing today?

- ❖ Learn how to create a campaign around SRJ issues, especially on social media/printed materials
- ❖ Learn how to deliver stories/use storytelling to create change
- ❖ Hear how we used these strategies at GMHC
- ❖ Hear a demonstration of storytelling by Cecilia

Our work @ GMHC

- ❖ Organizing 102 - November 2017
- ❖ Trans Parenthood Panel - December 2017
- ❖ Organizing 102 - February 2018
- ❖ TGNC Spring Fling - April 2018
- ❖ TGNC SRJ Rally - June 2018

- ❖ We're offering a series of advocacy and organizing workshops to help community members better articulate and advocate for their needs with regard to healthcare access, sexual health education, and reproductive rights.

- ❖ Emerged out of a grant from the New York Department of Health & Community Engagement Group that focuses on SRJ

- ❖ GMHC provides Capacity Building Assistance that empowers some of NYC's most vulnerable communities, specifically Latinx people and immigrants, trans and gender nonconforming people, and people living with HIV/AIDS.

Our Campaign

- ❖ Based off of the results from Organizing 102
- ❖ Used 2 Trans Folks from our groups
- ❖ Resulted in 3 calls so far over discrimination/issues over:
 - Sperm/egg banking based on their trans status and/or HIV status,
 - Financial barriers accessing fertility treatments /HRT

Parenthood Should Be for Everyone

No one should tell you that your gender identity determines whether you have kids.
That's for **you** to decide.

#TransParenthood

For more information,
call (212) 367-1587
or CeciliaG@gmhc.org.

GMHC
END AIDS. LIVE LIFE.

How to create a campaign

- Brainstorm what's important
- Create your list of needs
- Choose a focus - this can be problematic, can you engage more than one issue? How do you not leave anyone out? Do you combine?
- Go back to brainstorming notes, and create a narrative
- Create a hashtag / determine how you'll use social media
- How will you add imagery? What is your visual?
- Combine it all into a poster
- Spread it out into the world

How Cecilia uses Storytelling for Change

Breakout Groups: Create Your Campaign

**Brainstorm: What are
important SRJ issues for
you?**

**What are topics that we can
work with?**

Our Top Two Topics?

If you like topic 1 - go to Kaleb's side of the room.

If you like topic 2 - go to Cecilia's side of the room.

Tell us about your:

- ❖ Campaign
- ❖ Advocacy & Experience Story
- ❖ Social Media Use
- ❖ Show us your poster!

Want to talk more?

Talk to Kaleb at: Kalebd@gmhc.org

Talk to Cecilia at: Ceciliag@gmhc.org