



ADVOCATING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES

870 MARKET STREET, SUITE 400
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102

(415) 865-0176
(877) 847-1278 (TOLL-FREE FAX)

WWW.TRANSGENDERLAWCENTER.ORG
INFO@TRANSGENDERLAWCENTER.ORG

For Immediate Release
June 8, 2010

Media Contacts:

Kristina Wertz
Legal Director
Transgender Law Center
415-865-0176
Kristina@transgenderlawcenter.org

Clair Farley
TEEI Economic Development Coordinator
SF LGBT Center
415-865-5632
clairf@sfccenter.org

**Transgender Economic Empowerment Initiative to Advocate to Restore
Funding at San Francisco Board of Supervisor's Budget and Finance
Committee Meeting**

SAN FRANCISCO - Supporters of the Transgender Economic Empowerment Initiative (TEEI) will attend the San Francisco Board of Supervisor's Budget and Finance Committee Meeting on Wednesday, June 9, 2010, to advocate for a full restoration of funding for the program. The meeting begins at 1:30pm in Room 250 of San Francisco's City Hall.

TEEI, the nation's only collaborative program helping transgender people find jobs, was cut from Mayor Newsom's proposed budget and is facing elimination. TEEI has helped place transgender people in over 130 jobs in less than three years.

Across California, transgender people experience unemployment and poverty at twice the statewide average. This economic injustice cannot be undone without comprehensive employment services addressing the unique needs of transgender job seekers. TEEI is at the forefront of ensuring the economic health of transgender San Franciscans, and the program is a model for communities across the county. TEEI prioritizes community empowerment and includes comprehensive job search support, mentoring, and legal services and education. TEEI also works with employers to ensure workplaces are free of gender identity bias. TEEI is made up of three partner agencies: Transgender Law Center, the SF LGBT Community Center, and Jewish Vocational Service.

TEEI is calling on its supporters to contact the Mayor's office and the Board of Supervisors to let them know how important TEEI is to San Francisco. Mayor Newsom can be reached at (415) 554-6141 or gavin.newsom@sfgov.org. Contact information for members of the Board of Supervisors is available at www.sfbos.org.

San Francisco cannot afford to lose TEEI! Please show your support!

###