

2023

NO PRIDE WITHOUT TRANS YOUTH



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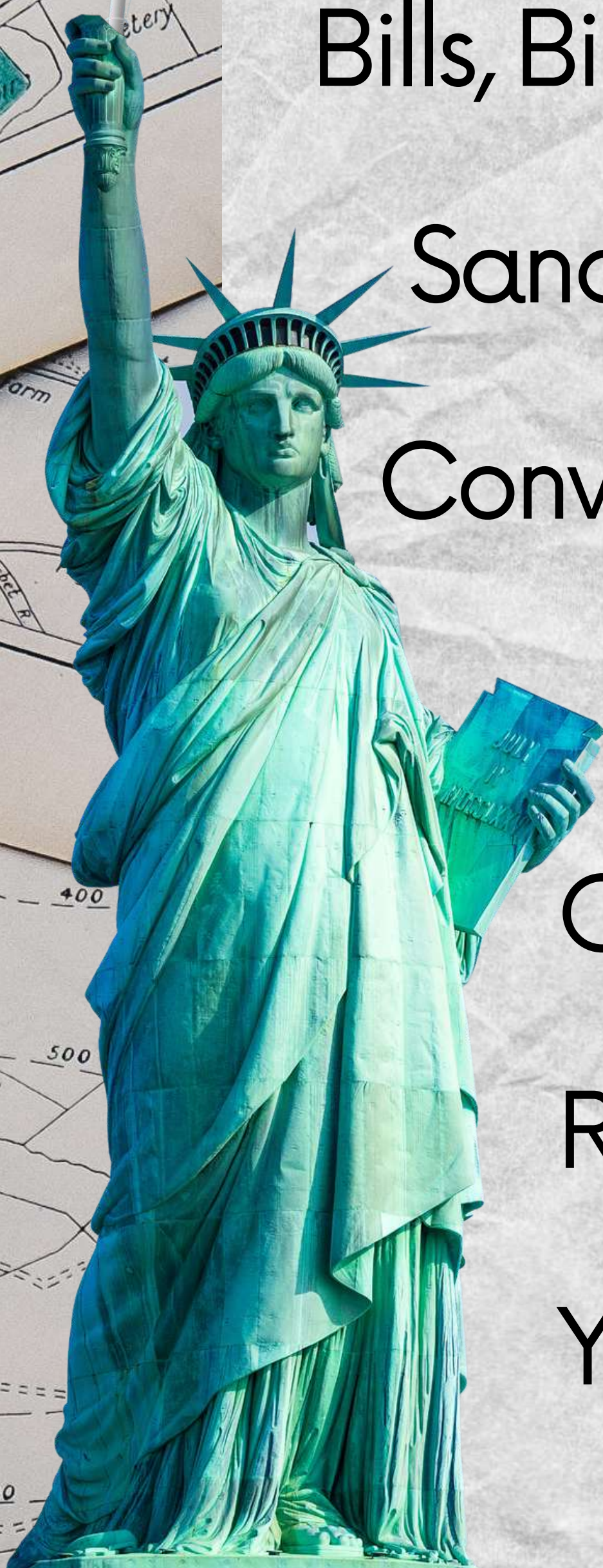
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OUR
VOICES
MATTER

GSA
NETWORK

AS WE CELEBRATE PRIDE AND HONOR OUR HISTORY THIS MONTH, WE ARE REMINDED THAT THERE TRULY IS NO PRIDE WITHOUT TRANS FOLKS. OUR TRANCESTORS MADE MONUMENTAL HISTORY AND PROGRESS THAT WE REFUSE TO LET BE UNDONE, AND WE LOOK TO THEM AS A ROADMAP FOR OUR FUTURE. OUR TRANCESTORS WERE STORYTELLERS; THEY LIVED THEIR STORIES OUT LOUD AND MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS TO FEEL SAFE ENOUGH TO DO THE SAME. THE TRANS YOUTH IN THIS ZINE FOLLOW THEIR EXAMPLE AS STORYTELLERS WHO ARE CREATING A BETTER WORLD BY SPEAKING UP AND SHARING THEIR TRUTH. THEY ARE HISTORY IN THE MAKING.

HEALTHCARE
EDUCATION
CIVIL RIGHTS
FREE SPEECH
PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS

BILLS

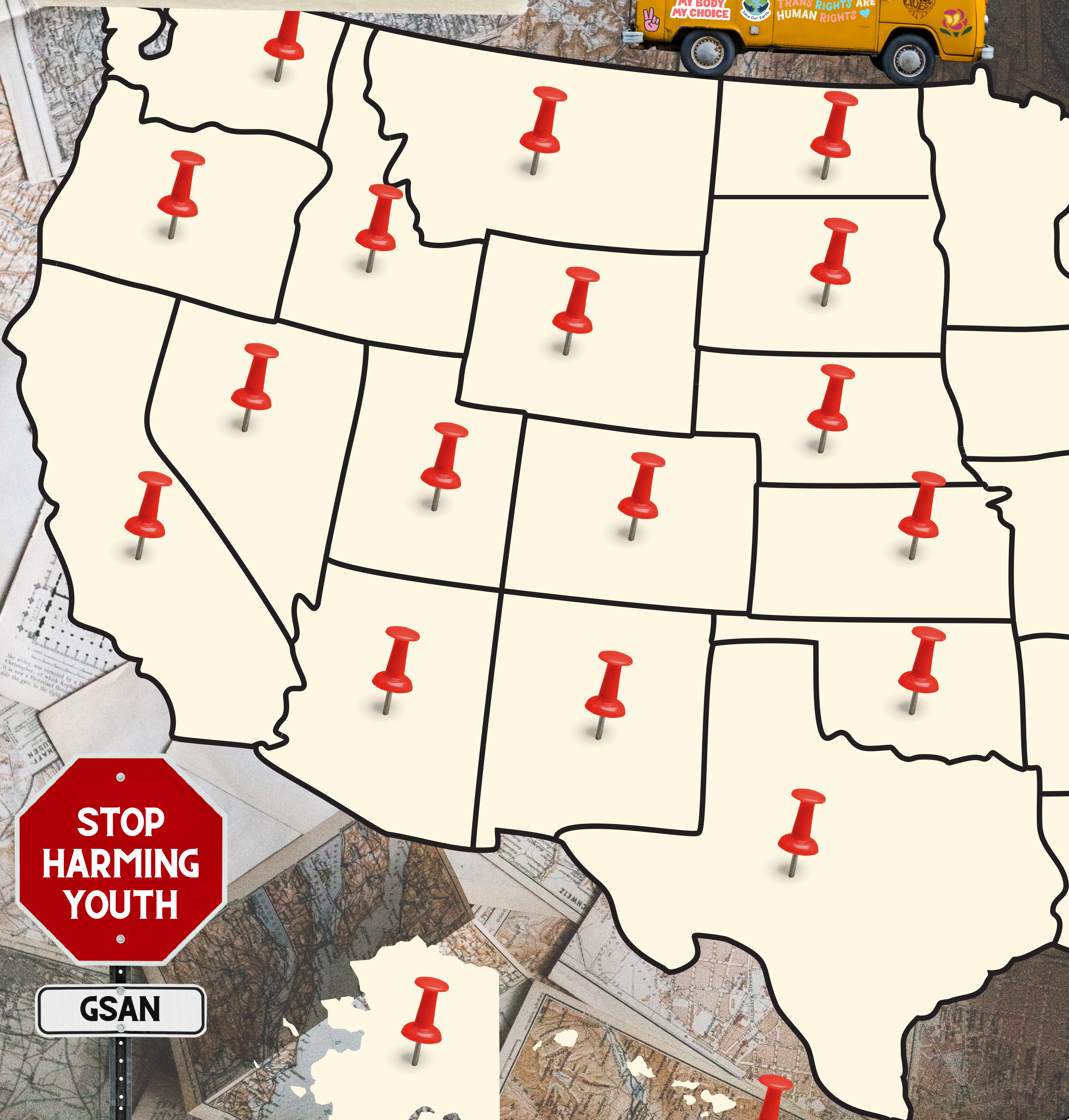
BILLS

BILLS





*Click on a pushpin to
see that state's bills*



GSAN





**TRANS RIGHTS ARE
HUMAN RIGHTS**

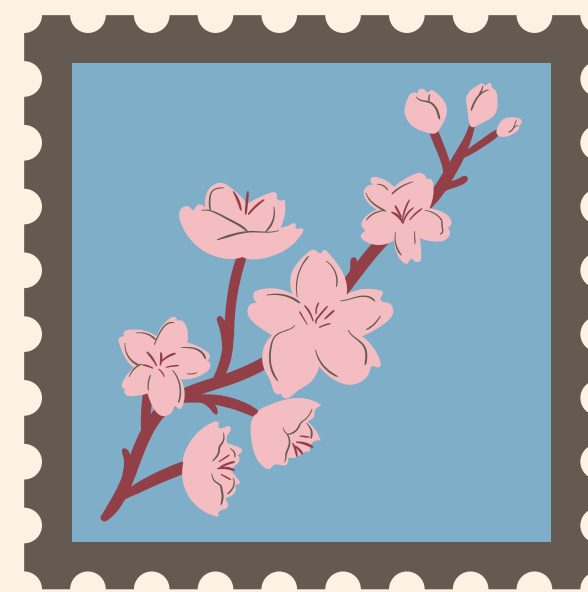
*2023 Legislative
Session:
More than 490
anti-LGBTQ+
bills in the U.S.*

In response to the rise of anti-trans bills, some more progressive places are passing “sanctuary” or “refuge” laws to protect trans youth’s access to health care by expanding civil rights laws that protect trans people and what treatments are covered by Medicaid. Other laws are aimed at protecting health care workers who provide gender affirming care from penalty, or refusing to participate in investigations initiated by other states. These include **Washington, Minnesota, California, Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, and New Mexico**. Some youth and their families living in states threatened by anti-trans laws are moving to these sanctuary states out of fear of being targeted.



If you have questions about what legal protections exist in your state, city or town reach out to Transgender Law Center’s Helpdesk at <https://transgenderlawcenter.org/get-help/>

POSTCARD



*CONVERSATIONS
WITH TRANS
YOUTH LEADERS*

To:
LGBTQ+ Youth
Allies
Policymakers





POSTCARD



To:

LGBTQ+ Youth

Allies

Policymakers

"Being a trans youth in Arkansas, a very conservative state, often feels really bleak with all of the legislation that has been happening. It's really disheartening to see that in a place that you've grown up in your whole life."

"These attacks are coordinated and funded by some of the largest anti-LGBT organizations in this country. There's millions of dollars poured into lobbying and lining these legislators pockets while trans youth are struggling."

"It's always important to center the voices of the people that this legislation is going to impact the most. That's where we're going to gain the most insight on how to support trans youth now."

POSTCARD



To:

LGBTQ+ Youth

Allies

Policymakers

“What these systems tell us is that we're powerless. It's a very carceral, disposable-politics mindset. And so often we believe that and we allow ourselves to fall into that narrative. But we need to remember who benefits from me hating myself. The people that benefit are the people that don't want us to be here. So whenever you're having doubtful or self-hating thoughts towards yourself when it comes to your identity, the most important thing that you can do is realize your power and realize your truth and recognize that the only people that are benefiting from you hating yourself are the same people who we are fighting against.”

POSTCARD



To:

LGBTQ+ Youth

Allies

Policymakers

"We're the future. We're what's next. And we are tired of seeing people older than us telling us what we can and cannot do."

"If these bills were definitely defeated, I wouldn't have to worry... I'd be living my best life. That's my freaking goal. Everyone would just dress however they want. Look however they want. Living and thriving."

"Allies should definitely show up for trans youth by listening to us. Have conversations with us. Emotionally be there for us. Protest with us... There is no LGBTQ movement without trans people. Pride wouldn't even exist if it wasn't for my people."



POSTCARD



Lyric
(she/they)
Trans Woman/Non-Binary

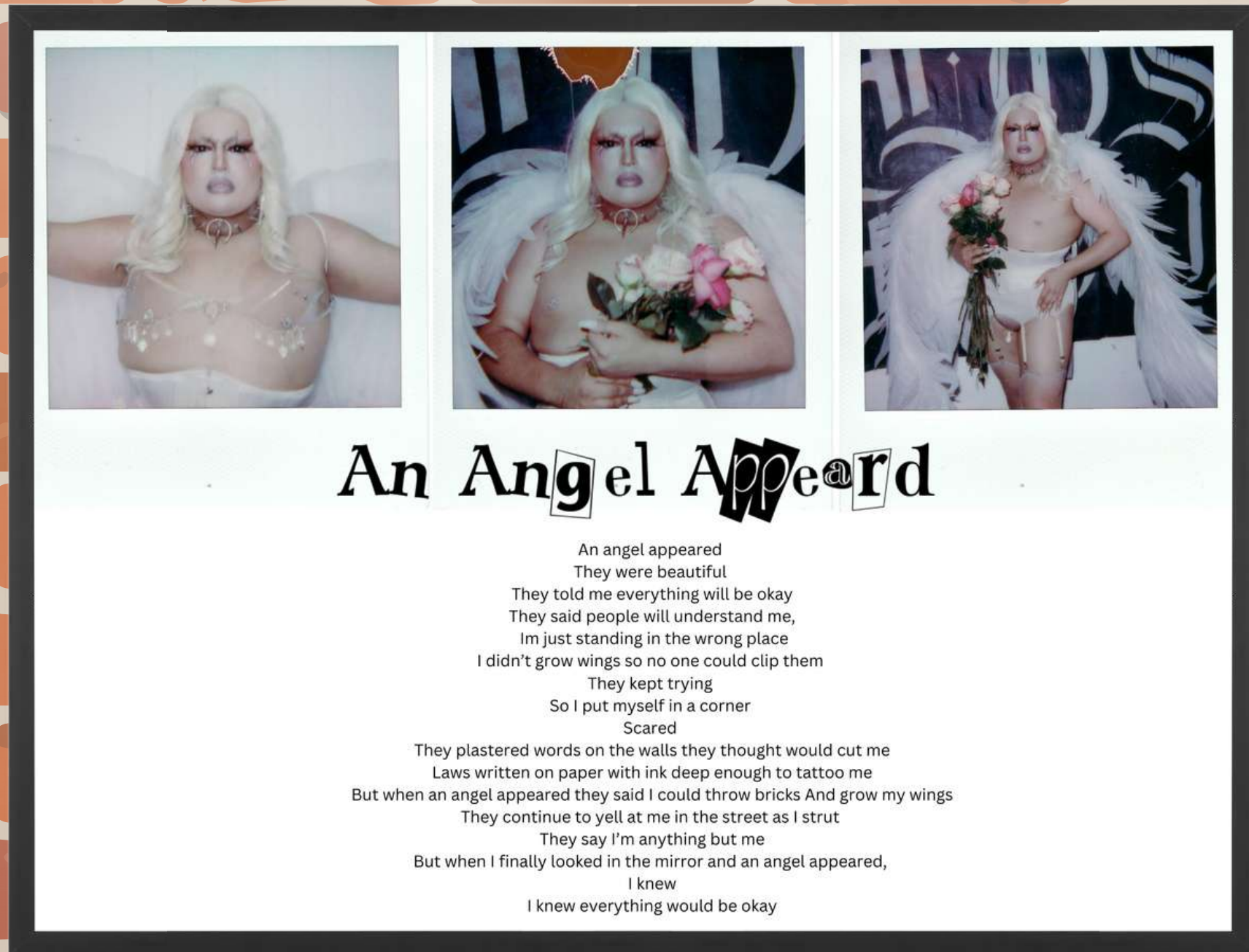
To:
LGBTQ+ Youth
Allies
Polycymakers

"As a black trans woman, a youth at that, I feel like it's important for me to figure out what I can do so I have the proper care and pathway to have the life that I want and that I've been desiring."

"It's getting difficult. We go through stereotypes and discrimination against our transitioning and our gender roles. We have the government trying to step in and take away rights that are beneficial to us and that our ours to begin with."

"I really just send out hope and pray that those who are having difficulty right now with trying to come out and live their best life, I pray that they find the light one day and they can have peace with being who they want to be."

ART FROM TRANS YOUTH





"After residing in Iowa for 15 years, I made the difficult decision to leave this state behind. The recent anti-trans bills, shamelessly imposed by Iowa's governor Kim Reynolds, not only strip away the rights of transgender Iowans but also perpetuate a culture of discrimination and intolerance that has seemingly kickstarted a rise in blatant hate across this state. This hostile environment paired with hormone therapy steadily becoming more difficult to obtain inspired me to transfer universities and build a new home in Wisconsin."

Jace (he/they), 21, Iowa





"As a trans youth in a state where our existence has come under fire, my friends and I have been feeling fear and uncertainty for our futures and our right to a life that makes us happy. These anti-trans bills target our transitions, our extracurriculars, and our daily existence in public, work, and school. These laws cause very real harm to us and others like us, and they benefit no one but the people who wish to keep the status quo."

Andy (he/him), 18, Arizona



An Angel Appeared

An angel appeared
 They were beautiful
 They told me everything will be okay
 They said people will understand me,
 Im just standing in the wrong place
 I didn't grow wings so no one could clip them
 They kept trying
 So I put myself in a corner
 Scared
 They plastered words on the walls they thought would cut me
 Laws written on paper with ink deep enough to tattoo me
 But when an angel appeared they said I could throw bricks And grow my wings
 They continue to yell at me in the street as I strut
 They say I'm anything but me
 But when I finally looked in the mirror and an angel appeared,
 I knew
 I knew everything would be okay

"Amayas Gonzalez is an artist, activist and creative living between two beautiful cities creating safe spaces for all trans people. Anti-trans bills will continue to be introduced and the only way to stop them is to find and create spaces and love for ourselves. Amayas put this poem and photo series to commemorate all that we lost, but also what we must continue to be, angels on our earth."

Amayas (they/them), 22, Colorado



Take Our Next Steps Survey.

*Help guide GSA
Network's future goals,
projects, and vision*

Share Your Story.

*How has the 2023
legislative session
impacted you?*

Donate

*To GSAN's Youth
Freedom Fund
for GSA clubs*

**CALLS TO
ACTION**
Click for More!

**Send
Message to
Legislators**

*Add your name and
send a message to
your state legislators*

**Stay Up
To Date
on Bills**

*Follow as ACLU
tracks 2023 bills*

**Register
to Vote**

*Use your voice!
#TRANSform
the vote*

**CALLS TO
ACTION**
Links in Bio!





RESOURCES

CLICK ON A
RESOURCE
FOR MORE
INFO!



KNOW UR RIGHTS

TRANS AGENDA

TRANS PODCAST

STATE BY STATE

QT WELLNESS

TRANS/NB FAQ



TRANS YOUTH ARE...

MAGICAL POWERFUL RESILIENT

REVOLUTIONARIES INNOVATIVE

A FORCE OF NATURE DIVINE

BEAUTIFUL THE FUTURE

THE CHANGE OF THE SYSTEM

ALWAYS AND FOREVER

