

# *Transgender Day of Remembrance 2022*



*November 20th*

Non redacted

**I**nclusive  
Peterborough

## Content warning –

This slide pack is the non-redacted version and **includes descriptions** of how these people died. It has no graphic images but only describes the method by which they died and were found. If you do not wish to use this version please ask for the redacted version which has had this information removed.

Trans rights are....

... human rights



**Transgender Day of Remembrance** is an annual observance on November 20<sup>th</sup> that honours the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost as a result of anti-transgender violence.

It was started in 1999 by transgender advocate Gwendolyn Ann Smith as a vigil to honour the memory of Rita Hester a transgender woman who was killed in 1998. The vigil commemorated all the transgender people lost to violence since Rita Hester's death, and began an important tradition that has become the annual Transgender Day of Remembrance.

*"Transgender Day of Remembrance seeks to highlight the losses we face due to anti-transgender bigotry and violence. I am no stranger to the need to fight for our rights, and the right to simply exist is first and foremost. With so many seeking to erase transgender people -- sometimes in the most brutal ways possible -- it is vitally important that those we lose are remembered, and that we continue to fight for justice."*

**- Transgender Day of Remembrance founder Gwendolyn Ann Smith**

Our Slides here are compiled to show just some of the sad deaths that have taken place between 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022.

This years list compiled by Transgender EU (TGEU) data shows that there were **327** trans and gender diverse people reported murdered in the last year.

**68%** of the murders happened in Latin America and the Caribbean, **29%** of the total occurring in Brazil.

**95%** of those murdered globally were trans women or feminine people.

**Half** of the murdered trans people whose occupation was known were sex workers.

**36%** of those reported murdered in Europe were migrants.

**35%** of the murders took place on the street and **27%** in their own residence.



Most of the victims were between **31** and **40** years old.

Of the cases where race or ethnicity was known; racialised trans people make up **65%** of the reported murders.

The data shows a worrying trend with most victims being Black and migrant trans women of colour.

Some countries data maybe higher due to the existence of a monitoring system.

Cases from Estonia and Switzerland were reported for the first time.

*More information is available here:*

<https://transrespect.org/en/tmm-update-tdor-2022/>

# Tdor.translivesmatter.info shows :

- Between 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022 there were 386 reports of deaths
  - 294 of these were due to violence
  - 49 were suicide
  - 11 were medical
  - 24 were uncategorised
  - 8 were custodial

The Tdor data also includes within 'medical' some deaths from COVID 19, although the fact they had COVID 19 was not always known until after death.

Tdor includes the TGEU figures but also adds other reports that they may find.





**Saray**

**Age 31**

**Occupation:**

**Died: 11th Dec**

**Colima, Mexico**

**Cause: Tortured**

Saray's family and friends shared messages of love for her and outrage and her murder.

Her body had been found in an irrigation canal that leads to the town of Lo de Villa in Colima, a state located on the west coast of Mexico. It was reported to be the fifth murder of a trans woman in Colima in 2021.

Local journalist Roberto Macias said Saray was about to turn 32 and that it was passers by that found her body near the canal.

The body bore traces of torture and next to her was found cardboard containing threatening messages.

Colima is one of the few states in the country that has an action protocol on femicide that explicitly includes trans identities. It states all femicide must be investigated with a gender perspective, differential approach on human rights and it applies to all women including trans women. The penal code was reformed in 2015 to add where the aggravating factors of 'hatred, rejection or discrimination towards the sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim' are contemplated during homicide. Despite this it is unknown how many people have been arrested for these crimes as the Mexican state fails to collect information on violence and crimes against LGBT+ people.

Mexico has the second highest number of trans homicides in the world.

# Serena Brenneman

Age 16

Occupation: Student

Died: 24 Sep 2022

Location: Salem, Oregon (USA)

Cause: Suicide

Serena's body was found in the Willamette River on Saturday 24th September. She had been missing since Friday 16th September.

A missing teen last seen at a West Salem High School football game on Sept. 16 was found dead in the Willamette River, police said.

Salem Police detectives and Polk County sheriff's deputies responded to reports of a body found in the waterway at 1 p.m. Saturday.

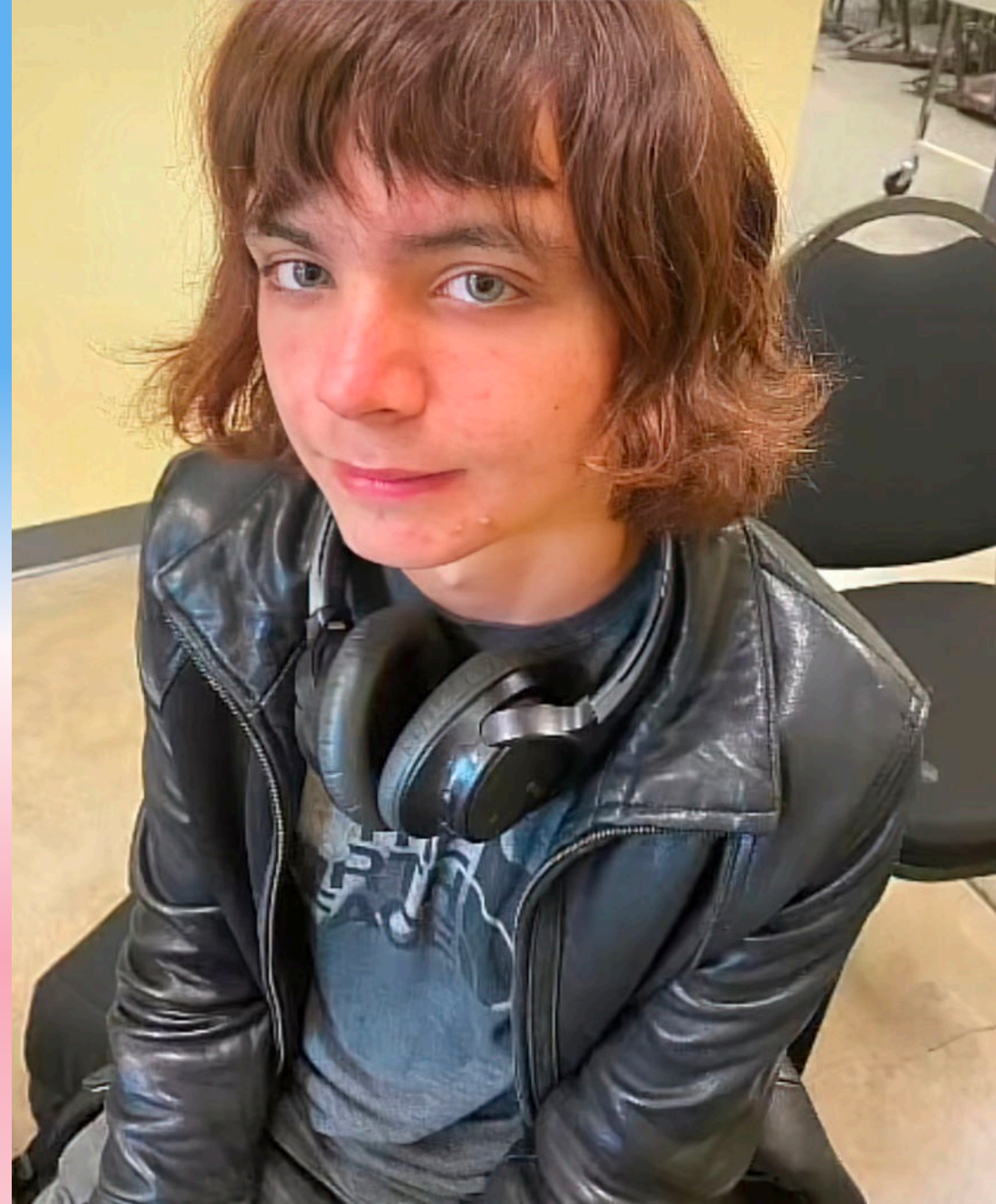
Brenneman's family posted on Facebook Tuesday, saying they are heartbroken and that their child had struggled with mental health issues the family had been getting care for. "While we can only speculate as to where [deadname] was mentally on Friday, the 16th, a note on [her] phone eluded to the fact that [her] mental health struggles remained," wrote Bryan Brenneman.

The statement also addressed numerous posts on social media that their child may have been using the name Serena and identified with they/them or she/her pronouns.

"We are aware of and had open discussions regarding [deadname]'s gender identity," the post continued. "This was an ongoing process that [deadname] continued to question with us and [herself]. If [deadname] had asked you personally to use different pronouns, or names, please continue to do so."

The reporting above has had the dead name removed but this demonstrates how Trans people are still disrespected in the media when it's a report about their death.

Serena was an advanced flute player in a marching band and friends described them as empathetic, caring and stylish.





**Alice Litman**

**Age: 20**

**Occupation: Unknown**

**Died: 26 May 2022**

**Location: Brighton**

**Cause: Suicide**

When Alice died by suicide on 26th May she had been on a waiting list for an NHS Gender Identity Clinic for no fewer than 1023 days.

This is the stark reality of trans medical care in the United Kingdom.

My sister died after 1,023 days on an NHS waiting list. This is the reality of the 'trans debate'

Alice Litman died by suicide on 26 May, at the age of 20, having been failed by the state. Her sister, Kate Litman, shines a light on the political conditions of her death, and honours her memory.

This year at London Trans Pride, joy and celebration were underscored by pain and grief.

Thousands of people decked out in queer splendour marched carrying placards with messages such as "Trans is Beautiful" and "Trans Joy is Powerful". At the same time, space was held to grieve trans lives that have been lost, with a minute of silence and a powerful speech from Lucia Blayke, who named transgender women who have been murdered or taken their own lives.

"I joined the protest with my brother and parents and to march for our sister and daughter, Alice, who died by suicide on 26 May this year, at the age of 20. Alice was one of many who died while on an NHS waiting list to receive potentially lifesaving medical care.

"In the days after Alice's death, my mum spoke of her desire to send Alice's ashes to the individuals who are so determined to make our world a hostile one for trans people. Without knowing it, my mum was echoing the ACT UP protests of the 1990s, where demonstrators threw the ashes of loved ones who had died from AIDS-related illnesses onto the lawn of the White House, to condemn the inaction of the US government in the face of the HIV/AIDS crisis."

Alice was a dancer and she shed her self consciousness to move with grace and fluidity while the music was playing.

# Brent Wood

Age 31

**Died: 3 Mar 22**

**Location: Seattle, Washington (USA)**

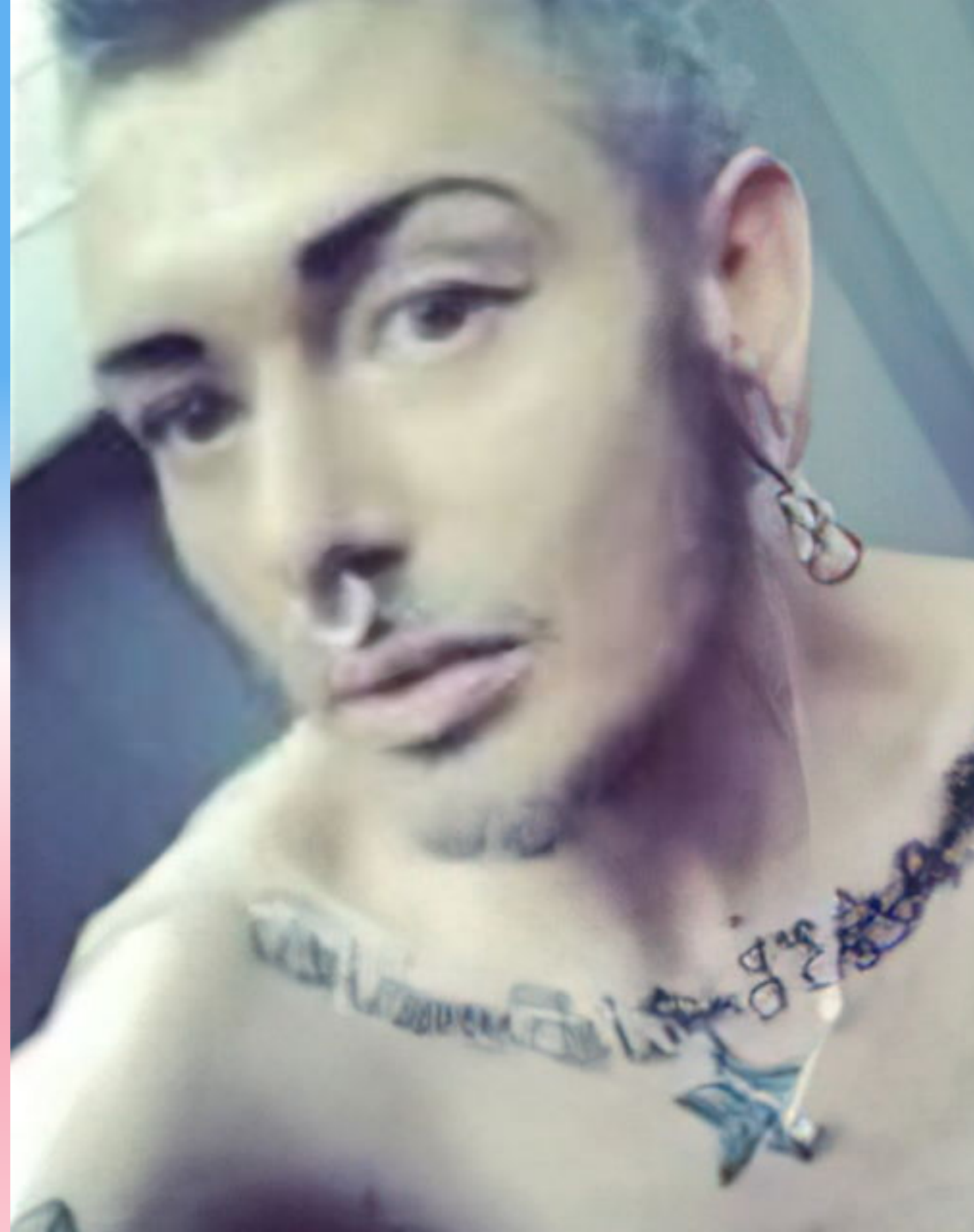
**Cause: Beaten**

Brent was found near the bins of a drugstore. They identified as non-binary and died from multiple blunt force trauma to the head.

Wood did not have a permanent address but received mail at a Housing support facility.

Friends said Wood was an artistic person and is being mourned by many in the Capitol Hill community including the small businesses where he would do odd jobs and fellow artists got to know them.

Wood had an unwavering “artistic view fo the world around” and “immediate compassion and love for everyone they met”, Naith a Capitol Hill talent buyer stated.





## Paulinha Ferrara

Age: 31

Occupation: Entrepreneur

Died: 23 Jan 22

Location: Timon, Maranhao (Brazil)

Cause: Stoned and Stabbed

Paulinha was found dead after being beaten around the head with stones and then stabbed. A 30 year old suspect was subsequently arrested.

According to Captain Tyciane Ibiapina of the 11<sup>th</sup> Military police batallion, Paulinha was found in her underwear with a piece of wood stuffed in her mouth.

Paulinha was an entrepreneur who sold plants in Timon and Teresina for a living. A comment on a facebook post said she was never seen without a smile.

Sadly, Paulinha was one of four trans people killed in Maranhao in just a four month period (December 21– March 22).

# Wafa

Age ??

Occupation: Performer

Died: 27 Sep 22

Swabi, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Pakistan)

Cause: Shot

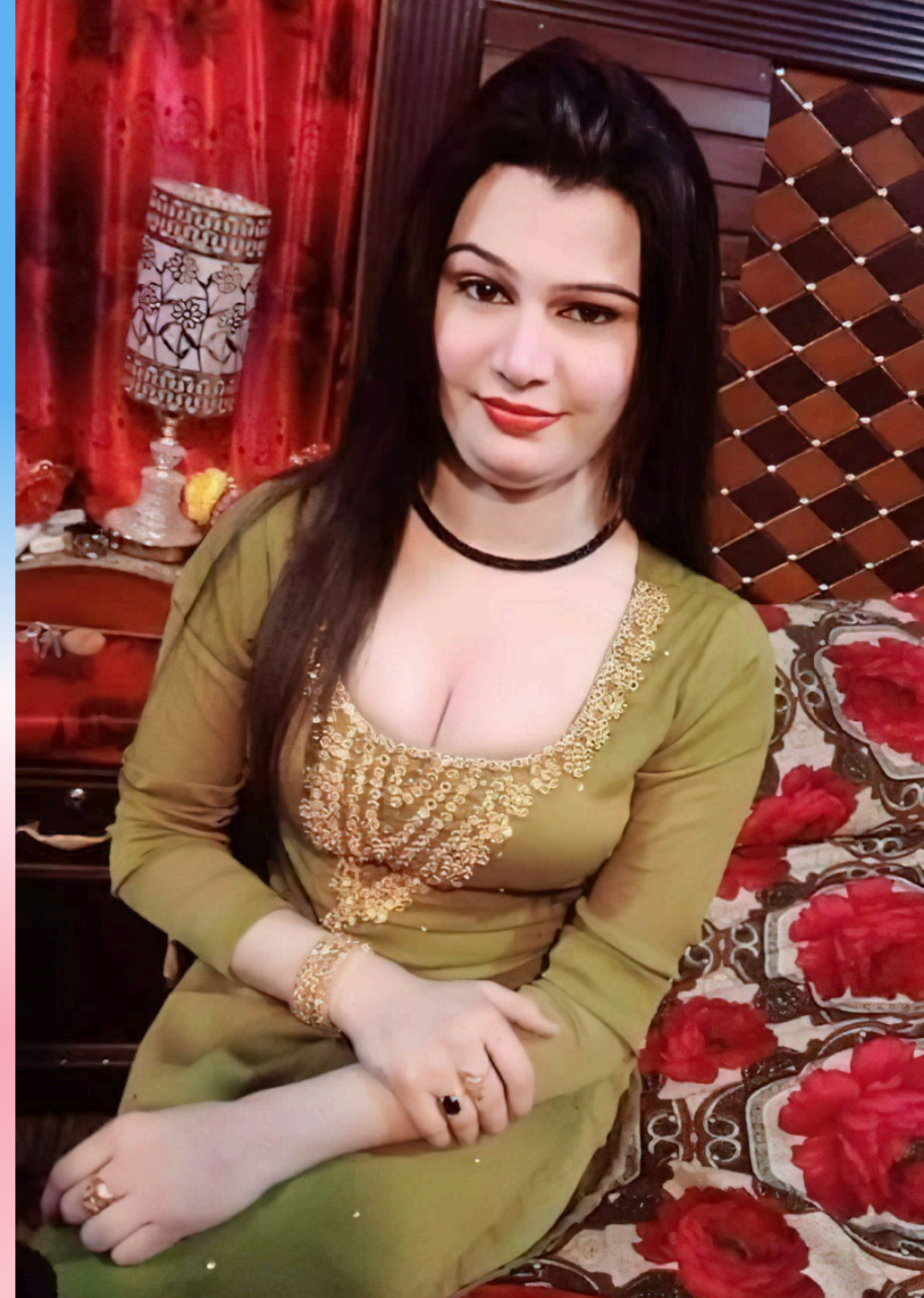
Wafa was shot when the vehicle she was travelling in was fired upon. Although her companions survived Wafa died in hospital.

The suspect had fled the scene.

Wafa had been on the way to Peshawar to perform in a musical show.

A person who knew Wafa said Wafa had received a phonecall asking them to pull up on the roadside. A male then arrived and exchanged heated words with Wafa before opening fire.

The male was believed to have been a friend of Wafa's.





**Matle C.**

**Age: 25**

**Occupation:**

**Died: 2 Sep 2022**

**Location: Munster, Rhine-Westphalia (Germany)**

**Cause: Beaten**

Matle died several days after being beaten when he had come to the aid of two women who were being harassed by a man at the Munster Christopher Street Day pride festival.

Residents of the progressive university city were in shock and disbelief about the act of violence. The man being identified only by his forename, Matle.

Thousands gathered in the towns marketplace to remember Matle who many called a hero. TransInter-Munster association president Felix Adrian Schaper stated “the hostilities are increasing again” adding “attacks against LGBT+ people are rising because more queer people live openly.”

# Hanar

Age: 28

Occupation:

Died: 6 Feb 22

Location: Mariwan, Kurdistan (Iran)

Cause: Suicide

On the early hours of February 6, 28 yer old Sara, a transgender woman from the city of Mariwan in Iran's western Kurdistan province called her friend Hanar to check up on her.

Hanar's brother answered, telling Sara that Hanar had done what she had said she would do for a long time – taken her own life.

Sara was the first of the friendship group to find out that Hanar had committed suicide, she wanted to check on her as Hanar had expressed suicidal thoughts on several occasions.

Sara said “She would always tell me about her pain, she did not like mens clothes and did not want to act like a man, but we could not come out in public because the city is very small.”

Despite the Iranian government subsidizing sex reassignment surgery for transgender people, endorsed by a decree form the top Shiite religious authority Grand Ayatollah Khomeini, the process still requires the consent of the persons family and the approval of specialist physicians,. The decree however is not implemented in Sunni majority areas, mainy located in the Kurdish populated western part of the country. As opposed to the cosmopolitan cities of Iran, transgender communities in Kurdish cities confront a different reality – many conceal their trans identities or attempt to migrate to other countries.







# Matthew Angelo Spampinato

Age: 21

Occupation: Barista

Died: 9 Feb 22

Location: New Castle, Delaware (USA)

Cause: Run over

Matthew was killed during a hit and run incident. He was a white transgender man and a barista at a Starbucks in New Castle. Customers and employees described him as bright, kind and “a breath of fresh air.” A co-worker said “He would always ask how everybody was doing even if he wasn’t having a good day himself.” A regular at the store described him as having “a smile that could turn a day around.”

Matthew had recently moved to the area after a visit a friend where he fell in love with the area. He had shared updates on social media about his transition and that he had to wait for four years for a prescription for testosterone.

Matthew’s cousin described him as ‘very headstrong.. Once he set his mind on something he went with it... I want people to think of him as a human being who had a family and who had people who loved him. I would give anything to be able to see him.’ Matthew had written that he had realized he was not cisgender at the age of 13 and although not everyone in his life was supportive, he appreciated those who were.

At the time he was hit he was walking towards the Starbucks where he worked. Police told the family that Matthew was walking on the grass well away from the traffic when he was hit.



# Estee Saway

Age: 38

Occupation: Teacher

Died: 28 Sep 22

Location: Bangued, Abra (Philippines)

Cause: Shot

Estee died after being shot by a gunman who followed her on her way to work as a high school teacher.

Her assailant followed her as she made her way to work. After the attack she was taken to a nearby hospital where she was declared, having sustained multiple bullet wounds.

After reviewing CCTV footage, police arrested two suspects who were fleeing on a motorcycle.

Four suspects were arrested and when interrogated confessed to killing Estee, claiming she was 'killed under contract from an elected official following a dispute with a member of her family'.

Later they admitted to being paid P100,000 (£1,501) to kill Saway over a land dispute in the area.

In the Philippines LGBT+ rights are behind the times, with anti LGBT+ practices permitted, same sex marriage unrecognized and protections against LGBT+ citizens are rarely enforced. Additionally, 'trans-panic defence' is still used regularly, such as a recent case from 2021 where the suspect accused of the brutal murder of a trans woman used the defence in court.

# What can I do?

## Raise Awareness and be a Trans Ally

Why not read the guide attached on how to be a Transgender Ally in work:

<https://www.glaad.org/amp/beginners-guide-being-ally-to-trans-people>

Raise awareness - direct people to TDOR's website

<https://tdor.translivesmatter.info/>

Stonewall website has the campaign on coming out for trans equality: Look for the campaign here:

<https://www.stonewall.org.uk/our-work/campaigns/come-out-trans-equality>

# Support

If you are feeling low and you think you might need immediate support :

Samaritans **116 123**

Support for trans young people children and their families

Mermaids Helpline **0808 801 0400 (mon-fri 9am to 9pm)**

Switchboard LGBT+ helpline – **0300 330 0630** 10am to 10pm every day

Mindline Trans+ emotional support for those who are transgender, non-binary and genderfluid but also their family members, friends, colleagues and carers. **0300 330 5468**  
(mon and fri 8pm – midnight)

Gendered Intelligence support line – **0330 355 9678** (mon, tues, thurs 2pm-7pm and wed and fri 10-3pm)

Support for LGBT community and their allies - **Stonewall** 0800 050 2020 (mon to fri 9:30am-4:30pm)

*In memorial of all those Trans lives lost  
this year including these*

386



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