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Depressed Black Gay Men (DBGM), Inc., and Mt. Sinai Beth Israel's Diversity Council, together with a planning committee consisting of representatives from the National LGBT Cancer Network, Bridging Access to Care/Brooklyn Men (K)onnect, and the Latino Commission on AIDS, present the first-ever ground-breaking

**In My Mind: A LGBT People of Color Mental Health Conference**  
**"Examining Our Challenges, Healing for Our Strengths"**

This one-day conference will take place on **Thursday, Oct 8, 2015** at Mt. Sinai Beth Israel Phillips Ambulatory Care Center, 10 Union Square (@ 14<sup>th</sup> St.), NYC. Following the success of last year's convening at Rutgers University, the day will bring together mental health consumers, clinicians, students and academics in formats to encourage a rare cross pollination of concerns and experiences; often these groups do not have opportunities to speak with and listen to each other.

The first half of the day will focus on the mental health challenges facing LGBT people of color (POC); the second half will address a wide range of traditional and radical treatment options. Both the morning and afternoon sessions will begin with plenary presentations to establish a common starting point, followed by concurrent small group workshops – some intended for clinicians and others for community members. The day will end with a "Community Forum", where conference participants will have a chance to express their thoughts on the conference experience and what they believe should be next steps for improving the mental health of LGBT POC.

- Plenary speakers will have approximately 15-20 minutes for their presentations, followed by a Q&A.
- Interactive workshops will consist of a maximum 40 people.

We encourage vigorous and robust presentations, and discussions of the issues affecting the mental health of LGBT POC, and invite abstract submissions addressing the topics below:

**Conference Program**

**Possible morning workshop topics**

**Possible afternoon workshop topics**

Challenges We Face

Strategies For Change

Masculinity/Femininity/gender expression	Culturally competent psychotherapy with LGBT POC
Homophobia/transphobia in faith communities	Activism/changing the system as a healing force
Aging	Healing through communities of faith
Youth	Meditation
Illness, access to healthcare, mental health care	Exercise (including Wellness) and mental health
Family rejection (homelessness)/acceptance	Sexuality as a healing force
Sexuality	Making connections/finding community
HIV and mental health challenges	Peer counseling
Mental health and Incarceration	Prevention (from family/community)/community re-entry/recidivism
Sports	Sports as therapy
Foreign born and asylum in US	Resources: mental health, healthcare, housing, funding, sociocultural

If submitting an abstract for a poster presentation, **NOTE:** should be free-standing 36" x 48" Tri-Fold Poster accommodating 16 PowerPoint Slides

**Conference Schedule (tentative)**

Time	Activity
8:30-9:00am	Coffee and Registration
9:00-9:10am	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>
9:10-10:00am	Plenary
10:00-10:15am	<b>BREAK</b>
10:15-11:30am	1st Concurrent Workshops
11:30-11:45am	<b>BREAK</b>
11:45-1:00pm	2nd Concurrent Workshops
1:00-2:00pm	<b>LUNCH</b>
2:00-2:45pm	Plenary
2:45-3:30pm	3rd Concurrent Workshops
3:30-3:45pm	<b>BREAK</b>
3:45- 4:45pm	Community Forum: Where do we go from here?
4:45-5:00pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>