STANFORD UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

STANFORD, CALIFORNIA 94305 • (415) 497-5824

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STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
Department of Surgery
Division of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
Rehabilitation Surgery

Lou Sullivan
[redacted] Hyde Street #[redacted]
San Francisco, CA 94109

Dear Lou Sullivan:

You have contacted the Gender Dysphoria Program at Stanford and expressed an interest in entering our program. You should be aware that while we receive a large number of inquiries, we cannot be of assistance to all those who contact us. Therefore, prior to being considered for initial evaluation, you must fill out the attached patient summary sheet and return it to us for review. In some cases, additional information will be requested before we make a decision.

Please answer all of the questions and be candid with us. There are no trick questions or right answers. We are simply attempting to learn about you and your needs so that we can determine whether we are in a position to be of assistance to you. Whatever you write will be held in strictest confidence. The information you provide will be released to no one except to other professionals and then only at your written request. Your thoughtful cooperation will help us to help you.

Also included are information sheets which outline the program. There are two points which must be emphasized:

1) All persons whether or not they have cross-lived prior to undergoing evaluation at Stanford must be involved in our program for a minimum of one year prior to final consideration for surgery and must demonstrate during the trial period that they can live successfully in the gender of choice.

2) The second point that must be noted is that while we are called the Stanford "Program" the word program is a misnomer in that our role is primarily one of determining whether cross-gender living is an appropriate treatment for your problem and whether we feel that at some point in the future you might be helped, not harmed, by sex reassignment surgery. After treating a large number of patients, we have found that the burden of making a successful adjustment to a new life style is that of the person making the change. The transition phase, particularly from male to female, requires much personal strength and stability. We are in a position to be of little real assistance.

Sincerely,

Judy Van Maasdam, Coordinator
Gender Dysphoria Program
(415) 497-5152

JVM:cf

Enclosures