

Getting Down to Basics

Tools to Support LGBTQ Youth in Care

LGBTQ Youth Resources

A growing body of resources is available to assist the child welfare community to provide competent, supportive care to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) young people. The following resources offer support to LGBTQ youth and to the caregivers and professionals in their lives.

CWLA/LAMBDA LEGAL JOINT INITIATIVE: FOSTERING TRANSITIONS

In 2002, the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) and Lambda Legal launched a historic partnership to change the way LGBTQ youth and adults are treated in the nation's child welfare systems. As leading national advocacy and education organizations, CWLA and Lambda Legal offer assistance on a variety of educational, legal and policy matters to better serve LGBTQ people in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

CHILD WELFARE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (CWLA)

www.cwla.org

CWLA is a powerful coalition of hundreds of private and public agencies serving vulnerable children and families. Their expertise, leadership and innovation on policies, programs and practices help improve the lives of millions of children in all 50 states, and their impact is felt worldwide. Their mission is to lead the nation in building public will to ensure safety, permanence, and well-being of children, youth and their families by advancing public policy, defining and promoting practice excellence and delivering superior membership services.

1726 M Street NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-688-4200

LAMBDA LEGAL

www.lambdalegal.org

Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transgender people and those with HIV through impact litigation, education and public policy work.

120 Wall St., 19th Floor, New York, NY 10005
Phone: 866-LGBTeen / 212-809-8585
Email: cwla.lambda.network@lambdalegal.org

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

These organizations offer resources for LGBTQ young people and the adults who care for them.

AFFIRMATION: GAY AND LESBIAN MORMONS

www.affirmation.org

Affirmation's mission is to provide a forum for gay Mormons to associate with their peers. It seeks to meet the needs of persons experiencing frustration or alienation from family, friends, and the Church. Affirmation includes extensive resources for transgender individuals and youth.

P.O. Box 1435, Palm Springs, CA 92263-1435
Phone: 661-367-2421

AMBIENTE JOVEN

www.ambientejoven.org

Ambiente Joven is a project of Advocates for Youth and is dedicated to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Latino/a youth

FOSTERING TRANSITIONS

A CWLA/Lambda Legal
Joint Initiative



community in the U.S. and Latin America, with the goal of providing information about sexual and mental health as well as general cultural information.

BISEXUAL RESOURCE CENTER

www.biresource.net

BRC is a website dedicated to providing resources to the bisexual community as well as to those who identify as pansexual, fluid, heteroflexible, omniseual and queer. It includes youth resources.

P.O. Box 170796, Boston, MA 02117

Phone: 617-424-9595

Email: brc@biresource.net

CASEY FAMILY PROGRAMS, LIFE SKILLS ASSESSMENT, LGBTQ SUPPLEMENT

www.casey.org

Casey Family Programs' Life Skills Assessment is a free and easy-to-use tool to help young people prepare for adulthood. The Assessment includes an optional supplement developed specifically for LGBTQ youth. It provides instant feedback. Customized learning plans provide a clear outline of next steps, and the accompanying teaching resources are available for free or at a minimal cost.

Casey Family Programs

2001 Eighth Avenue, Suite 2700, Seattle, WA 98121

Phone: 206-282-7300

CENTERLINK

www.lgbtcenters.org

CenterLink exists to support the development of strong, sustainable LGBT community centers and to build a unified center movement.

P.O. Box 24490, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307

Phone: 954-765-6024

Email: centerlink@lgbtcenters.org

CHILDREN OF LESBIANS & GAYS EVERYWHERE (COLAGE)

www.colage.org

COLAGE is a national movement of children, youth, and adults with one or more lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and/or queer (LGBTQ) parent/s. COLAGE builds community and works toward social justice through youth empowerment, leadership development, education and advocacy.

4509 Interlake Avenue N, #180, Seattle, WA 98103

Phone: 855-4-COLAGE

Email: colage@colage.org

THE EQUITY PROJECT

www.equityproject.org

The Equity Project is an initiative to ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth in juvenile delinquency courts are treated with dignity, respect and fairness. The Equity Project examines issues that impact LGBT youth during the entire delinquency process, ranging from arrest through post-disposition.

Email: info@equityproject.org

FAMILY ACCEPTANCE PROJECT™

<http://familyproject.sfsu.edu>

The Family Acceptance Project™ is the only community research, intervention, education and policy initiative that works to decrease major health and related risks for LGBT youth, such as suicide, substance abuse, HIV and homelessness—in the context of their families. It uses a research-based, culturally grounded approach to help ethnically, socially and religiously diverse families decrease rejection and increase support for their LGBT children.

San Francisco State University

3004-16th Street, #201, San Francisco, CA 94103

Email: fap@sfsu.edu

FAMILY EQUALITY COUNCIL

www.familyequality.org

The Family Equality Council works to ensure equality for LGBT families by building community, changing hearts and minds and advancing social justice for all families.

P.O. Box 206, Boston, MA 02133

Phone: 617-502-8700

Email: info@familyequality.org

THE GAY, LESBIAN & STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK

www.glsen.org

GLSEN, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, strives to ensure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.

90 Broad St., 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10004

Phone: 212-727-0135

Email: glsen@glsen.org

GENDER SPECTRUM

www.genderspectrum.org

Gender Spectrum provides education, resources and training to help you create a more gender sensitive and supportive environment for all people, including gender variant and transgender youth. In a simple, straightforward manner, Gender Spectrum helps students, families, schools, and organizations understand and address the concepts of gender identity.

Their accessible, practical approach is based on research and experience, enabling their clients to gain a deeper understanding of gender variance.

1122 E. Pike Street #796, Seattle, WA 98122
Phone: 510-567-3977
Email: info@genderspectrum.org

GLBT NATIONAL HELP CENTER

www.glbtnationalhelpcenter.org
The GLBT National Help Center is dedicated to meeting the needs of this community and those questioning their sexual orientation or gender identity. It offers free and confidential peer-counseling, information and local resources for cities and towns throughout the United States. It offers counseling to callers of all ages about coming out issues, relationship concerns, HIV/AIDS anxiety, safer-sex information and more.

2261 Market St., PMB #296, San Francisco, CA 94114
Phone: 888-843-4564
Toll-Free Youth Talkline: 800-246-PRIDE
Email: info@glbntnationalhelpcenter.org

MATTHEW'S PLACE

www.matthewsplace.org
An online community and resource center for LGBTQ and allied youth, the Youth Lounge provides resources about LGBTQ youth friendly shelters, outreach centers and empowerment programs across the country. It includes moderated chats, discussion boards and informational columns from notable individuals in the LGBTQ and allied communities.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR LESBIAN RIGHTS

www.nclrights.org/youth
NCLR's Youth Project advances the rights of LGBTQ youth through education, public policy and precedent-setting casework. By bringing the issues faced by LGBTQ youth front and center, it is changing the legal landscape for all youth, and ensuring health and safety for the next generation of all young people.

870 Market Street, Suite 370, San Francisco, CA 94102
Phone: 415-392-6257
Email: info@nclrights.org

NATIONAL CENTER FOR TRANSGENDER EQUALITY

www.transequality.org
The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) is a 501(c)3 social justice organization dedicated to advancing the equality of transgender people through advocacy, collaboration and empowerment.

1325 Massachusetts Avenue NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20005
Phone: 202-903-0112

NATIONAL JUVENILE DEFENDER CENTER

www.njdc.info
The National Juvenile Defender Center provides support to public defenders, appointed counsel, law school clinical programs and non-profit law centers to ensure quality representation in urban, suburban, rural and tribal areas. NJDC offers a wide range of integrated services to juvenile defenders, including training, technical assistance, advocacy, networking, collaboration, capacity building and coordination.

1350 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 304
Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-452-0010
Email: inquiries@njdc.info

NATIONAL NETWORK FOR YOUTH

www.nn4youth.org
The National Network for Youth has been serving the youth of America for more than 30 years by championing the needs of runaway, homeless and other disconnected youth through advocacy, innovation and services.

741 8th Street, SE, Washington, DC 20003
Phone: 202-783-7949

OPENING DOORS PROJECT

www.americanbar.org/groups/child_law/what_we_do/projects/openingdoors.html
The Opening Doors Project is one of many at the ABA Center on Children and the Law. Opening Doors aims to provide the legal and child welfare community tools, resources and support for improving outcomes for LGBTQ young people in foster care.

740 15th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005-1019
Phone: 202-662-1000

PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS (PFLAG)

www.pflag.org
PFLAG promotes the health and well being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

1828 L Street, NW, Suite 660, Washington, DC 20036
Phone: 202-467-8180
Email: info@pflag.org

RENAISSANCE TRANSGENDER ASSOCIATION

www.ren.org

Renaissance Education Association is a non-profit, non-political, educational and social support organization founded and designed to educate and support persons regarding transgender issues, sexual orientation, sexual identity or gender identity without prejudice.

987 Old Eagle School Road, Suite 719, Wayne, PA 19087

Phone: 610-636-1990

Email: info@ren.org

SAFE SCHOOLS COALITION

www.safeschoolscoalition.org

The Safe Schools Coalition is an international public-private partnership in support of LGBT youth that is working to help schools, at home and all over the world, become safe places where every family can belong, where every educator can teach and where every child can learn, regardless of gender identity or sexual orientation.

c/o Rosehedge

1401 East Jefferson Street, Suite 401, Seattle, WA 98122

Phone: 206-451-SAFE

Crisis Phone: 877-SAFE-SAFE

SYLVIA RIVERA LAW PROJECT

<http://srlp.org>

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project (SRLP) works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine their gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race and without facing harassment, discrimination or violence. SRLP seeks to increase the political voice and visibility of low-income people and people of color who are transgender, intersex or gender non-conforming. SRLP works to improve access to respectful and affirming social, health and legal services for these communities.

147 W. 24th Street, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10011

Phone: 212-337-8550 / 866-930-3283 (toll-free)

Email: info@srlp.org

THE TREVOR PROJECT

www.thetrevorproject.org

The Trevor Project is determined to end suicide among LGBTQ youth by providing life-saving and life-affirming resources including a nationwide, 24/7 crisis intervention lifeline, digital community and advocacy/educational programs that create a safe, supportive and positive environment for everyone.

8704 Santa Monica Blvd., Suite 200

West Hollywood, CA 90069

Phone: 310-271-8845

Hotline: 866-4-U-TREVOR

THE WORLD PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSGENDER HEALTH

www.wpath.org

WPATH is a professional organization devoted to the understanding and treatment of gender identity disorders. As an international multidisciplinary professional association, WPATH has a mission to promote evidence based care, education, research, advocacy, public policy and respect in transgender health.

1300 South Second Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis, MN 55454

Phone: 612-624-9397

Email: wpath@wpath.org

YOUTH GUARDIAN SERVICES, INC.

www.youth-guard.org

Youth Guardian Services is a youth-run organization that provides support services on the Internet to LGBTQ and supportive youth.

101 East State Street, #299, Ithaca, NY 14850

Phone: 877-270-5152

YOUTHRESOURCE

www.amplifyyourvoice.org/youthresource

YouthResource, a website created by and for LGBTQ young people 13 to 24 years old, takes a holistic approach to sexual health and issues of concern to LGBTQ young people.

c/o Advocates For Youth

2000 M Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20036

Phone: 202-419-3420

Lambda Legal

120 Wall Street
19th Floor
New York, NY 10005

866-LGBTTeen
212-809-8585

www.lambdalegal.org

Child Welfare League of America

1726 M Street NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20036

202-688-4200

www.cwla.org