



National Workgroup to Address the Needs of Children and Youth Who Are LGBTQI2-S and Their Families

~Affirming LGBTQI2-S youth and families through full inclusion~

Biweekly Update, April 3, 2015

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National Event

Forty to None Day is Wednesday, April 29

Approximately 40% of youth experiencing homelessness identify as LGBT while about 7% of the general youth population does the same. On Wednesday, April 29, the True Colors Fund will be joining people across the country – including local service providers, national advocacy organizations, elected officials, celebrities, LGBT youth, and community members – to launch *the first ever #40toNoneDay*.

#40toNoneDay is a national day focused on raising awareness about LGBT youth homelessness. While there are many factors that contribute to LGBT youth homelessness, identity-based family rejection is the most commonly cited reason. Their goal is to ultimately reduce the disproportionate percentage of LGBT youth experiencing homelessness from 40% to none. Get involved at www.40toNoneDay.org

Resource

National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Articles

LGBTQI2-S National Workgroup partner NASP is publishing a series of articles in its Communiqué professional newspaper on gender and school psychology. The current article, **Understanding Diversity of Sexual Development–Part I: Biological and Social Issues**, was co-authored by workgroup member Matthew Malouf.

Spanish Resource

In case you missed it: Una guía para entender, apoyar y alentar a los niños, jóvenes y familias LGBTQI2-S

We are pleased to share that *A Guide for Understanding, Supporting, and Affirming LGBTQI2-S Children, Youth, and Families*, which National Workgroup members wrote, has been translated into Spanish. This guide provides information for service providers, educators, allies, and community members who seek to support the health and well-being of children and youth who are LGBTQI2-S and their families. It can support efforts to promote full, affirming inclusion of LGBTQI2-S youth and families in communities and provider settings (e.g., child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, schools). Access the **English** and **Spanish** versions of the guide online; both are Section 508 compliant.

Resource

In case you missed it: Summary of LGBT Youth Key Terms and Concepts

The Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs (IWGYP), which is composed of representatives from 18 federal agencies that support programs and services focusing on youth, has released a one-page summary of sexual orientation and gender definitions. This one-pager (attached and Section 508 compliant) summarizes information from its **LGBT youth topic section on IWGYP's website**.

Webinar

LGBT & Gender-Nonconforming Youth in Juvenile Justice: Building an Equitable System with Data, Training, and Policy

Many juvenile justice systems don't know how many young people in their system identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or gender-nonconforming (LGBT/GNC), and often lack appropriate services and placements that meet the unique needs of LGBT/GNC youth. Learn more about new national data that found 20% of young people in detention are LGBT/GNC. This webinar will provide an overview of issues that LGBT/GNC youth experience in the juvenile justice system. Participants will learn how data collection practices, staff training, and anti-discrimination policies can help build an equitable juvenile justice system for LGBT/GNC youth.

This Council for Juvenile Justice webinar is scheduled for Wednesday, April 29 from 3:00-4:15 PM Eastern. Presenters include Angela Irvine, Director of Research, National Council on Crime & Delinquency; and Christina Gilbert, Director, The Equity Project.

Register **here**.

Research

In case you missed it: Family Acceptance Project Research Findings

New research on the school experiences of LGBT youth from the **Family Acceptance Project** and published in the *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* has found that:

- LGBT students experienced school victimization regardless of whether they attempted to conceal their identity or openly disclosed their LGBT identity. Thus hiding was not successful, on average, in protecting LGBT students from school victimization and bullying.
- LGBT young adults who tried to hide their sexual orientation and gender identity at school reported more victimization and ultimately, higher levels of depression than LGBT students who came out or were open about their LGBT identity at school. Feeling that they had to hide their sexual orientation and gender identity was associated with depression among LGBT young adults.
- Being out about one's LGBT identity at school has strong associations with self-esteem and life satisfaction and with low levels of depression in young adulthood.

The attached press release has more information about this research.

Accessing Updates

Missed a Biweekly Update?

If you missed a workgroup update, you can access them online in our **2015 update archive**.

Want to receive these updates and aren't already? Address an email to **LISTSERV@LISTSERV.AIR.ORG** with a blank subject line. In the body of the email, write **SUBSCRIBE LGBTQ_Youth** and send the email.

Have suggestions for future updates? Email **jpoirier@air.org**.

Visit the Workgroup online:

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