



## 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, May 1, 2015

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### Resource

#### **Toward Equity: A Training Curriculum for Understanding Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Gender Expression, and Developing Competency to Serve LGBT Youth in the Juvenile Justice System**

This new **training curriculum, "Toward Equity,"** from the Equity Project provides comprehensive, interactive training lessons designed to increase competence about sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression, while providing practitioners with increased knowledge, tools, and resources for working with LGBT youth in the juvenile justice system.

### Resource

#### **REMINDER: Safe Space, Safe Places: Creating Welcoming and Inclusive Environments for Traumatized LGBT Youth**

To accompany its new video **Safe Space, Safe Places: Creating Welcoming and Inclusive Environments for Traumatized LGBT Youth**, the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) has released a **video resource guide**. After having staff view the video, agencies can use the resource as a training tool in follow-up meetings or in supervision. Safe Space, Safe Places features five LGBTQ youth describing how trauma has affected their ability to feel safe when seeking services and highlights

	<p>how bias impedes optimal care. NCTSN presenters discuss specific steps that professionals and organizations can take to create safer and more welcoming environments for LGBTQ youth experiencing trauma.</p>
<p>Resource</p>	<p><b>REMINDER: LGBT Policy Spotlight: Conversion Therapy Bans</b></p> <p>This resource from the Movement Advancement Project outlines the harms of conversion therapy and provides an overview of current laws protecting LGBT youth. California, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. have already passed laws to prevent state licensed mental health professionals from attempting to change the sexual orientation or gender identity/expression of minor patients. Both states and the District based the law on the unanimous consensus of the nation's leading medical and mental health associations, which have determined that such treatments have no scientific basis and put youth at risk of serious harms, including elevated rates of anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts and attempted suicide. Since last year, lawmakers in 23 other states have introduced similar legislation. Learn more <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<p>Resource</p>	<p><b>REMINDER: American Academy of Child &amp; Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) Policy Statement and Practice Parameters</b></p> <p>As a reference, in 2009 AACAP issued its <b>Policy Statement on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Civil Rights</b>, followed by its <b>Practice Parameter on Gay, Lesbian, or Bisexual Sexual Orientation, Gender Nonconformity, and Gender Discordance in Children and Adolescents</b> in 2012. Access these valuable resources to inform your work.</p>
<p>Research</p>	<p><b>REMINDER: Allowing Transgender Kids to Transition Improves Mental Health</b></p> <p>A new study reports that transgender youth often have mental health problems and that their depression and anxiety improve greatly with recognition and treatment of gender dysphoria. The results were also at The Endocrine Society's 97th annual meeting in San Diego. You can access the <a href="#">press release</a> about this research and the <a href="#">conference presentation overview</a> online.</p>
<p>Conference</p>	<p><b><i>Gender Spectrum Conference, July 10 &amp; 11</i></b></p> <p>The registration website for the 2015 Gender Spectrum Conference for youth and families and the Professionals' Symposium has launched. The latter is ideal for professionals that work with gender-expansive youth and/or their families. Participants will take part in programming and activities, and receive resources designed to build their capacity for working with families and young people around issues of gender. Learn more about the conference <a href="#">here</a>.</p>

## 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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