



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, June 12, 2015

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New York Times Article

Transgender Children's Books Fill a Void and Break a Taboo

This short **article** explores authors who are writing children's literature focused on transgender characters, hoping to fill the void they felt as young readers.

USA Today Editorial

LGBT Youth Deserve Quality Foster Care

This short **editorial** examines the experiences and needs of LGBT youth involved in child welfare systems.

Resource

Recommended LGBTQ Children, Youth, and Families Cultural Competence Tools, Curricula, and Resources

The American Institutes for Research (AIR) released a synthesis of publicly available resources that can support workforce development in child-, youth-, and family-serving systems (e.g., schools, healthcare, child welfare, homelessness, juvenile justice). Resources are intended to support more competent practice and affirming, inclusive services and supports for LGBTQ children, youth, and families. Access it **online**. AIR will update this synthesis on a quarterly basis, so look for updates.

Webinar

REMINDER: beFIERCE

Tuesday, June 16, 2015
2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern

Our Space, located in Hayward, California, is an LGBTQ youth community center that works in partnership with LGBTQ youth, adults and allies to create safe and affirming space where LGBTQ youth can socialize, build community, develop leadership skills and access culturally relevant mental health services. This webinar will provide participants with information about beFIERCE, a new publication that invites you to actively engage in supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) foster youth. A consistent theme voiced by LGBTQ foster youth is that they often feel invisible to their service providers—that service providers talk only about their symptoms and their behaviors instead of seeing their full humanity. beFIERCE! was intentionally created to support providers in learning how to take a holistic view of LGBTQ foster youth. beFIERCE! is here to help you shift your frame so you see LGBTQ foster youth as whole and complex, and honor and appreciate the intersections of their identities and experiences.

Register for this get R.E.A.L. webinar [here](#).

Webinar

REMINDER: getR.E.A.L Allegheny

Tuesday, June 23, 2015
2:00 – 3:00 PM Eastern

The Allegheny Department of Human Services (DHS) is partnering with the Center for the Study of Social Policy to implement the Guidelines for Managing Information Related to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression of Children in Child Welfare Systems. These guidelines were published in partnership with Family Builders By Adoption, the National Center for Lesbian Rights, Legal Services for Children and the Center for the Study of Social Policy and can be accessed at www.cssp.org.

getR.E.A.L Allegheny was launched in July of 2013 and this webinar will provide participants with information about the work completed during the first two years of the project. Presenters will talk about the progress, challenges, successes and opportunities that this work affords the children and families served by the Allegheny DHS.

Register for this get R.E.A.L. webinar [here](#).

Research

New Report on LGBTQ Youth Homelessness

Last year, the True Colors Fund, the Williams Institute, and The Palette Fund asked homeless youth service providers about the LGBTQ youth they serve. They also asked them to share their experiences working with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and questioning youth separately from their experiences working with transgender youth, to better understand the

unique needs of transgender youth. Access the full report, *Serving Our Youth 2015*, [online](#).

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? Send an email to LISTSERV@LISTSERV.AIR.ORG with a blank subject line. In the body of the email, write **SUBSCRIBE LGBTQ_Youth**.

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

Visit the Workgroup online:

[National Workgroup to Address the Needs of Children and Youth Who are LGBTQI2-S and Their Families](#)