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SOGIE Resources Newsletter March 2019

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Community Corner

Community Corner is a place where you can share news about work you are doing with this population. To submit information about your program to be highlighted in this newsletter, please email theinstitute@ssw.umaryland.edu.

Allegheny County, Pa., Honors Youth Voice (Children's Bureau Express)

While those of us in child welfare all strive to be respectful of the individuals we serve, we often struggle with how to best do right by them, be respectful of their unique stories and circumstances, and work alongside them to help them achieve their goals. This article highlights the development of [Allegheny County's](#) Youth Support Partner (YSP) program over the past 10 years. Allegheny County's YSP program also is part of its work for the [QIC-LGBTQ2S](#) through the University of Maryland School of Social Work and works to serve the specific needs of LGBTQ2S youth in its care.

[Learn more](#)

Practical Tools

What Does 'Two-Spirit' Mean? | InQueery | them.



How much do you really know about the history of the word "Two-Spirit"? Find out in this episode of *InQueery* hosted by Geo Neptune. *InQueery* is the series that takes a deeper look at the meaning, context, and history of LGBTQ+ vocabulary and culture. Powered by Google.

[Watch here](#)

New Online Groups for Gender-Diverse Young People, Parents, and Adult Family Members

Gender Spectrum hosts online groups for gender-diverse pre-teens and teens, as well as parents, caregivers, and other family members. These groups provide participants the opportunity to connect with others, share their experiences, and feel the comfort of a supportive community. New groups include [Navigating Gender and Race](#), a discussion group for parents of color raising gender-diverse kids, and [Faith and Gender](#), a discussion group for parents and other adult family members of gender-diverse youth. All groups are hosted online unless noted otherwise and are open to participants across the country.

[See full group list and sign up here](#)

Articles/Research

LGBTQ Youth in Unstable Housing and Foster Care

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth are suggested to be overrepresented in unstable housing and foster care. In the current study, we assess whether LGBTQ youth are overrepresented in unstable housing and foster care and examine disparities in school functioning, substance use, and mental health for LGBTQ youth versus heterosexual youth in unstable housing and foster care.

[Learn more](#)

CDC Youth Risk Behavior Survey Includes Transgender Youth for First Time

On January 25, 2019, for the first time, the CDC released data on health behaviors and experiences of transgender youth from the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System. Data collected by 19 CDC-funded sites (10 states, nine large urban school districts) included a single-item question to measure the proportion of high school youth who identify as transgender in the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). Population-based data, including the YRBS, is critical to address disparities that exist between transgender and cisgender youth.



[Read here](#)

New Research Shows School-Based Mental Health Professionals Have a Serious Lack of Training to Support LGBTQ Students

GLSEN, in partnership with the American Council for School Social Work, the American School Counselor Association, and the School Social Work Association of America, released a new report, "Supporting Safe and Healthy Schools for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Students," providing insight into school-based mental health professionals' work to support LGBTQ youth as well as barriers they face to supporting those youth. Data from the report was drawn from a national online survey of 1,741 school mental health professionals — which included school counselors, psychologists, and social workers — in U.S. schools (grades 5-12). Respondents came from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

[Learn more](#)

Transgender Kids and Gender Dysphoria



When children have very strong feelings that their birth gender doesn't match who they are, it can cause them a great deal of distress and a powerful need to change the way they are perceived. The distress caused by that disconnect is called gender dysphoria, and it can be very intense, leading to depression and even suicide attempts. For parents, having a child come out as transgender can be something they've seen coming or a complete surprise. In this

childmind.org article, Paul Mitrani, MD, PhD, a psychiatrist who works with transgender adolescents and their families as they navigate this transition, provides insight. And the mother of a transgender 16-year-old [tells the story](#) of her daughter becoming her son.

[Learn more](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Historical Trauma and Healing for Native LGBTQ & Two-Spirit Clients

Hosted by the National American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Technology Transfer Center. *Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 1 - 2 p.m. EDT*

[Register now](#)

Policy News

New Jersey Becomes Second State in Nation to Require that Schools Teach LGBT History

New Jersey is the second state in the nation after California to adopt a law that requires schools to teach about LGBT history in a move hailed by civil rights groups as a step toward inclusion and fairness. Gov. Phil Murphy, a Democrat who promised to promote equality for gay and transgender people during his campaign, signed the bill in January.

[Learn more](#)

Canadian Government Makes Changes to Better Accommodate LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care, Group Homes

Mandatory training for all front-line children's services workers to equip them to meet the needs of LGBTQ youth could be coming by May 2019, a government spokesman said.

[Learn more](#)

Sixty-Four Percent of California LGBT Students Are Bullied. A New Bill Would Train Teachers to Help.

California lawmakers have re-introduced a bill aimed at giving teachers and school districts tools and funding to help LGBTQ students. Assembly Bill 493 would require every county office of education, school district, and charter school to provide annual in-service training to all teachers in grades 7 to 12.

[Learn more](#)

Evangelical Foster Agency Gets Federal Waiver to Reject LGBTQ or Non-Christian Parents

The Trump administration has granted a federally funded foster care agency in South Carolina the right to freely discriminate against potential foster parents who are LGBTQ or who are Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Catholic, and other non-Protestant faiths.

[Learn more](#)

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