

# LGTQ Youth in Juvenile Justice Available Resources

## OFFICE ON JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION (OJJDP)

- A recent OJJDP-sponsored study conducted by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), ***Growing Up LGBT in America***, is a groundbreaking survey of more than 10,000 LGBT-identified youth ages 13-17. It provides a stark picture of the difficulties they face and the impact on their well-being. Learn more about *Growing Up LGBT in America* by downloading the PDF of the original report: [http://hrc-assets.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/files/assets/resources/Growing-Up-LGBT-in-America\\_Report.pdf](http://hrc-assets.s3-website-us-east-1.amazonaws.com/files/assets/resources/Growing-Up-LGBT-in-America_Report.pdf)

You can also read and download HRC's two follow-up reports:

***Being Out***: <http://www.hrc.org/youth/download-the-report/#.VdsrrjZRGm9>

***Supporting and Caring for our Latino LGBT Youth***: <http://www.hrc.org/youth-report/latino-youth#.VdssBzZRGm8>

- *OJJDP News @ A Glance* (Issue: Nov/Dec 2014) article on “**Advocates Gather in Washington, DC, for OJJDP Listening Session on LGBTQ Youth Needs**”: [http://www.ojjdp.gov/newsletter/248512/sf\\_4.html](http://www.ojjdp.gov/newsletter/248512/sf_4.html)

- The **OJJDP Online University** has a three-part webinar series on LGBTQI youth. By accessing the attached links for each webinar in the series, you can view the recorded webinar, view a transcript of the webinar, view the PowerPoint, and/or view the presenter(s) bios.

**Webinar 1** <https://www.nttac.org/index.cfm?event=trainingCenter.traininginfo&eventID=10>

### **Understanding and Overcoming the Challenges Faced by Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Intersex Youth in Schools and Communities**

**Training Summary:** LGBTQI youth face an array of challenges in their schools and communities, highlighted in this OJJDP-sponsored Webinar. Presenters discuss the importance of changing perceptions, practices, and culture to address the needs of these underserved youth.

**Learning Objectives:** (1) Understand the importance of becoming an ally to LGBTQI youth; (2) Learn the importance of teaching children to be accepting and tolerant at an early age; and (3) Gain knowledge about efforts to change the culture of schools and communities to be more accepting and safer places for LGBTQI youth.

**Webinar 2** <https://www.nttac.org/index.cfm?event=trainingCenter.traininginfo&eventID=11>

### **The Critical Role of Families in Reducing Risk and Promoting Well-Being for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Intersex Youth**

**Training Summary:** Research on LGBT youth and their families shows that family acceptance helps promote well-being and protects against risk, while family rejection is related to serious health and mental health concerns in young adulthood as well as homelessness and placement in custodial care programs. This OJJDP-sponsored Webinar discusses key research findings, and approaches to working with diverse families, resources, tools and strategies for family education and intervention used by three programs: The Family Acceptance Project at San Francisco State University; Greater Boston Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG); and Green Chimneys Program of New York City.

**Learning Objectives:** (1) Describe specific family behaviors that are related to increased health risks for LGBTQI adolescents and family behaviors that protect against risk and promote youth well-being; (2) Learn new strategies and approaches to engage and include families of LGBT youth in services and activities to increase parent, family, and caregiver knowledge and connections with their children; (3) Identify one to three specific change(s) in work with LGBTQI adolescents related to prevention, intervention, and care to decrease risk and promote well-being in the context of their families.

**Webinar 3** <https://www.nttac.org/index.cfm?event=trainingCenter.traininginfo&eventID=12>

### **Understanding the Importance of Implementing an Effective Justice System Response for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, and Intersex Youth in Custody**

**Training Summary:** LGBTQI youth in custody present special needs and challenges for facility staff and leaders. This Webinar presents strategies to meet the needs of these youth. Presenters also provide examples of how work with LGBTQI youth in custody is evolving, discuss the importance of changing practices based on recent federal guidelines, and explain how a change of culture in facilities may lead to better outcomes.

**Learning Objectives:** (1) Know more about the needs of LGBTQI youth in custody; (2) Understand new USDOJ regulations requiring the protection of LGBTQI youth in custody; and (3) Describe effective programming for LGBTQI youth in custody.

### **OTHER FEDERAL RESOURCES**

**The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA):** The Justice Department issued its final rule on PREA effective August 20, 2012. Four sets of standards are applicable in all juvenile and adult facilities across the U.S. PREA Standards are available here: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-06-20/pdf/2012-12427.pdf> Specific requirements address LGBTI youth:

§ 115.5 General Definitions

§ 115.315 Limits to cross-gender viewing and searches, (e) and (f)

§ 115.331 Employee training, (a)

§ 115.341 Obtaining information from residents, (c)

§ 115.342 Placement of residents in housing, bed, program, education, and work assignments, (c) – (i)

The **National PREA Resource Center** has a number of available resources on its website ([www.prearesourcecenter.org](http://www.prearesourcecenter.org)) including:

#### **TeenSense: Model Staff Training Standards Focusing on the needs of LGBTQ Youth**

<http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/stafftrainingstandards-focusontheneedsoflgbtqyouth.pdf>

#### **Responding to Sexual Abuse of Youth in Custody: Addressing the Needs of Boys, Girls, and Gender Nonconforming Youth:**

<http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/content/facilitators.pdf>

#### **Model Policy & Practice Guidelines for Providing Non-Discriminatory Services to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Youth in Juvenile Justice Facilities**

<http://www.prearesourcecenter.org/sites/default/files/library/nclrmodellgbtpolicy.pdf>

The **National Institute of Corrections** has a “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex Offenders” webpage with a number of juvenile-related resources: <http://nicic.gov/lgbti>

The **Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)**, Office of Justice Programs, USDOJ, offers a toolkit "Responding to Transgender Victims of Assault," which can be downloaded from the OVC Web site:

<http://www.ovc.gov/pubs/forge/index.html>

### **OTHER ONLINE LGBT YOUTH RESOURCES**

The **National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD)** has a number of resources related to its "Dispelling Myths Surrounding the Incarceration of LGBT Youth" and "Improving Permanency for LGBT Youth" projects on its website, including:

***Serving LGBT Youth on Probation*** (3/24/2015), Scott Ball, Chief Probation Officer, Merced County (CA) Probation Department: <http://www.nccdglobal.org/blog/serving-lgbt-youth-on-probation>

***Ensuring the Safety of LGBT Youth*** (8/17/2012), Bernadette Brown, Senior Program Specialist, NCCD: <http://www.nccdglobal.org/blog/ensuring-the-safety-of-lgbt-youth>

The "Tribal Equity Toolkit 2.0: Tribal Resolutions and Codes to Support Two Spirit & LGBT Justice In Indian Country" is available for download from the **Indigenous Ways of Knowing Program, Lewis & Clark College**:

[https://graduate.lclark.edu/programs/indigenous\\_ways\\_of\\_knowing/tribal\\_equity\\_toolkit/](https://graduate.lclark.edu/programs/indigenous_ways_of_knowing/tribal_equity_toolkit/)

**The Equity Project** has launched a new website and online training curriculum guide to help juvenile justice practitioners support lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) youth. The user-friendly website and guide provide resources, policy information, and interactive lessons to increase awareness of youth sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression issues within the juvenile justice system. View and download the free training curriculum guide: [www.equityproject.org](http://www.equityproject.org)

The **National Center for Lesbian Rights** has available on its website a *Guide for Group Care Facilities: Legal Rights of LGBT Youth*: [www.nclrights.org](http://www.nclrights.org)

The website of **Advocates for Youth** has a number of resources available:

<http://www.advocatesforyouth.org/publications/publications-a-z/727-resources-for-gay-lesbian-bisexual-and-transgender-youth-select-organizations-web-sites-videos>

To find out more about LGBT youth organizations nationwide, check out website of **LiveOut Loud**:

<http://www.liveoutloud.info/resources/lgbt-youth-organizations/>

A 2015 **Urban Institute** research report, *Surviving the Streets of New York: Experiences of LGBTQ Youth, YMSM, and YWSW Engaged in Survival Sex*, based on interviews with 283 youth in New York City, is the first study to focus on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer or questioning (LGBTQ) youth; young men who have sex with men (YMSM); and young women who have sex with women (YWSW) who get involved in the commercial sex market in order to meet basic survival needs, such as food or shelter. The report documents these youth's experiences and characteristics to gain a better understanding of why they engage in survival sex, describes how the support networks and systems in their lives have both helped them and let them down, and makes recommendations for better meeting the needs of this vulnerable population. A PDF of the report can be downloaded at:

<http://www.urban.org/research/publication/surviving-streets-new-york-experiences-lgbtq-youth-ymsm-and-ywsw-engaged-survival-sex>