

November 1, 2019

Dear Community Leader:

Advocates for Youth is pleased to announce an exciting opportunity for community-based organizations to receive capacity-building assistance. Advocates for Youth partners with youth leaders, adult allies, and youth-serving organizations to advocate for policies and champion programs that recognize young people's rights to honest sexual health information; accessible, confidential, and affordable sexual health services; and the resources and opportunities necessary to create sexual health equity for all youth.

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth of color (YOC) are at disproportionate risk for negative sexual health outcomes and face stigma related to race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity. This stigma places LGBTQ YOC at risk for contracting STIs and HIV, violence, and substance abuse. To better meet the needs of LGBTQ YOC, we must integrate awareness of racism and the understanding of how culture shapes sexual attitudes, values, and beliefs. We *must* also be willing to redress homophobia and transphobia within communities of color and create safer spaces for LGBTQ YOC. In order to be part of the solution, Advocates launched its **Queer & Gender Equity Project (QGEP)** almost 10 years ago. Advocates seeks to build the capacity of organizations interested in and committed to improving the sexual health of *all* young people, including LGBTQ YOC.

Through Advocates' **Queer & Gender Equity Project**, your organization may receive:

- A digital newsletter, which will include articles, resources, and webinars on HIV/STI and reproductive health and justice programming for LGBTQ YOC.
- Strategic technical assistance and training to create safer spaces for LGBTQ YOC 13-24 years old and redress homophobia and transphobia within the local community, including in schools and other youth-serving agencies.

Please see the attached materials for more information about this opportunity, including eligibility and criteria for selection. The application form and/or proposal are due by **December 13, 2019, 5:00pm ET**. Please e-mail applications to Armonté Butler, Senior Program Manager, LGBTQ Health and Rights, at [armonte@advocatesforyouth.org](mailto:armonte@advocatesforyouth.org).

Working together, we believe that we can strengthen efforts to create safer spaces for LGBTQ YOC within our communities and decrease negative sexual health outcomes among these young people. If you need further information or have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 419-3420.

Sincerely,



Armonté Butler  
Senior Program Manager, LGBTQ Health and Rights  
Advocates for Youth

**Advocates for Youth  
Queer & Gender Equity Project  
Description of Available Services**

The goals of the **Queer & Gender Equity Project** are to:

- Build the capacity of youth-serving professionals to serve LGBTQ YOC
- Create safer spaces for LGBTQ YOC
- Redress homophobia and transphobia within the local community (i.e., schools, agencies, community, etc.)

Level I Services: Technical Assistance

*All partners are eligible to receive technical assistance via the digital newsletter.* Topics include: sexual health issues and LGBTQ YOC; creating safer spaces; creating inclusive programming for LGBTQ YOC; community mobilization; cultural competence; youth-adult partnerships to promote youth's involvement in programming; youth-friendly services; LGBTQ youth rights; anti-discrimination policies; and anti-bullying efforts, among others.

Level II Services: Technical Assistance and Training

*Up to five partners will be selected to receive tailored and on-going technical assistance and training to develop strategies to address the above goals.*

Selected partners will also receive one free webinar or on-site training in 2020. Advocates for Youth will cover all expenses of the trainer, including travel, lodging, honorarium, and training materials. Partners are expected to cover meeting logistics, room rental, refreshments, and other associated costs. Partners must provide a count of attendees prior to the training.

Past webinar and in-person trainings include:

- **"Young People to the Front!" Queering Reproductive Justice**
- **"Nothing about Us without Us:" Intentional Youth Involvement**
- **Creating Culturally Responsive Policies and Safer Spaces for LGBTQ YOC**
- **Creating Safer Spaces in Medical Settings**
- **Building Support for LGBTQ YOC**
- **"This Is Ours:" Affirming Young People's Sexual Health**

Please indicate your interest in participating in this project by returning the attached form and/or submitting a proposal for Level II Services.

The form and proposal are due by **December 13, 2019**. Awards will be announced in January 2020.

**Advocates for Youth  
Queer & Gender Equity Project  
Application Form**

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Website: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one of the following options:**

**Services (Return this form and/or proposal for Level II. See attached guidelines.)**

We would like to receive the services listed below from Advocates for Youth:

- Level I Services.** We are interested in receiving technical assistance, through a digital newsletter, on topics related to anti-discrimination policies, anti-bullying efforts, and creating inclusive programming for LGBTQ YOC.
- Level II Services.** We are interested in receiving technical assistance and a tailored webinar or in-person training. Please send 1) a brief statement describing the type of training/workshop your organization would like to receive, including staff and board demographics; potential audience; goals and objectives of training; and the setting of training/workshop, for example, a national/regional conference; 2) a brief statement describing overall tangible goals you hope to have accomplished by the end of the project year.

**Please return, via email, by December 13, 2019, 5:00pm ET to:**

**Armonté Butler, Senior Program Manager, LGBTQ Health & Rights**  
[armonte@advocatesforyouth.org](mailto:armonte@advocatesforyouth.org)

**Advocates for Youth  
Queer & Gender Equity Project  
Proposal Guidelines for Level II Services  
Project Year: January 2020 – August 2020**

**Training Needs** (½ page)

Describe the type of training/workshop your organization would like to receive. Include potential audience (staff and board demographics, coalition partners, etc.); goals and objectives; and setting of training. Training topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Evidence-based sex education
- Teacher training to build support for LGBTQ youth
- HIV/STI and reproductive health and justice programming for LGBTQ YOC
- Cultural humility and justice
- Community coalitions and mobilization in support of LGBTQ youth
- Youth-adult partnerships to promote youth's involvement in sexual health programming
- Youth-friendly services/creating safer spaces for LGBTQ youth
- LGBTQ youth rights
- Enumerated anti-discrimination and anti-bullying policies and programs

Please select up to **2** topics.

**Overall Goals** (½ page)

List and describe a few goals and objectives you hope to have accomplished by the end of the project year. Goals may include:

- Adopt an organization-wide LGBTQ youth-centered sexual health framework
- Implement gender-neutral restrooms at facility
- Expand policy platform to include local, state, and federal bills that support LGBTQ youth
- Update website to include information and resources for LGBTQ YOC
- Expand clinic hours to reach more LGBTQ YOC
- Initiate the provision of or promotion of pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP)
- Update external forms to include information related to sexual orientation, gender identity, and pronouns
- Conduct events on key LGBTQ and HIV awareness days to reach LGBTQ YOC
- Create a youth advisory council with sexual health-related campaign goals
- Conduct LGBTQ-related trainings to support staff, community members, etc.
- Promote sexual health services to LGBTQ YOC via visual cues and materials

**Deadline for Proposals**

Proposals must be emailed by **December 13, 2019, 5:00pm ET.**

Please submit proposals to:

**Armonté Butler, Senior Program Manager, LGBTQ Health & Rights**  
**E-mail: [armonte@advocatesforyouth.org](mailto:armonte@advocatesforyouth.org)**