

Guidebook for Best Practices with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Questioning (LGBTQ) Youth

The Indiana Department of Child Services is committed to meeting the needs of all children, youth and families it serves. Because of the unique needs of youth who identify as LGBTQ, it is vital that social services staff ensure all placements and services are safe and supportive. It is the expectation that providers and staff treat all individuals and families respectfully and non-judgmentally, irrespective of one's personal views of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Social work best practice dictates that staff be aware of personal biases in order to ensure that equitable services are provided to all individuals and families. The following links are intended to increase awareness, knowledge and appropriate skill sets of social services staff and administrators in the child welfare system, so they may effectively and competently meet the needs of LGBTQ youth and their families.

HHS Administration for Children and Families Information Memorandum – Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning Youth in Foster Care:

[Information Memorandum on LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care](#)

Resources from the Administration on Children and Families (ACF), the Children's Bureau and the Training and Technical Assistance Network (T/TA):

[Supporting Your LGBTQ Youth: A Guide for Foster Parents](#)

[NRCPFPC T&TA for States and Tribes Pertaining to Working with LGBTQ Children, Youth, and Families](#)

[Child Welfare & Work with LGBTQ Children, Youth, and Families](#)

[LGBTQ Youth Permanency](#)

[Trauma-Informed Practice with LGBTQ Young People in Foster Care](#)

[Clinical Issues in Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender and Questioning Youth](#)

[Caring for LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care](#)

[NRCPFPC Webcast: Working with LGBTQ Youth](#)

[NRCPFPC Toolkit for Practitioners/Researchers Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning \(LGBTQ\) Runaway and Homeless Youth \(RHY\)](#)

[National Resource Center for Permanency and Family Connections](#)

Evidence-Based Research and Reports:

[Identifying and Serving LGBTQ Youth: Case Studies of Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Grantees](#)

[The Economic Well-Being of LGB Youth Transitioning Out of Foster Care](#)

[Revolving Doors: LGBTQ Youth at the Interface of the Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice Systems](#)

Other Resources and Publications:

[Caring for LGBTQ Children & Youth: A Guide for Child Welfare Providers](#)

[Guidelines for Managing Information Related to the Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity and Expression of Children in Child Welfare Systems](#)

[Recommended Practices to Promote the Safety and Well-Being of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning \(LGBTQ\) Youth and Youth at Risk or Living with HIV in Child Welfare Settings](#)

[Addressing the Needs of LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care](#)

[Opening Doors for LGBTQ Youth in Foster Care: A Guide for Lawyers and Judges](#)