

November 19, 2018

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 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 youth of color at risk for contracting STIs and HIV, violence, and substance abuse. To better meet the needs of LGBTQ youth, 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 safe spaces for LGBTQ youth of color. In order to be part of the solution, **Advocates launched its Queer & Gender Equity Project almost 10 years ago, formerly known as the Anti-Homophobia and Transphobia Project. Advocates seeks to build the capacity of organizations interested in and committed to improving the sexual health of *all* young people, including LGBTQ youth of color.**

Through Advocates' Queer & Gender Equity Project, your organization may receive culturally relevant publications and materials on HIV/STI and reproductive health and justice programming for LGBTQ youth, strategic technical assistance, and training to create safe spaces for LGBTQ youth of color 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 14, 2018, 5:00 p.m. EDT**. Please fax (202/419-1448) or e-mail applications to Armonté Butler, Program Manager LGBTQ Health & Rights, Health & Social Equity Division at armonte@advocatesforyouth.org.

Working together, we believe that we can strengthen efforts to create safe spaces for LGBTQ youth of color 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 E. Butler
Program Manager, LGBTQ Health & Rights
Health & Social Equity Division

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

The **goals** of Advocates for Youth's Queer & Gender Equity Project are to:

- Build the capacity of youth-serving professionals to serve LGBTQ youth of color;
- Create safe spaces for LGBTQ youth of color; and
- 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 tailored technical assistance via mailings, quarterly newsletters, telephone, e-mail, and/or fax. Topics include: sexual health issues and LGBTQ youth of color; creating safe spaces; creating inclusive programming for LGBTQ youth of color; community mobilization; cultural responsiveness; 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, on-site training or workshop in 2019. 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. Training topics include: sexual health issues and LGBTQ youth of color; creating safe spaces; creating inclusive programming for LGBTQ youth of color; community mobilization; cultural responsiveness; 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.

Please indicate your interest in participating in this project by returning the attached form and/or submitting a proposal for Level II. The form and proposal are due by December 14, 2018. Awards will be announced by December 21, 2018.

**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 via mailings and quarterly newsletters on topics such as anti-discrimination policies, anti-bullying efforts, and creating inclusive programming for LGBTQ youth of color.
- Level II Services.** We are interested in receiving technical assistance and tailored training. Please send a brief statement describing the type of training/workshop your organization would like to receive, including potential audience; goals and objectives of training; and setting of training/workshop, for example, a national/regional conference.
- We are not interested in participating in the project at this time. However, please keep us on your mailing list.

**Please return by email or fax by December 14, 2018, 5:00 p.m. EDT to:
Armonté E. Butler, Program Manager, LGBTQ Health & Rights, Health & Social Equity Division.**

**Advocates for Youth
Queer & Gender Equity Project
Proposal Guidelines for Services
Project Year: January 2019 – August 2019**

Training Needs (½ page)

Describe the type of training/workshop your organization would like to receive. Include potential audience (i.e. staff, 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 lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth (including life skills)
- Parent-child communication
- Cultural humility and justice
- Media outreach
- Community coalitions/community mobilization
- Youth-adult partnerships to promote youth's involvement in LGBTQ programming
- Youth-friendly services/creating safe spaces for LGBTQ youth
- LGBTQ youth rights
- Enumerated anti-discrimination and anti-bullying policies and programs

Deadline for Proposals

Proposals must be emailed or faxed by **December 14, 2018, 5:00 p.m. EDT.**

Please submit copies of the request to:

Armonté E. Butler
Program Manager, LGBTQ Health & Rights
Health and Social Equity Division
E-mail: armonte@advocatesforyouth.org
Fax: (202) 419-1448