

Priority: Education **Lead Agency:** County Human Services
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Related Programs: 25076A, 25095, 25119A, 25143A, 25145A, 25147A, 25149, 25150A, 25151, 25154, 25157, 40024A, 40024B, 25145B

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program offers counseling, skill building and support services to over 300 sexual minority youth (SMY) and technical assistance and training to approximately 500 SUN Service System and other direct service staff so they work effectively with sexual minority youth. The program increases school retention and success for this vulnerable population; last year, 86% of youth served reenrolled or remained in school, with 95% in compliance with school attendance goals. 96% of training participants reported an increased knowledge of SMY issues and competency in serving these youth. SMY is part of the SUN Service System, a countywide integrated and coordinated system of care for school-aged youth and their families.

Program Description

Services for Sexual Minority Youth program provides community-based services specifically designed to meet the needs of SMY and their families so that youth remain in and/or return to school. Direct services to SMY include counseling services and support groups. The program provides operational support for the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC) so that SMY youth have a supportive environment for socialization and peer support. Direct services comprise 70% of this offer. Technical assistance (TA), training and support to SUN Service System staff and partners increases the awareness of the issues that SMY youth face, and increases competency in working with SMY youth. The TA component is 30% of this offer.

Program Justification

This program supports strategies #4 & 5 of the Education priority, and in particular the request for offer that seeks programs that "foster supportive, enduring relationships that enhance the students' resilience and engagement in school". This is accomplished through the two pronged approach: providing direct services and a safe place in which SMY youth can feel comfortable and participate in supportive services that reflect their unique needs and by enhancing the understanding and skill levels of other community providers to provide competent and relevant services to SMY youth. Due to difficulties with family, peers and the broader community, SMY youth often experience isolation and stigma, which can result in higher rates of emotional distress, homelessness, dropping out of school, suicide attempts, risky sexual behavior, and substance abuse.

Research has found a direct link between academic performance and experiences of harassment and unsafe learning environments. The 2005 "From Teasing to Torment: School Climate in America Survey" conducted by the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network (GLSEN) found that 90% of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered (LGBT) students report being verbally harassed at school. Also 66% reported feeling unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation. A Seattle study found that 28% of SMY youth dropped out. The direct service components provide support for SMY youth while out of school, so that they will remain in or re-enroll in school.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	# of youth in counseling and Resource Center services	378	300	300	300
Outcome	% of youth in counseling who re-enroll or remain in school	86.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Outcome	% of resource center youth who re-enroll or remain in school	83.0%	70.0%	70.0%	70.0%
Outcome	% of training participants who increase knowledge about sexual minority issues	96.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

 **Measure Changed**

Output measure has been changed and captures all youth who participate in the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center as well as those who participate in more intensive services, such as counseling.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2007	2007	2008	2008
Personnel	\$8,699	\$0	\$3,826	\$0
Contracts	\$102,283	\$0	\$101,989	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$352	\$0	\$326	\$0
Internal Services	\$1,492	\$0	\$628	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$112,826	\$0	\$106,769	\$0
Administration	\$1,447	\$0	\$40,038	\$0
Program Support	\$29,787	\$0	\$3,452	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$31,234	\$0	\$43,490	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$144,060	\$0	\$150,259	\$0
Program Total:	\$144,060		\$150,259	
Program FTE	0.10	0.00	0.05	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund- Based on FY07 current operating levels

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #21037, Services for Sexual Minority Youth

"This Program Offer includes a 3% inflationary increase of \$2,965 over FY '07 for the County General Fund portion of contracted client services".