

Priority: Education **Lead Agency:** County Human Services
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski
Related Programs: 25119, 25143, 25145A, 25146, 25149, 25150, 25151

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

This program offers counseling, skill building and support services to over 300 sexual minority youth (SMY). It offers technical assistance and training to approximately 400 SUN Service System and other direct service staff to work effectively with sexual minority youth. The program increases school retention and success; last year 86% of youth served re-enrolled or remained in school. 75% reported a reduction in at-risk behavior. 95% 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 the Sexual Minority Youth program provides community-based services specifically designed to meet the needs of SMY youth and their families so that youth remain in and/or return to school. Direct services to SMY include counseling services, leadership development 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. These direct services comprise 70% of program funding. 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% the program funding.

Program Justification

This program supports the Education priority and is the only county funded program focused on the Sexual Minority Youth population. The program utilizes a 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 enhances 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 stigmatization, resulting in higher rates of emotional distress, homelessness, school drop outs, 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 verbal harassment at school. 66% reported feeling unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation. A Seattle study found that 28% of SMY youth dropped out of school. The direct service components provide support for SMY youth outside of school, so that they will remain in or re-enroll in school.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	# youth in counseling and Resource Center Services	302	300	300	300
Outcome		0	0	0	0
Outcome	% of resource center youth who re-enroll or remain in school	86.0%	60.0%	60.0%	60.0%
Outcome	% of training participants who increase knowledge about sexual minority issues	95.0%	85.0%	85.0%	85.0%

Performance Measure - Description

DCHS will review outcome trends after FY08 and make relevant adjustments based on contractor performance.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$3,811	\$0	\$7,362	\$0
Contracts	\$101,989	\$0	\$104,843	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$326	\$0	\$201	\$0
Internal Services	\$628	\$0	\$941	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$106,754	\$0	\$113,347	\$0
Administration	\$40,038	\$0	\$15,517	\$0
Program Support	\$3,452	\$0	\$5,709	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$43,490	\$0	\$21,226	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$150,244	\$0	\$134,573	\$0
Program Total:	\$150,244		\$134,573	
Program FTE	0.05	0.00	0.08	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund - \$113,347

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #25155, SUN Service System: Services for Sexual Minority Youth

This Program Offer includes a 3% inflationary increase of \$3,054 over FY08 for the County General Fund portion of contracted client services.