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LGBTQ TA CENTER  


# QUARTERLY newsletter

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## Spring 2023

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### Celebrating and Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth

Hello again! We're carrying over the positive vibes from last month with updates about some of the amazing work being done in the community to support and celebrate LGBTQ+ youth. Read on to learn more!

Visit the LGBTQ TA Center Website  
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## Spring Grantee Spotlight

The LGBTQ TA Center provides no-cost technical assistance and training to seven organizations to support their phenomenal work with LGBTQ+ communities. **We want to take this opportunity to showcase one of our fantastic grantees!** This month, the LGBTQ TA Center Team is thrilled to introduce you to Gender Spectrum - an inspiring community-based organization working to create a world that is inclusive and affirming of all children and teens!

# Introducing, Gender Spectrum!

Founded in 2008, [Gender Spectrum](#) is an organization animated by the awareness that when families and youth serving institutions have the knowledge and skills to proactively reflect and celebrate gender diversity, then all youth are more likely to thrive. This is particularly true for transgender and nonbinary youth who

disproportionately experience family rejection, violence, and discrimination, all of which are associated with diminished health and well-being for young people. In many places, transgender and nonbinary youth are under attack, whether it's from bullying peers or politicians who wants to ban books and services critical to transgender youth. Whether in their families or in their professional practice, adults have the responsibility to show transgender and nonbinary youth that they are loved and that they matter, and Gender Spectrum provides adults with the tools they need to do just that.



## About Their Work

Gender Spectrum offers online programming for parents and family members of transgender and non-binary youth to help them accept and support their children. They also provide training and resources for youth serving institutions to help them gain a greater understanding of gender and provide them with concrete strategies to be more gender inclusive. Gender Spectrum's work in schools has been evaluated through a grant from the California Department of Public Health and found to have statistically significant improvements in all evaluated measures, including teachers' knowledge, skills and behaviors related to supporting transgender and gender nonbinary youth and creating gender inclusive schools!

Beyond their training and resources for professionals who work with youth and families, their annual [Professionals' Symposium](#) offers a tremendous opportunity for learning. **Taking place this summer on July 13 and 14**, the symposium offers over 35 workshops to choose from, inspiring keynotes, and diverse participants from the US and abroad. At their last symposium 98% of participants said they would recommend the event to friends and colleagues. They also offer an **annual conference for families**, occurring next in the **Fall of 2023**, which is the oldest and largest in the country! The LGBTQ TA Center Team is thrilled to feature the work of such an impactful organization, committed to supporting the health and wellness of diverse LGBTQ+ Californians.

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For all IPP's interested in  
attending this year's  
Professionals' Symposium,

Gender Spectrum is offering a CDEP discount that is more than half off the full price ticket!

[Register Now >](#)



## Community News

### Trans 101 & Working with Families of Trans and Non-Binary Youth: A Two-Part Workshop Series for Mental Health Providers:

[Pacific Southwest MHTTC](#) has partnered with [Transgender Training Institute](#) (TTI) to offer an exciting two-part series designed to deepen your understanding of and skills in serving gender expansive youth. Both sessions are open to all behavioral health professionals.

**Session 1, Foundations of Knowledge and Action: Trans 101**, happening on **Wednesday, May 17, 2023, 2:30-4:30 PT** is a level-setting session intended for a wider audience that includes both providers and families. For providers working with transgender and non-binary identities, this session lays the foundations of knowledge and is a prerequisite for attending the second part of the series.

**Session 2, Working with Families of Trans & Non-Binary Youth**, happening on **Wednesday May 24, 2023, 2:30-4:30 PT**, is an in-depth training for professionals who work with trans and non-binary youth and their caregivers or families and has limited space. This session is designed to identify strategies for mental health professionals working with families and caregivers to increase their acceptance, support, and affirmation for their

gender nonconforming child.

[Learn More & Register >](#)



## Update on AB1314

We are happy to report that **Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi, Chair of the Assembly Education Committee, announced his decision not to set Assembly Bill 1314 for a hearing in the Education Committee.** This bill would have required school districts to notify parents in writing three days after learning that a student is identifying at school as a gender other than their sex assigned at birth. In an official statement on his decision, Muratsuchi stated, “As Chair of the Education Committee, I will not be setting AB 1314 for a hearing, not only because the bill is proposing bad policy, but also because a hearing would potentially provide a forum for increasingly hateful rhetoric targeting LGBTQ youth.” Check out [this press release](#) to learn more!



## New SAMHSA Publication

We’re excited to share SAMHSA’s new publication, [Moving Beyond Change Efforts: Evidence and Action to Support and Affirm LGBTQ+ Youth](#). Here are the key details:

- This publication is **focused on the experiences and needs of LGBTQ+ children and adolescents up to age seventeen** and is appropriate for behavioral health providers, pediatric professionals and primary care providers, educators and school professionals, policymakers, and researchers.
- It **provides a comprehensive research overview and key information on behavioral health concerns within this community.**
- This report **documents the profound harm caused by attempts to change an individual’s sexual orientation and gender identity** (commonly known as “conversion therapy”) and **discusses helpful interventions for these populations** in clinical, community, family, and school, settings.

[Moving Beyond Change Efforts: Evidence and Action to Support and Affirm LGBTQ+ Youth](#) offers evidence-informed policy options that can improve the overall health and well-being of LGBTQ+ youth. We encourage you to check it out for yourself and share this important resource with your network!



## Resources to Support LGBTQ+ Youth

- In addition to this publication, SAMHSA explored the themes of this report at several educational events, including presentations at the Midwest

LGBTQ+ Health Symposium, the GLMA Annual Conference on LGBTQ Health, and has numerous virtual learning opportunities for supporting LGBTQ+ children and adolescents. Here are a couple to get you started:

- [Evidence & Interventions to Support & Affirm LGBTQ+ Children and Adolescents](#) is a webinar hosted by the Center for Excellence on LGBTQ+ Behavioral Health Equity.
- [Supporting America's LGBTQ+ Youth: Approaches, Strategies, and Opportunities](#) is a webinar for families and communities, hosted by the National Family Support Technical Assistance Center.

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## Participants Needed for a Research Study

Do you identify as Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual (LGB)? Are you age 18+ and a current U.S. citizen? Please consider participating in a dissertation survey related to Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual (LGB) identities, stigma, and resilience! Participants will be asked to complete a single brief survey online, which should take approximately 15 minutes to complete. Although there is no compensation for participation, all participants will have the option to self-enroll in a chance to receive 1 of 10 Amazon digital gift cards worth \$100 each.

[Click Here to Participate >](#)

If you have any questions regarding the parameters of the study or participation, please contact Jacob Walla at [jaw5@tamu.edu](mailto:jaw5@tamu.edu).



### Contact Our Team:

[http://lgbtq-ta-center.org/  
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