

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Adopted  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Executive Summary**

The Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Services (SGMYS) program improves safety, educational success, and quality of life for sexual and gender minority youth. The program offers counseling, safe space for Queer BIPOC youth, skill building, and support services to sexual and gender minority youth, as well as technical assistance and training to the SUN Service System, school and other direct service staff so that they may work more effectively with sexual and gender minority youth. These services are contracted to a non-profit. YFS staff support program development through convening providers, providing technical assistance and contract monitoring.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** Sexual and gender minority youth (SGMY) experience discrimination, violence, and harassment that puts their safety at risk. SGMY are more likely to experience homelessness and poverty, are disproportionately represented in the juvenile justice system, and are three times more likely to attempt suicide compared to their non-SGM peers. The pandemic has heightened fear and anxiety among many SGMY, who were already facing social isolation, unsafe living situations, and limited access to safe gathering spaces.

**PROGRAM GOAL:** The program seeks to elevate, honor, and support SGMY by centering a safe and affirming environment for youth to build positive relationships with peers and supportive adults, and through educating the community on how to do the same. Ultimately, the program aims to increase school retention and success for students who experience significant discrimination, hostility, bullying and other violence in the community, in schools, and often in their homes.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:** The SGMYS program utilizes two primary strategies: 1) providing direct services and a safe and supportive space at the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC), where sexual and gender minority youth feel comfortable and participate in supportive services that reflect their unique needs (70% of the program) and 2) enhancing the understanding and skill levels of community providers through training and consultation so that they may provide competent and relevant services to sexual and gender minority youth (30% of the program). Key areas of support during the pandemic include: creating culturally affirming public health and safety materials, providing supplies to meet basic needs, virtual spaces for 1:1 and group support, and virtual trainings for educators and the community.

**Performance Measures**

| Measure Type | Primary Measure   | FY20 Actual | FY21 Budgeted | FY21 Estimate | FY22 Offer |
|--------------|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|------------|
| Output       | Number of youth who participate in case management <sup>1</sup>   | 50          | 50            | 50            | 50         |
| Outcome      | Percent of youth who remain in or re-enroll in school   | 80%         | 75%           | 75%           | 75%        |
| Output       | # of community provider and school staff trained  | 689         | 300           | 300           | 300        |
| Outcome      | Percent of training participants who report an increase in knowledge of SMGY issues/cultural competency | 85%         | 85%           | 85%           | 85%        |

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

<sup>1</sup> Due to COVID-19, this output is lower than anticipated.

Revenue/Expense Detail

|                        | Adopted<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds | Adopted<br>General Fund | Adopted<br>Other Funds |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Program Expenses       | 2021                    | 2021                   | 2022                    | 2022                   |
| Contractual Services   | \$313,555               | \$0                    | \$319,513               | \$0                    |
| <b>Total GF/non-GF</b> | <b>\$313,555</b>        | <b>\$0</b>             | <b>\$319,513</b>        | <b>\$0</b>             |
| <b>Program Total:</b>  | <b>\$313,555</b>        |                        | <b>\$319,513</b>        |                        |
| <b>Program FTE</b>     | 0.00                    | 0.00                   | 0.00                    | 0.00                   |

| Program Revenues     |            |            |            |            |
|----------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Total Revenue</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> | <b>\$0</b> |

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2021: 25155 YFS - Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Services