

Program #25155 - YFS - Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Services FY 2024 Adopted

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

Executive Summary

The Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Services (SGMY) program centers, honors, and supports LGBTQ2IA+ youth where they are at. It intentionally builds spaces that are welcoming, physically and emotionally safe, and supportive. The program provides basic needs support, case management, and skill building opportunities to LGBTQ2IA+ youth. Part of the SUN Service System, SGMY staff also train community partners and schools. These trainings aim to expand the number of affirming spaces and experiences LGBTQ2IA+ youth have in their communities. YFS staff provide technical assistance and support to New Avenues for Youth, the agency contracted for this program.

Program Description

ISSUE: LGBTQ2IA+ youth experience discrimination, violence, and harassment that puts their safety at risk. These youth are more likely to experience homelessness due to unsupportive caregivers. SGMY youth participants describe experiences of anxiety and fear as they try to access basic needs services, including health and mental health resources. Without access to these supports, LGBTQ2IA+ youth are three times more likely to attempt suicide. Because of the pandemic, SGMY youth are more isolated and in greater need of affirming adults, supportive peers, and safe gathering spaces.

PROGRAM GOAL: This program aims to connect youth to resources that help them meet their goals. The program works to create an environment where youth can build positive relationships with peers and adults. SGMY also educates the community so that LGBTQ2IA+ youth can have better experiences and feel safer.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: SGMY focuses on 3 areas of support for LGBTQ2IA+ youth: 1) Case management and basic needs help 2) Creating a safe and supportive space and 3) Providing training and education to the community so that they may provide competent and relevant services to these youth. SGMY centers youth voice and developing youth leadership. The program elicits feedback from a youth steering committee called the Queering Committee. Based on the feedback received, SGMY has prioritized connecting one on one with youth weekly. This occurs either virtually or in-person and includes social support meet ups as well as wellness check-ins. SGMY advocates help youth with things like food boxes, gender affirming clothing, and hygiene supplies. They also help youth create goals and connect to other resources. For many LGBTQ2IA+ youth, the one on one check-ins and social support are an essential part of their safety plans, especially during the pandemic.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY22 Actual	FY23 Budgeted	FY23 Estimate	FY24 Offer
Output	Number of youth who participate in case management.	20	75	75	75
Outcome	Percent of youth who remain in or re-enroll in school.	86%	75%	75%	75%
Output	Number of community provider and school staff trained. ¹	0	300	300	300
Outcome	Percent of training participants who report an increase in knowledge of SMGY issues/cultural competency.	N/A	85%	85%	85%

Performance Measures Descriptions

¹ Output is low due to agency staff capacity issues. The provider did not engage in training during FY22 due to staff capacity issues as well as the fact that schools maintained strict COVID protocols in the 2022 school year and restricted access into the building by outside people. Training activities have resumed in FY23.

Legal / Contractual Obligation

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2023	2023	2024	2024
Contractual Services	\$330,167	\$0	\$363,525	\$0
Total GF/non-GF	\$330,167	\$0	\$363,525	\$0
Program Total:	\$330,167		\$363,525	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2023: 25155 YFS - Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Services