Providing Care to LGBTQ Youth and Families
What is Lighthouse?

- Early Intervention
- Foster Care & Adoption
- Juvenile Justice
- Lighthouse Community School
- Shelter and Housing (17-24)
- Shelter and Residential Treatment (10-17)
- Behavioral Health Services
What is Safe and Supported?

The Host Home Program | Cultural Competency Training
Faith in Families | Resource Guides | LGBTQ Advocate

Learn more at: www.safeandsupported.org
HOST HOME PROGRAM

YOU CAN HELP MAKE HOME HAPPEN
Safe and Supported Youth
Safe and Supported Teams

Melissa Meyer
Observer

Dan Stultz, MPH
Host Home Manager
Has your child told you they're gay or transgender? Not sure how to handle the news?

We have Faith in Families

Lunch & Learn: Caring for Families of LGBTQ Youth

Pastor's Lunch and Learn: Caring for Families of LGBTQ Youth

by LOVEboldly and Lighthouse Youth and Family Services

Free
RESOURCE GUIDES
Intersectionality

- Racial Equity Institute
- Director of Equity Initiatives
WHAT CAN I DO?

Take a step!
Awareness & Respect

- Reflect the existence of LGBTQ people everywhere
- Develop knowledge and sensitivity to support LGBTQ youth
- Learn about LGBTQ resources and build relationships with LGBTQ organizations
- Be an ally and disrupt homophobia and transphobia
Safety

− NYC Study
  − 56% of LGBT youth said they stayed on the streets because they felt safer than living in group or foster homes

− San Diego Study
  − 90% of 400 homeless youth said that safety was a concern in group homes and shelters
  − Only 20% of service providers thought safety was an issue.

− Ensure safety for LGBTQ youth through policy and consequences
  − Zero tolerance
Equity

- Make sure that rules and privileges that apply to non-LGBTQ youth, also apply to LGBTQ youth
- Don’t confuse identity and behavior
- Check your implicit bias and what assumptions about LGBTQ youth that bias brings up
Privacy

- Don’t assume youth are out to everyone
- Avoid unnecessarily outing anyone
- Ensure appropriate policies and procedures are in place
- Carefully consider who needs to know
- Breaking confidentiality can be literally life threatening
- Acknowledge that it is an honor to have someone come out to you. It’s on us to make the environment safe for someone to do that.
- Melissa Meyer
- Director of Equity Initiatives
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QUESTIONS?