DIVERSITY is our Strength
Creating Safe and Inclusive Spaces for Everyone
Diversity is both visible and invisible
LGBTQ+ Communities of Placer County
NEEDS ASSESSMENT Part I
September 2018

Prepared by Rainbow Hearts, a program of
LGBTQ + Community Wellness in Placer County

Principle Investigators
Lisa Joseph Boch - We, They, Them
Ashley Verker - She, Her, Hers
Jessica Bell - She, Her, Hers
An estimated 3.5% of adults in the United States identify as lesbian, gay, or bisexual and an estimated 0.3% of adults are transgender. This implies that there are approximately 9 million LGBT Americans, a figure roughly equivalent to the population of New Jersey.
California

The 2017 California population

- 39.54 million
- LGBTQ estimated population = 1,382,000
Placer County population approaching 400,000

LGB population using 4.5% as a mean = 18,000

Transgender population using .01% = 400

Queer and Questioning Adults and Youth are under reported
Our LGBTQ+ Youth

• From 2015 California Healthy Kids Survey (Placer County 7th, 9th, 11th grades):
  • 6% Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual (604)
  • 1% Transgender (101)
  • 5% Questioning or Unsure (503)
  • Totaling 11-12% LGBTQ (1107+)

• Overrepresented in the Homeless and Foster Population
• 2X More likely to experiment with substances

• 2X More likely to self-harm with each instance of physical and verbal harassment

• 44% of LGBT Youth identify as being unhappy compared to 36% of their non-LGBT peers

Seriously Considered Attempting Suicide Rate

Heterosexual Teen → 14.8%
Questioning/Unsure Teen → 31.9%
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Teen → 42.8%
Contacted all Placer County public middle and high schools and conducted interviews with:

| 14 High Schools | 6 Middle Schools | 4 Continuation Schools | 7 Elementary Schools |

Study's findings are based on the contact that was made and are not conclusive, but allowed a general feel for the school's culture and resources for LGBTQ+ students, as well as gaps that may exist.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary Schools</th>
<th>Middle Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Antelope Meadows Elementary School</td>
<td>• Buljan Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Newcastle Elementary School District</td>
<td>• Chilton Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Creekside Charter School</td>
<td>• Cooley Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Harvest Ridge Cooperative Charter – Placer Academy</td>
<td>• Olympus Junior High School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Newcastle Charter School</td>
<td>• Springview Middle School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Newcastle Elementary School</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Rocklin Academy Gateway</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Squaw Valley Preparatory</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Placer County High Schools that were Interviewed

**HIGH SCHOOLS**

- Antelope High School
- Colfax High School
- Del Oro High School
- Foresthill High School
- Lincoln High School
- North Tahoe High School
- Oakmont High School
- Phoenix High School
- Placer High School
- Rocklin High School
- Roseville High School
- Sierra College
- Victory High School
- Western Sierra Collegiate Academy
- Whitney High School
- Woodcreek High School
Has a GSA Club?
OTHER STUDENT SUPPORTS

- At Least 1 Safe Space Indicator on Campus: 62
- Can Change Student's Pronouns on School Portal: 57
- At Least 1 Supportive Staff: 90
**STAFF SUPPORTS**

- A Student Has Transitioned on Campus: 76.00
- Interest in More Trainings: 91.00
- All Staff LGBTQ+ Specific Training: 0.07
- Cultural Sensitivity Training offered (general): 29.00
Participating Agencies

- Americorps VISTA
- Alliance for Mentally Ill Housing (AMIH)
- Auburn Arts Academy / Hip Hop Congress
- California State University @ Sacramento
- Chappa De Indian Health
- Gender Health Center (SAC)
- KIDS First
- Latino Leadership Council
- LGBT Center (SAC)
- Mathew Sheppard Foundation
- Nancy Callihan Inc.
- NorCal MHA
- PFLAG of Greater Placer County (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
- Placer Collaboration Network
- Placer Community Foundation
- Placer County Health & Human Services – Adult System of Care & Children's System of Care
- Placer County Office of Education
- Placer County Probation
- Placer Youth Commission
- PRISM-Q
- Right Hand Auburn
- Sierra College
- Sierra Native Alliance
- Stand Up Placer
- SPECTRUM & Rainbow Alliance (Sierra College)
- The Gathering Inn
- Turning Point
- Whole Person Learning
Key Findings

Strengths
• Identification of the LGBTQ+ population is an underserved demographic
• Interviews and focus groups showed a range of knowledge of those being interviewed
• Well received
• All agencies welcome trainings

Challenges
• Challenges associated with the collection of data
• Lack of visibility for the LGBTQ+ in the community
Conclusion – Foster Inclusion

Trainings, Trainings, and More Trainings!
Recommendations

- Better understanding of cultural considerations and intersectionality of the LGBTQ+ community to inform:
  - Policy Making
  - Service Consideration
  - Service Delivery
- Open and affirming spaces
  - Board of Directors and Leadership Knowledge
  - Knowledge of Local and State initiatives
  - Visibility of LGBTQ+ in Your Services and Materials
- Partnerships
  - Inclusive practices and environments
- Training
• California Health Interview Survey Database, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Health Care Services, http://ask.chis.ucla.edu/. Estimate listed are based on 2015/16 survey

• California Healthy Kids Survey Placer County Secondary 2014-2017 Main Report
  • http://surveydata.wested.org/resources/Placer_County_14_16_Sec_CHKS.pdf

• Mental Health America (MHA) Bullying, Suicide, Self-harm, Happiness, Substance Use, and how education is affected:
  • http://www.mentalhealthamerica.net/bullying-and-gay-youth

• “State and County Quick Facts” United States Census Bureau, July 2017,
  • https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/placercounty/california/SEX255217

• U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

• The Williams Institute
  University of California, School of Law. The LGBT Divide in California, A look at the socioeconomic well-being of LGBT people in California
More Information and Support

NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Lisa Joseph Boch, M.Ed, CADC II, CCPS
  - 916-220-0044 - ljb1030@sbcglobal.net

- Jessica Bell
  - 916-225-9779 – jessica.bell@calmhsa.org

- Ashley Verker
  - 702.712.0361 - averker@placercoe.k12.ca.us

Network of Care

- Rachel Bracken
  - 530-745-1467 – placernoc@gmail.com - rbracken@placercoe.k12.ca.us
Question 1

How am I as an individual, open and affirming to LGBTQ+ people in the world?
Question 2

How is my organization, school, and/or place of work open and affirming to the LGBTQ+ community?
Question 3
CALL TO ACTION

How can my organization, school, and/or place of work become more open and affirming, and visible? (ex. Language, forms, etc.)