



LGBTQ Youth Resources November 2018

Overview

Founded in 1985, Oasis Youth Center is a drop-in, resource and support center for queer and questioning youth ages 11-24 and is located in Tacoma, WA. Oasis was started by a group of organizers who concerned about the challenges LGBTQ youth were experiencing in our community. Oasis continues to create community ownership for the needs and experiences queer youth have - we all can be part of the solution to these challenges.

Mission & Vision

Oasis transforms the lives of queer youth by creating a safe place to learn, connect, and thrive. Oasis envisions a world in which queer youth are valued in the community as strong, creative leaders.

Programs

Oasis programming spans the prevention, advocacy, and leadership development continuum with the goal of saving lives, building community, and developing leaders who will change the world. In 2018, Oasis is producing and facilitating programming Monday-Saturday at our main center location in Tacoma in addition to satellite locations across Pierce County.

Prevention focus areas: homelessness, HIV testing and prevention, tobacco and marijuana, sexual violence and healthy relationships, including Project 13, our nationally recognized middle school program. We focus on elevating developmental assists including supportive adults, positive identity, and self-belief.

Advocacy focus areas: Oasis is a crime victim service center and supports youth and their families who have been hurt or harmed by crimes including hate violence, assault, childhood physical or emotional abuse, trafficking, and sexual violence. Oasis offers a 24/7 support line for

LGBTQ youth, staffed by trained advocates. Oasis elevates youth voice and advocates for policies and practices that support LGBTQ youth, particularly youth of color and youth living in rural areas. Oasis staff are available for consultation with area service providers.

Leadership Development focus areas: As a youth adult partnership we deliver quality workshops and trainings with trained youth speakers. We have a thriving Youth Council, which is part of our larger community action council. Oasis also produces an annual leadership summit at YMCA Camp Seymour for youth 14-24.

Oasis welcomes and orients all new youth members through an intake process. To schedule an intake contact us by phone at 253-671-2838 or email at oasis@oasisyouthcenter.org.

Learn more at www.oasisyouthcenter.org and <https://m.facebook.com/OasisYouthCenter/>

Additional Area LGBTQ Youth Resources:

- Camp Ten Trees: <http://camptentrees.org>
- Gender Diversity: <http://www.genderdiversity.org/about/>
- MultiCare's Mary Bridge Pediatric Transgender Program: <https://www.multicare.org/mary-bridge-pediatric-transgender-program/>
- MultiCare's Prism Support Group in Puyallup AND Eatonville: <https://www.multicare.org/behavioral-health-programs-families-specialty/>
 - Kate Savage: klsavage@multicare.org
- Rainbow Center: www.rainbowcntr.org

References:

- OSPI's guidance on Student Gender Identity and Expression:
 - <http://www.k12.wa.us/Equity/GenderIdentity/default.aspx>
- WA State Human Rights Commission's overview and FAQs of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity rules
 - <http://www.hum.wa.gov/rule-making>
- The TransYouth Project aims to help scientists, educators, parents, and children better understand the varieties of human gender development. Based out of the Social Cognitive Development Lab at the University of Washington, we are currently leading the first large-scale, national, longitudinal study of development in gender nonconforming, transgender, and gender variant youth.
 - <https://depts.washington.edu/transyp/>.
- TRANSform Washington is a public education campaign celebrating the dignity, diversity and humanity of transgender and gender non-conforming people. We believe all

Washingtonians deserve to be safe, to be their true selves, and to live free from discrimination. TRANSform Washington is supported by the Pride Foundation.

- <http://transformwashington.com>