

GLSEN LHV PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT MODULES

Contact:

For more information or to schedule a workshop contact our Professional Development Co-Chairs, Gina Sanchirico at gina@lowerhudsonvalley.glsen.org or our Chapter Co-Chair, MJ Karger at (914) 977- 4211 mj@lowerhudsonvalley.glsen.org or PO Box 604, Yorktown Heights, NY 10598

Contracts are available through PNWBOCES, SWBOCES, RBOCES
All others contact us directly.

CERTIFIED FACILITATORS OFFER TRAININGS AND WORKSHOPS FOR THE FOLLOWING MODULES

(Modules 2-7 can be 1, 2, or 3 hours long and can be customized to your specific needs).

1. Overview of All Modules - 1 hour
2. Creating Safer Spaces: Supporting LGBTQ+ youth in Schools
3. Building LGBTQ+ Inclusive Elementary Schools
4. Expanding Understanding: Supporting Transgender and GNC
5. Inclusive Curriculum: Incorporating LGBTQ+ Topics into the Classroom
6. Changing the Game: Creating Inclusive Spaces in Physical Education
7. Gender Identity, Intersectionality and Neurodiversity: Techniques for Supporting Neuroqueer Students

MODULE DESCRIPTIONS:**1) Overview of All Modules**

This module is an abbreviated version highlighting some main concepts contained in the other modules. The purpose of this module is to gain an understanding as a basis for further exploration.

2) Creating Safer Spaces: Supporting LGBTQ+ Youth in Schools

This module helps schools to begin conversations about fostering adult allyship for LGBTQ+ students. Educators play a critical role for LGBTQ+ students as adult allies and advocates. According to GLSEN's "2019 School Climate Survey" research for New York, over two-thirds LGBTQ middle and high school students experience anti-LGBTQ+ verbal harassment based on sexual orientation, and over a half of transgender students experienced verbal harassment. In this workshop, we will present national data on LGBTQ+ student experiences and provide resources and strategies for creating inclusive schools where all students feel welcome.

3) Building LGBTQ+ Inclusive Elementary Schools

Designed for elementary school educators and administrators, this training overviews the supports needed in elementary schools: inclusive family studies and understanding gender

beyond the binary stereotypes. School staff will develop an understanding of the importance of integrating gender diversity and develop an awareness of a variety of family structures, including LGBTQ+ headed families, into elementary school culture. We will focus on the supports and resources that GLSEN provides. School staff will generate ideas for building or enriching a positive learning environment where all students, families, and educators feel safe, respected, and celebrated for the diversity that they bring into their school community.

4) Supporting Transgender, Gender Non Conforming and Non Binary Students

According to 2019 GLSEN research for New York, transgender and genderqueer students face hostile school climates almost equal to students with a different identity than heterosexual. In this training, facilitators will share statistics on national data for LGBTQ+ student experiences, with specific attention to the experiences of trans and gender-expansive students. Participants will explore the constraints of the gender binary and will be provided with an expanded view of the concept of gender. Educators will leave with a better understanding of LGBTQ+ and gender expansive student experiences, along with resources such as the GLSEN and National Center for Transgender Equality's "Model Local Education Agency Policy on Transgender & Non-Binary Students".

5) Inclusive Curriculum: Incorporating LGBTQ+ Topics into the Classroom

GLSEN research found that LGBTQ+ students who attend schools with a curriculum that is inclusive of LGBTQ+ people, history and events have safer, more accepting schools and better academic outcomes. Furthermore, an inclusive curriculum can benefit all students by exposing them to more inclusive and accurate accounts of history and promoting respect. This workshop provides educators with classroom resources and LGBTQ+ inclusive lessons that can be integrated into their existing curriculum. Educators will have the opportunity to share ways in which they are already incorporating LGBTQ+ people, events, and topics into their curriculum and create action plans for increasing LGBTQ+ visibility.

6) Changing the Game: Creating Inclusive Spaces in Physical Education

Designed for PE teachers, coaches, and athletic directors, this training will help develop the principles of respect, safety, and equal access for all students, teachers, and coaches regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. For students in general, participation in sports and physical activity at school promotes positive effects on their physical health, self-esteem, and sense of connectedness to their schools. Unfortunately, sports is often an area where LGBTQ+ students feel most unsafe. By addressing an environment that is often seen as hostile and unsafe for LGBTQ+ students and providing training and resources for coaches and PE teachers, their educators can shift the overall school climate to ensure a safe, respectful, and inclusive school for all students.

7) Gender Identity, Intersectionality and Neurodiversity: Techniques for Supporting Neuroqueer Students

This module highlights the importance of proper gender etiquette preventing increased gender dysphoria, and mental health statistics on suicidal ideation according to gender identity, ethnicity and minority stress. Newer statistics will illustrate the greater prevalence of non binary identities. Basic concepts of intersectionality will be discussed. The increased awareness of the prevalence of Neurodivergent people within the trans community and the greater stresses on Neuroqueer individuals will be examined. Acceptance of Neurodiverse people as part of the natural diversity of all human beings will be examined. Methods of supporting Neurodiverse students are highlighted, bringing awareness to the nature of the challenges as well as the special abilities of the stigmatized neurotype, and how the use of effective accommodations yield positive results and reduce minority stress.