



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

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National Statistics

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.

U.S. Population = 323,000,000

LGBTQ Populaton = 11,375,000



California

The 2017 California population

- 39.54 million
- LGBTQ estimated population = 1,382,000

Placer County

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%

Youth Mental Wellness

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

Addressing Community Needs

Placer County Elementary and Middle Schools that were Interviewed

Elementary Schools

- Antelope Meadows Elementary School
- Newcastle Elementary School District
 - Creekside Charter School
 - Harvest Ridge Cooperative Charter – Placer Academy
 - Newcastle Charter School
 - Newcastle Elementary School
 - Rocklin Academy Gateway
 - Squaw Valley Preparatory

Middle Schools

- Buljan Middle School
- Chilton Middle School
- Cooley Middle School
- Olympus Junior High School
- Springview Middle School

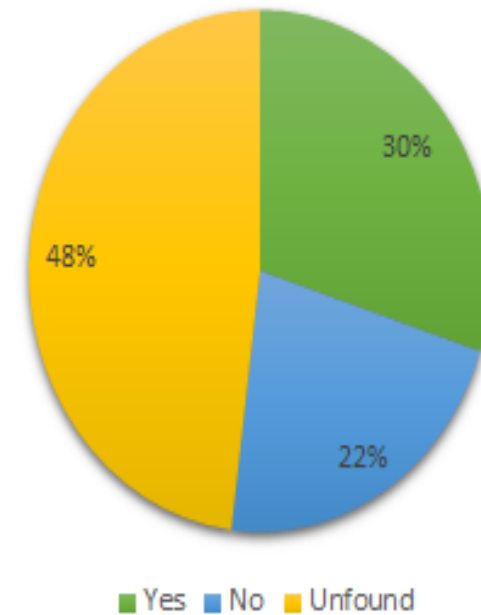
Placer County High Schools that were Interviewed

HIGH SCHOOLS

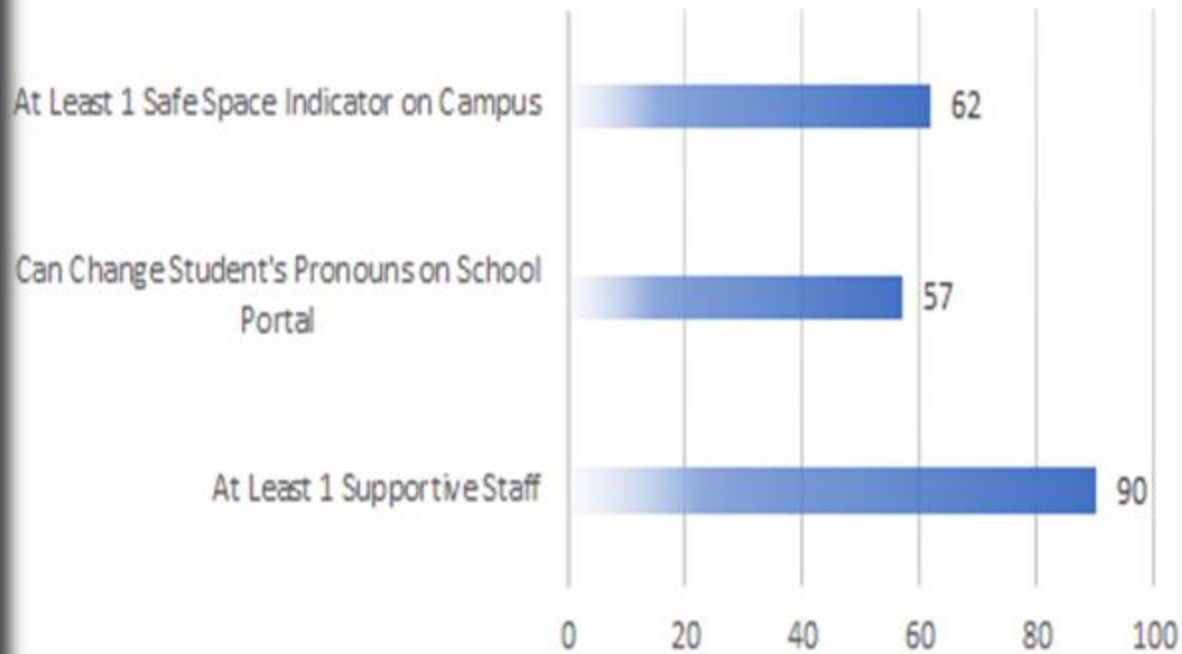
- Antelope High School
- Colfax High School
- Del Oro High School
- Foresthill High School
- Lincoln High School
- North Tahoe High School
- Oakmont High School
- Phoenix High School
- Placer High School
- Rocklin High School
- Roseville High School
- Sierra College
- Victory High School
- Western Sierra Collegiate Academy
- Whitney High School
- Woodcreek High School

Has a
GSA
Club?

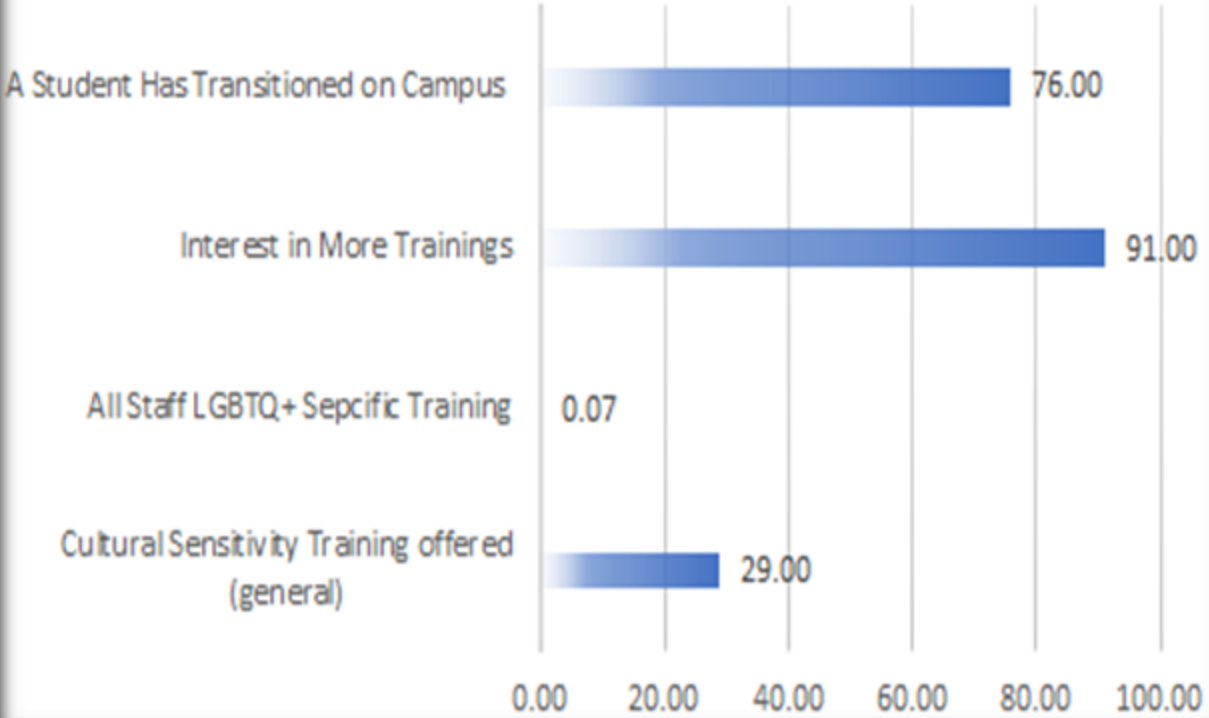
Yes/No/Unfound - GSAs



OTHER STUDENT SUPPORTS



STAFF SUPPORTS



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 intentionality 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



References

- 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
 - <https://www.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/LGBTQ-Youth-Homelessness-Prevention-Initiative-Overview.pdf>
- 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

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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.)