



empowering LGBTQ youth

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## LGBTQ Services Navigator

**Job Description:** The LGBTQ Services Navigator will work with staff at the Montgomery County Reengagement / Drop-In Center to engage disconnected youth. The goal of the work will be to identify and build culturally competent resources for youth, to refer youth to the appropriate resources through Case Management, and to develop solutions to gaps in services. The LGBTQ Services Navigator, along with the dedicated Case Managers, provides client centered case management services to address the education, mental health, physical health and permanent living situation through coordinated activities and referrals. The LGBTQ Services Navigator will also consult on the general space and environment for the Reengagement / Drop-In Center, helping to ensure the space is culturally competent towards and inviting to LGBTQ youth. The LGBTQ Services Navigator needs to have vision, drive, and passion as the role will shift with time and needs.

Tasks *may* include:

- Mapping the availability of culturally competent resources to address the education, mental health, physical health and sustainable housing opportunities of LGBTQ youth
- Working to increase the cultural competency of local resources and local service providers
- Developing mutually agreed upon / client identified goals and objectives for individual youth
- Assisting youth with reengaging in school and connecting with local resources through direct Case Management
- Assisting clients in advocating and obtaining benefits, entitlements and legal services
- Tracking client's engagement via the data collection software program
- Working with Reengagement / Drop-In Center staff to identify concrete ways to ensure the climate at the Center is welcoming and supportive of LGBTQ youth
- Developing events and programs specific to LGBTQ youth to be held at the Center, as well as other community-based events
- Other duties/tasks as assigned

### **Skills/Qualifications**

- Masters degree in social work or a related field or four years or more of experience working with youth. Licensure strongly preferred.
- Ability to work independently, to problem solve, and to identify and meet the needs of a new position and program
- Experience working with LGBTQ youth

- Experience working with community based organizations
- Sensitivity to the needs and problems of LGBTQ youth who are disengaged
- Good working knowledge of local providers and resources
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
- Fluency in Spanish preferred
  
- Since this position works remotely from the main office at SMYAL and will partner with other agencies, the ability to work independently as well as in a team is a must, as are vision, passion and the ability to be a self-starter!