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theNetwork
empire state pride agenda

2011 – 2012 Annual Report

New York State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health and Human Services Network

New York State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health and Human Services Network

The New York State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health and Human Services Network (the Network) is a coalition founded in 1994 of **53** lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) specific and LGBT-supportive nonprofit agencies and organizations that provide health and human services to LGBT New Yorkers and their families. Recognizing the broad spectrum of healthcare demand in LGBT communities across New York, Network members tenaciously work with state government to meet non-HIV related health needs.

LGBT people and their families across the state rely on the crucial programs and services provided by Network member organizations to fulfill their basic health and wellness: from primary healthcare to mental health support, from senior centers to homeless youth housing and outreach. The demand for these services only continues to increase in this troubled economy.

Collectively, the Network **serves nearly 800,000 New Yorkers every year.** If this is what the Network can do with extremely limited resources, imagine how many more lives could be helped with increased support.

It is critical that LGBT people have access to healthcare providers who know and understand our community. A 2009 report by the Empire State Pride Agenda shows that 40% of the nearly 3,500 respondents reported that "not enough health professionals who are adequately trained and competent to deliver health care to LGBT people" was a major problem in accessing healthcare. 42% of respondents said that "community fear or dislike of LGBT people" was another major problem. In a population where significant health disparities go unnoticed, these barriers to accessing healthcare are all too often a matter of life and death.

"We went from educating about 500 providers annually to 50 last year. It wasn't a conscious decision, but staff hours have been dedicated to addressing an increase in programming for LGBT people with little or no state funding to back them."

– Kim Dill, SAGE Upstate, Syracuse

Network member organizations provide services that are critical to the health and well-being of LGBT people in all of New York State's 62 counties – serving upstate, downstate, rural and urban populations. These organizations provide a broad array of services including but not limited to:

- Outreach to LGBT homeless youth
- Direct primary healthcare services
- Mental health support and treatment
- Substance abuse education, treatment and prevention
- Cultural competency trainings for healthcare providers
- Counseling and resources for building families
- Education on sexual and reproductive health

In order to maximize limited resources in a challenging economy, the Network works collectively to secure government funding. Network members also support and learn from each other, help build capacity and increase individual organizations' ability to provide critical services

to their communities. To continue improving the quality of resources and care offered to LGBT communities, the Network works on developing and improving the ability of all member organizations to recognize and respect the myriad life experiences of their clients – many of whom suffer from a combination of racism, classism, and trans- or homophobia. By working together, members build relationships and skills they can take back to their home communities to help ensure a safer and more supportive New York State for all LGBT people.

In the past year alone, Network member organizations delivered more than 2,500 trainings and educational opportunities on issues of critical importance to the LGBT community such as LGBT runaway and homeless youth, transgender support groups, sexual health education, information services for LGBT people looking to build families, trainings for staff of non-LGBT organizations and professional skills training for LGBT job seekers. More than 140,000 people across the state participated in these sessions. Network members are serving the often-unseen diverse spectrum of the LGBT community: 60% of Network clients are people of color and 38% are under the age of 25.

Faced with budget cuts and the loss of discretionary funding from the New York State Legislature, Network organizations are struggling to meet the growing health and human service needs of LGBT New Yorkers. Organizations report closing locations, having to lay off staff, decreasing hours of operation and drastically cutting provider trainings.

Who We Are

Almost 70% of Network organizations have operating budgets of less than $1 million.

26% of Network organizations rely on state funding for more than half of their operating budgets.

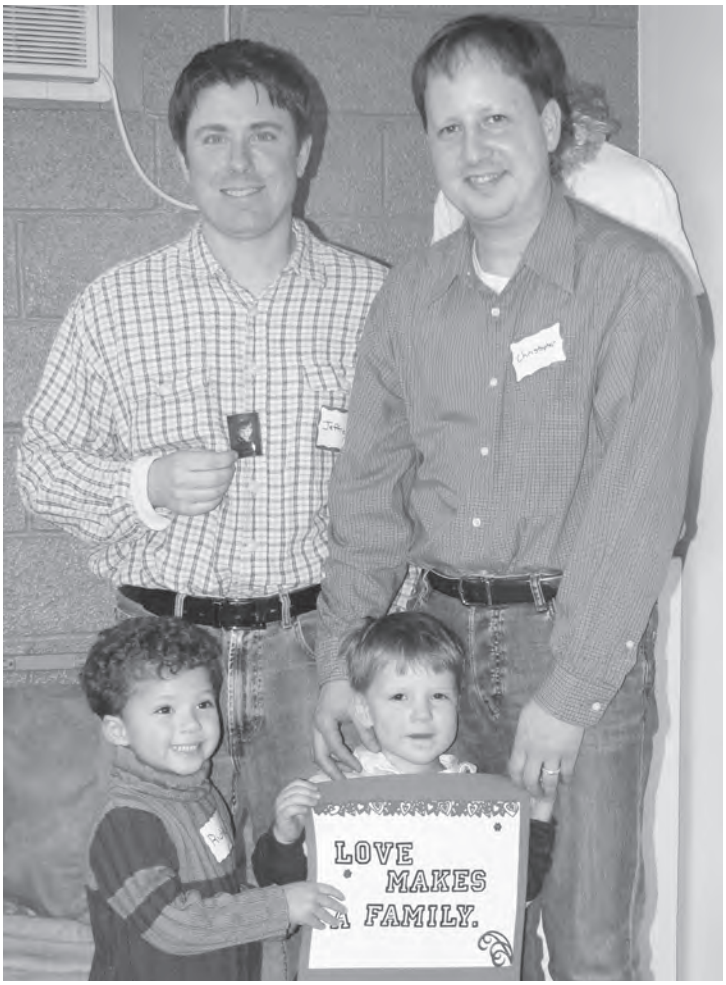
55% of Network organizations have laid off or eliminated full or part-time staff member positions in the past year, up from 28% last year.

38% of Network organizations have decreased hours of operation or programming.

52% of Network organizations have cut program hours or canceled programs entirely.

"We had to lay off both our social worker and our Homeless Youth Services program director. We no longer have evening drop-in hours, which we used to have six days a week. During funding lulls in the summer, we were forced to hold staff paychecks due to lack of funding for the first time in six years."

– Frances Wood
Metropolitan Community Church of New York, Manhattan



Despite these challenges, the Network continues to reach communities in every one of New York's 62 counties.

Services We Provide

Network members provide services that are based on the unique needs of the communities they serve. Below is a breakdown of the types of services they provide and the number of organizations that provide each type of service.

- Community Education Programs – 28
- General Health Programming and Support Groups – 27
- Mental Health Programs and Services – 27
- Youth Outreach Programs and Services – 24
- Community Center – 21
- Substance Abuse Programs and Services – 11
- Senior Outreach Programs and Services – 10
- Family Services – 10
- Legal Services – 7
- Crime Victim Programs – 3
- Emergency Housing Services – 2
- *Other – 18

*Other covers a range of services including trainings for service providers, meal programs, workforce development, community organizing and referral services.

Demographic Breakdown of Clients Served by Member Organizations

Sexual Orientation

Bisexual: 7%

Gay: 27%

Heterosexual: 26%

Lesbian: 19%

Queer: 3%

Questioning: 1%

Other: 2%

Unknown: 14%

Gender Identity

Female: 40%

Genderqueer: 1%

Male: 37%

Transgender (Identifies as Female): 6%

Transgender (Identifies as Male): 3%

Other: 1%

Unknown: 12%

Race/Ethnicity

African: 1%

African American: 2%

American Indian/Alaskan Native/Hawaiian Native: 1%

Asian/Pacific Islander: 4%

Black/Non Hispanic: 15%

Caribbean: 1%

Hispanic: 14%

Multiracial: 5%

White/Non Hispanic: 43%

Other Race or Ethnicity: 2%

Unknown: 15%

Age

Under 13: 1%

13 – 18: 17%

19 – 24: 18%

25 – 34: 17%

35 – 44: 14%

45 – 55: 9%

55+: 6%

Unknown: 18%

"We work with an isolated population of low to no income LGBT people living with serious mental illness, and they rely on us almost exclusively for social support and acceptance. Because of the loss of discretionary funding from the New York State Legislature, we had to cut back programming hours and lay off a part-time outreach worker, which has resulted in fewer linkage agreements with other agencies, and thus fewer referrals into our program. All of these cutbacks have caused actual hardship and serious emotional distress to our clients. Restoration of discretionary funding would enable the agency to restore services at times when they are most needed by our consumers."

– Christian Huygen,
Rainbow Heights Club, Brooklyn

New York State LGBT Health and Human Services Network

Located in all of New York's 62 counties, the Network's 53 member organizations provide services to a broad swath of the state's LGBT communities.

Capital Region

The Bridge (LGBTCC), Inc.
P.O. Box 2599
Glens Falls, NY 12801

The Bridge (LGBT Community Center), Inc. is dedicated to serving the LGBT communities in and around Warren County and proudly has been serving the entire region since 2006.

***In Our Own Voices, Inc.**
245 Lark Street
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 432-4188
www.inourownvoices.org

In Our Own Voices serves the needs of LGBT people of color, friends and families.

***LGBT Education and Outreach Project**
Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson
1040 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12307
(518) 374-5353
www.ppmhchoices.org

The Teen Outreach Center is a safe place in Saratoga Springs for LGBT youth and their allies to hang out, learn about LGBT health and sexuality issues and enjoy a place free of homophobia and heterosexism.

***Pride Center of the Capital Region**
332 Hudson Avenue
Albany, NY 12210
(518) 462-6138
www.capitalpridecenter.org

The Pride Center of the Capital Region is dedicated to serving the LGBT community in the Capital District. Based in Albany, the Pride Center has been meeting the diverse needs of LGBT people in a seven-county region since 1970.

***Rainbow Access Initiative, Inc.**
P.O. Box 9144
Niskayuna, NY 12309
(518) 346-6414
www.rainbowaccess.org

Rainbow Access Initiative is an all-volunteer organization that seeks to inform and educate health care and human service professionals in the unique aspects of LGBT-specific health issues.

The Safety Zone
Unity House of Troy
33 2nd Street
Troy, NY 12180
(518) 274-2607
www.unityhouseny.org

Through wise stewardship and a caring staff The Safety Zone is a community organization committed to serving and empowering people in need.

Central New York

***Cortland LGBT Resource Center**
Cortland Prevention Services
29 Central Avenue
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 756-8970

The mission of the Cortland LGBT Resource Center is to create a visible and empowered community through education, advocacy, resource enhancement and linkages to services for all LGBT and queer-identified people.

Identity Youth
Southern Tier AIDS Program
206 State Street
Binghamton, NY 13905
(607) 651-9120
www.idyouth.org

Identity Youth is a youth and teen center for people ages 14-20. It is a "safe space" for LGBT, queer or questioning individuals but also welcomes any youth in general.

***Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project**
Ferre Institute, Inc.
124 Front Street
Binghamton, NY 13905
(607) 724-4308
www.prideandjoyfamilies.org

The Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project is dedicated to helping LGBT and queer people in upstate New York achieve their goals of building and sustaining healthy families.

***Out For Health**
Planned Parenthood of the Southern Finger Lakes
111 East Seneca Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
(607) 216-0021 ext. 134
www.outforhealth.org

Planned Parenthood is Out for Health. They stand side by side with the LGBT communities as fellow activists, allies and people committed to health, wellness and social change.

***The Q Center**
AIDS Community Resources
627 West Genesee Street
Syracuse, NY 13204
(315) 701-2431
www.aidscommunityresources.com

The Q Center is a safe place for LGBT and questioning youth and their allies to gather, share, hang out, have fun and build healthy relationships with supportive adults and peers.

***SAGE Upstate**
431 East Fayette Street, Suite 050
Syracuse, NY 13202
(315) 478-1923
www.sageupstate.org

Sage Upstate is a not-for-profit organization that promotes the health and well being of LGBT and questioning people in Central New York as they age.

Hudson Valley

***Center Lane**
Westchester Jewish Community Services
34 South Broadway, Suite 214
White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 358-1006
and
20 South Broadway, Suite 420
Yonkers, NY 10701
(914) 423-0610
www.centerlaneny.org

Center Lane's mission is to provide a safe haven that fosters a positive sense of self, reduces isolation and addresses high risk behaviors in LGBT and questioning youth and their allies ages 13-21.

***Community Awareness Network for a Drug-Free Life and Environment, Inc. (CANDLE)**
120 North Main Street, Suite 301
New City, New York 10956
(845) 634-6677
www.candlerockland.org

Community Awareness Network For A Drug-Free Life And Environment, Inc. (CANDLE) was founded as a non-profit organization in 1982. Its mission is to prevent substance abuse and violence among youth.

***Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center**
P.O. Box 3994
Kingston, NY 12402
(845) 331-5300
www.lgbtqcenter.org

The Hudson Valley LGTBQ Community Center provides services, professional resources and programs that unite the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer community across lines of age, race, gender and economics.

***The LOFT: LGBT Community Services Center**
252 Bryant Avenue
White Plains, NY 10605
(914) 948-2932
www.loftgaycenter.org

The LOFT, an LGBTQ organization, works to further the cause for inclusion, diversity and pride through education, advocacy and celebration.

Long Island

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Long Island, Inc.
P.O. Box 1312
Ronkonkoma, New York 11779
(631) 665-3700
www.glsbli.com

The Gay & Lesbian Switchboard of Long Island provides peer counseling and information services for the LGBT communities of Long Island and surrounding areas.

***Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth (LIGALY)**
34 Park Avenue
Bay Shore, NY 11706
(631) 665-2300
and
400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 110
Garden City, NY 11530
(516) 323-0011
www.ligaly.org

Long Island Gay and Lesbian Youth provides education, advocacy and social support services to Long Island's LGBT youth and young adults.

Long Island Lesbian Cancer Initiative (LILCI)
471 North Broadway, Suite 123
Jericho, NY 11753
(888) LILCINY
www.lilci.org

The Long Island Lesbian Cancer Initiative provides culturally specific services for lesbian-identified women with cancer or their caregivers on Long Island.

***Pride for Youth**
Long Island Crisis Center
2050 Bellmore Avenue
Bellmore, NY 11710
(516) 679-9000
www.prideforyouth.org

Pride for Youth's mission is to enhance the health, wellness and cultural competency of LGBT young people through supportive services, education and youth development.

New York City

Brooklyn

Gay Men of African Descent (GMAD)
44 Court Street, Suite 1000
Brooklyn, NY 11201
(718) 222-6300
www.gmad.org

GMAD's mission is to empower gay men of African descent through education, outreach, health and wellness promotion and social support.

GRIOT Circle Inc.
25 Flatbush Avenue, 5th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217-1101
(718) 246-2775
www.griotcircle.org

GRIOT Circle's mission is to provide programs and services to assist their members in removing the isolation and fear around aging in the LGBT people of color community as well as the larger community and to eliminate discrimination wherever it exists.

***The HEAT Program**
760 Parkside Avenue, Room 308
Brooklyn, NY 11226
(718) 467-4466
www.heatprogram.org

Health and Education Alternatives for Teens (HEAT) is a unique program that focuses on the special needs of teenagers who are HIV infected or at risk for infection. HEAT provides comprehensive medical, mental health, case management, HIV prevention and other support services to youth ages 13-24.

"The Pride Center works closely with our Erie County LGBT Domestic Violence Committee. With the discretionary funds, we were planning to hire a part-time staff person to provide supportive services to LGBT victims of intimate partner violence (IPV). There are no other agencies in our area that provide LGBT specific services to victims of IPV. With the loss of the funding, we were not able to hire that position or provide those services."

– Jorien Brock,
Pride Center of Western New York, Buffalo

***Rainbow Heights Club**
Heights Hill MHS, SBPC, Community Advisory Board
25 Flatbush Avenue, 4th Floor
Brooklyn, NY 11217
(718) 852-2584
www.rainbowheights.org

Rainbow Heights Club is an advocacy program for LGBT consumers requiring mental health services. They provide socialization, support, peer advocacy and a safe place to take the next step on the road to emotional recovery and wellness.

***Unity Fellowship Breaking Ground, Inc. (UFBG)**
2578 Atlantic Avenue
Brooklyn, NY 11207
(718) 385-2406
www.unityfellowshipchurch.org

The mission of UFBG, Inc. is to provide education and support to youth and young adults, with special attention towards the needs of the LGBT community and their families in the New York City area.

Manhattan

***Ali Forney Center**
224 West 35th Street
New York, NY 10001
(212) 222-3427
www.aliforneycenter.org

The Ali Forney Center's mission is to protect LGBTQ youth from the harm of homelessness, and to support them in becoming safe and independent as they move from adolescence to adulthood.

APICHA
400 Broadway
New York, NY 10013
(646) 744-0996
www.apicha.org

APICHA's mission is to improve the health of our community and to increase access to comprehensive primary care, preventive health services, mental health and supportive services to Asians and Pacific Islanders, the LGBT community and individuals living with and affected by HIV/AIDS.

***Audre Lorde Project**
147 West 24th Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10011
(212) 463-0342
www.alp.org

The Audre Lorde Project is a LGBT two spirit and gender non-conforming people of color center for community organizing, focusing on the New York City area.

***Callen-Lorde Community Health Center**
356 West 18th Street
New York, NY 10011
(212) 271-7200
www.callen-lorde.org

Callen-Lorde Community Health Center provides sensitive, quality health care and related services primarily to New York's LGBT communities – in all their diversity – regardless of ability to pay.

Gay Men's Health Crisis, Inc. (GMHC)
446 West 33rd Street
New York, NY 10001
(212) 367-1000
www.gmhc.org

GMHC is the world's first and leading provider of HIV/AIDS prevention, care and advocacy. Their mission is to fight to end the AIDS epidemic and uplift the lives of all affected.

***Harm Reduction Coalition**
22 West 27th Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10001
(212) 213-6376
www.harmreduction.org

The Harm Reduction Coalition is a national advocacy and capacity-building organization that promotes the health and dignity of individuals and communities impacted by drug use.

***Hetrick-Martin Institute**
2 Astor Place
New York, NY 10003
(212) 674-2400
www.hmi.org

The Hetrick-Martin Institute creates an environment for LGBT and questioning youth between the ages of 12 and 24 and their families.

***Institute for Human Identity (IHI)**
322 8th Avenue, Suite 802
New York, NY 10001
(212) 243-2830
www.ihi-therapycenter.org

IHI's mission is to provide professional mental health services to all who need them.

***The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center**
208 West 13th Street
New York, NY 10011
(212) 620-7310
www.gaycenter.org

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center provides a home for the birth, nurture and celebration of community organizations, institutions and culture; cares for individuals and groups in need; educates the public and our community; and empowers individuals and groups to achieve their fullest potential.

***Metropolitan Community Church of New York**
446 West 36th Street
New York, NY 10018
(212) 629-7440
www.mccny.org

Metropolitan Community Church of New York is a spiritual home for the LGBT community, open to all.

The National LGBT Cancer Network
136 West 16 Street, Suite 1E
New York, NY 10011
(212) 675-2633
www.cancer-network.org

The National LGBT Cancer Network works to improve the lives of LGBT cancer survivors and those at risk through education, training and advocacy.

***Anti-Violence Project**
240 West 35th Street, Suite 200
New York, NY 10001
(212) 714-1184
www.avp.org

The Anti-Violence Project empowers LGBT, queer and HIV-affected communities and allies to end all forms of violence.

"We have had to reduce the number of evening programs we offered directly to LGBTQ youth. While this has allowed us to continue to use staff time to develop community resources and train several non-LGBTQ health and human service providers on inclusive care and LGBTQ health, it has decreased our ability to run as many direct programs."

– Darren Cosgrove, Planned Parenthood Mohawk Hudson, Saratoga

NorthEast Two-Spirit Society
American Indian Artists, Inc.
15 Rutherford Place
New York, New York 10003
(646) 351-7360
www.ne2ss.com

The NorthEast Two-Spirit Society works to increase the visibility of the two-spirit community and to provide social, traditional and recreational opportunities that are culturally appropriate to the two-spirit community of New York City and the tri-state area. At the heart of our efforts is community development for all our peoples.

***Peter Cicchino Youth Project**
Urban Justice Center
123 William Street, 16th Floor
New York, NY 10038
(646) 602-5633
www.urbanjustice.org

Peter Cicchino Youth Project works with LGBT youth in New York City to navigate the complicated channels of government benefits, access to permanent housing and continue their education.

Queers for Economic Justice
147 West 24th Street, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10011
(212) 564-3608
www.Q4EJ.org

Queers for Economic Justice is a progressive non-profit organization committed to promoting economic justice in a context of sexual and gender liberation.

***SAGE – Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders**
305 7th Avenue, 15th Floor
New York, NY 10001
(212) 741-2247
www.sageusa.org

SAGE is the country's largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBT older adults.

***Sylvia Rivera Law Project**
147 West 24th Street, 5th Floor
New York, NY 10011
(212) 337-8550
www.srlp.org

The Sylvia Rivera Law Project works to guarantee that all people are free to self-determine gender identity and expression, regardless of income or race, and without facing harassment, discrimination or violence.

***Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund (TLDEF)**
151 West 19th Street, Suite 1103
New York, NY 10011
(646) 862-9396
www.transgenderlegal.org

TLDEF is committed to ending discrimination based upon gender identity and expression and to achieving equality for transgender people through public education, test-case litigation, direct legal services, community organizing and public policy efforts.

The Trevor Project
80 Maiden Lane, Suite 1504
New York, NY 10038
(212) 509-0042
www.trevorproject.org

The Trevor Project is determined to end suicide among LGBTQ youth by providing life-saving and life-affirming resources including our nationwide, 24/7 crisis intervention lifeline, digital community and advocacy/educational programs that create a safe, supportive and positive environment for everyone.

Queens

Queens Pride House
76-11 37th Avenue, Suite 206
Jackson Heights, NY 11372
(718) 429-5309
www.queenspridehouse.org

The mission of Queens Pride House is to serve the LGBT communities of Queens through social, educational and multicultural events.

***Queens Center for Gay Seniors**
Queens Community House
74-09 37th Avenue
Jackson Heights, NY 11372
(718) 533-6459
www.queenscommunityhouse.org

Queens Center for Gay Seniors is the only community-based senior center in Queens that provides educational and recreational activities for LGBT older adults.

Staten Island

***Staten Island LGBT Community Center**
Community Health Action of Staten Island
25 Victory Boulevard, 3rd Floor
Staten Island, NY 10301
(718) 808-1360
www.silgbtcenter.org

The Staten Island LGBT Community Center provides LGBT individuals and their families with direct access to local services and activities promoting their overall physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Western New York

***AIDS Care**
259 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, NY 14607
(585) 545-7200
www.acrochester.org
www.everybodysgood.com

AIDS Care is the leading provider of HIV services in the Rochester and Finger Lakes area and is committed to improving the health and wellness of LGBT people in the region.

***Gay & Lesbian Youth Services (GLYS) of Western New York, Inc.**
371 Delaware Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 855-0221
www.glyswny.org

The GLYS mission is to provide an accepting environment to enhance the personal growth of LGBT and questioning youth in Western New York.

"We have had to consolidate positions and lay off staff or reduce them from full-time to part-time. We have also had to forgo any salary increases directly impacting staff morale."

– Jennifer Irwin, HEAT Program, Brooklyn

***Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (GAGV)**
875 East Main Street, Suite 500
Rochester, NY 14605
(585) 244-8640
www.gayalliance.org

The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley is dedicated to cultivating a healthy, inclusive environment where individuals of all sexual orientations and gender expressions are safe, thriving and enjoy full civil rights.

The MOCHA Center
107 Liberty Pole Way
Rochester, NY 14604
(585) 420-1400
and
1092 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14202
(716) 852-1142
www.mochacenter.org

Our mission is to improve health and wellness in communities of color through intervention and service with an emphasis on LGBTQ programming.

***Pride Center of Western New York**
206 South Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14201
(716) 852-7743
www.pridecenterwny.org

The mission of PCWNY is to work with the community to make Western New York a safe, healthy, and satisfying place for LGBT people to live, work and establish their families.

***Contributed to this report. Thank you!**

Membership

Membership in the Network is available to non-profit organizations serving LGBT people in New York State. Please contact Mel King at the Empire State Pride Agenda for more information about membership.

Mel King, Network Coordinator
Empire State Pride Agenda
16 West 22nd Street, 2nd Floor
New York, NY 10010
MKing@prideagenda.org
(212) 627-0305
www.prideagenda.org

Data Gathering and Tabulation

The data collected for this report covers the calendar year 2011 and was gathered by voluntary online surveys distributed in August 2012 to members of the Network. 39 of the 53 member organizations completed surveys reporting on the people they serve and the services they provide.

Numbers and percentages in this report have been rounded to the nearest whole number. Because of this, some totals may not add up to 100%.

This report is made possible in part by a grant from the New York State Department of Health.

The Network is supported and administered by the Empire State Pride Agenda Foundation. Founded in 1995, the Empire State Pride Agenda Foundation is New York's statewide research, education and advocacy organization committed to achieving equality and justice for LGBT New Yorkers and our families.

EMPIRE STATE PRIDE AGENDA

16 WEST 22ND STREET, 2ND FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10010, (212) 627-0305

126 STATE STREET, 4TH FLOOR, ALBANY, NY 12207, (518) 478-3330

WWW.PRIDEAGENDA.ORG

GCC/IBT 21 M