Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month (June 2019)

According to the 2017 National School Climate Survey conducted by GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network), LGBT youth are routinely harassed because of their sexual orientation. The survey of 23,001 13-21 year old students showed 70.1% LGBT students experienced verbal harassment at school in the past year because of their sexual orientation, 59.5% felt unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation and 34.9% skipped a day of school in the past month because of safety concerns. This survey is the only national survey that documents the experiences of students who identify as LGBT in America’s secondary schools. In June 2011 President Barack Obama issued a proclamation declaring June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month, and said, "I call upon the United States to eliminate prejudice everywhere it exists, and to celebrate the great diversity of the American people."

In support of the goals of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Pride Month, NCTSN has compiled a list of helpful links for educators, mental health and child welfare professionals, parents and caregivers, and youth.

For Educators

American Psychological Association
  Provides information and resources to help in responding “to a [then] recent upsurge in promotion of efforts to change sexual orientation through therapy and religious ministries. . . . Developed by a coalition of education, health, mental health, and religious organizations that share a concern for the health and education of all students in schools.”

COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
- Tips for Making Classrooms Safer for Students with LGBTQ Parents (2013)
  Give tips for teachers on safety and respect for youth with LGBTQ parents and for any student affected by homophobia and oppression.

GLSEN (Gay Lesbian and Straight Education Network)
  Provides resources to help educators create a curriculum that includes positive representations of LGBT people and history can affirm LGBT students, improve school climate and align with Common Core standards.
- The GLSEN Jump-Start Guide: Building and Activating Your GSA or Similar Student Club
  Supports new and established Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) and similar groups that are working to make schools safer and more inclusive for all students.” Eight sections (including “Strategies for Training Teachers” and “Examining Power, Privilege and Oppression”) were designed to help GSAs bring fresh and creative energy to their club; includes additional resources.
- The Safe Place Kit: Be an Ally to LGBT Youth
  Provides concrete strategies that will help you support LGBT students, educate about anti-LGBT bias and advocate for changes in your school.
- **National School Climate Survey** (2017)
  Reports on the school experiences of LGBTQ youth in schools, including the extent of the challenges that they face at school and the school-based resources that support LGBTQ students’ well-being.

**PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)**

- **The Cultivating Respect: Safe Schools For All Initiative** (2012)
  Seeks to provide support, education, and advocacy to students, parents, families, friends, and educators to help them create a learning environment that is conducive to the educational success of all students.

**Teaching Tolerance**

  Provides information to help schools develop policies and nurturing practices, to build an educational environment that is truly welcoming to all students.

**The Trevor Project**

- **Trainings for Youth-Serving Professionals**
  Teaches educators about how to intervene when they hear harassing/discriminatory language as it relates to sexuality/gender identity.

**For Medical Professionals**

**Lambda Legal**

- **Providing Ethical and Compassionate Health Care to Intersex Patients** (2018)
  Recognizes the importance of providing ethical and compassionate health care to people born with intersex traits and launches efforts to ensure that intersex people are receiving appropriate, sensitive, and nondiscriminatory health care.

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)**

  Offers information and resources to help practitioners throughout health and social service systems implement best practices in engaging and helping families and caregivers to support their lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) children.

- **Top Health Issues for LGBT Populations: Information and Resource Kit** (2012)
  Equips prevention professionals, healthcare providers, and educators with information on current health issues among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) populations.

**For Mental Health and Child Welfare Professionals**

**Advocates for Youth**

- **The Impact of Homophobia and Racism on GLBTQ Youth of Color** (2007)
  Supports those who work with youth. Includes information on homophobia; explains additional challenges faced by youth of color including HIV, pregnancy, sexual violence, racism, and homelessness; and stresses the importance of culturally competent education and health care programs and services.

**Child Welfare League of America**

  Provides guidelines for “agencies that are responsible for the care of LGBT youth in out-of-
home care,” specifically directed to child welfare and juvenile justice professionals. Topics include: “Creating an Inclusive Organizational Culture,” “A Family-Centered Approach to Serving LGBT Youth,” “Promoting Positive Adolescent Development,” “Collecting and Managing Confidential Information,” “Ensuring Appropriate Homes for LGBT Youth in Institutional Settings,” "Providing Appropriate Health, Mental Health, and Education Services to LGBT Youth”; includes additional resources.

- **Getting Down to Basics: Tools to Support LGBTQ Youth in Care (2012)**
  Gives guidance on an array of issues affecting LGBTQ youth and the adults and organizations who provide them with out-of-home care. Developed in partnership by the Child Welfare League of America (CWLA) and Lambda Legal

**Family Builders**

  Offers much-needed direction to child welfare agencies on how best to collect, record, and disclose information on the sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression of children and youth in foster care.

**National Alliance to End Homelessness**

- **National Recommended Best Practices for Serving LGBT Homeless Youth (2009)**
  Gives direction to agencies and nonprofit organizations to increase their competency in working with LGBT youth.

**National Center for Cultural Competence**

- **Providing Services and Supports for Youth who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning, Intersex or Two-Spirit (2008)**
  Provides information on this population; explains “how to develop culturally and linguistically competent programs and services to meet their needs and preferences.”

**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA)**

- **Ending Conversion Therapy: Supporting and Affirming LGBTQ Youth (2015)**
  Presents research, clinical expertise, and expert consensus on therapeutic practices related to children's and adolescent's sexual orientation and gender identity, and makes the case for eliminating the use of conversion therapy among this population.

  Aims to help practitioners who work in a wide range of settings to understand the critical role of family acceptance and rejection in contributing to the health and well-being of adolescents who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. Its intent is to help practitioners implement best practices in engaging and helping families and caregivers to support their LGBTQ children.

**Williams Institute**

- **Serving Our Youth: Findings from a National Survey of Services Providers Working with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth Who Are Homeless or at Risk of Becoming Homeless (2012)**
  Gives a national snapshot of the programs for LGBTQ youth who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
For Parents and Caregivers

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
•  *Parents’ Influence: Promoting Positive Health Outcomes for Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual Teens* (2013)
  Provides information for parents on how they can support and promote healthy outcomes for their LGBTQ teens.

Child Welfare Information Gateway
  Helps foster parents learn about LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning) youth in the child welfare system, the unique risks they face, and the important role that foster parents can play in reducing those risks.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
•  *LGBT Youth Resources*
  Gives links to resource for LGBT youth and their friends. Resources also listed for Parents and educators.

Family Acceptance Project
•  *Supportive Families, Healthy Children: Helping Families with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Children* (2012)
  Helps strengthen families and foster families with gay and transgender children and adolescents. And to help families provide support and to decrease gay or transgender children’s risk for serious health and mental health problems in adulthood.

Lambda Legal
•  *Out, Safe, and Respected for Educators and Parents*
  Helps parents and educators develop safe, nurturing school environments for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) students.

Safe Schools Coalition
•  *GLBT Youth of Color: Resources for Parents/Guardians, Family Members, Educators and Allies*
  Lists programs, support groups, services, hotlines, websites, books, and articles for parents/guardians, family members, educators, and allies of GLBT youth of color.

The Trevor Project
•  *Trevor Lifeline*
  Provides a confidential suicide hotline for LGBTQ youth: 1-(866)-488-7386 (24/7, toll free)

Youth Guardian Services
  Provides support services on the Internet to GLBTQ and supportive youth.