



Building Bridges: How the LGBTIQ and Homeless Sector Can Work Together European Youth Centre Budapest 11 – 16 November 2019

Study Session Partners: FEANTSA, & ILGA-Europe & True Colors United

With support of Albert Kennedy Trust, Slovenian Pride Association & Le Refuge

When: 11-16 November 2019

Where: European Youth Centre, Budapest, Hungary.

What: A study session is a 5-day course, designed with the support of the Council of Europe's Youth Department. Study sessions depart from traditional courses by using non-formal education to encourage participants to share their experiences, stories and expertise on a given issue. As a participant to a study session you are an expert and will be encouraged to share your insights with colleagues from across Europe. A special attempt will be made to select participants with diverse professional and geographic backgrounds to ensure diversity in thoughts and knowledge. This study session will be jointly designed by experts from the homelessness and LGBTIQ sector and with the support of our educational advisor will be delivered in an interactive way, where you will develop relationships & partnerships with other participants.

This will be the fifth in a series of study sessions led by FEANTSA Youth, but marks the first time of a joint study session targeted to a combination of professionals from the LGBTIQ and homeless sector.

Our study sessions have provided an opportunity for young professionals from across Europe to come together to identify key issues in tackling youth homelessness and co-develop a series of solutions. The study sessions have led to a growing and dynamic alumni network with membership from across a wide variety of fields including social work, youth work, academics, students, law, architecture, public policy (local and national civil services), NGOs and others.

The past study sessions have focused on taking a human rights approach to preventing youth homelessness while also developing and implementing an advocacy strategy aimed at raising awareness for youth homelessness among policy makers.

In November 2019, the FEANTSA Youth, ILGA-Europe & True Colours United Study Session will focus on the needs of LGBTIQ youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The study session aims to familiarise professionals working with LGBTIQ youth with a framework for integrating human rights into their work and create partnerships between LGBTIQ and homeless services at the national and local level.

This study session will attract a combination of professionals from the homeless and LGBTIQ sector and will act as a unique opportunity for both sectors to learn about the needs and supports of the LGBTIQ community, people experiencing homelessness and the intersection of both.

Key Objectives: The objectives of this Study Session are:

1. Develop an understanding and knowledge of human rights enshrined in international human rights law and their relevance to the young LGBTIQ community experiencing homelessness.
2. Promote an understanding of what youth homelessness is for those unfamiliar with homelessness. What are the key needs of young people experiencing homelessness? How does youth homelessness materialise? The importance of developing tailored youth-oriented solutions.
3. Promote an understanding of the needs and experiences of LGBTIQ youth. What are common experiences they have faced including family rejection, discrimination for their sexual or gender identity, access to sexual health and reproductive rights? How do these experiences inform how we work with LGBTIQ youth?
4. Demonstrate effective interventions tailored to the needs of LGBTIQ youth experiencing homelessness such as Albert Kennedy Trust, Le Refuge and True Colours United.
5. Facilitate the establishment of partnerships between homeless and LGBTIQ services to bridge the current gap in service provision for LGBTIQ youth and create a wider European network participants can rely on in the follow-up to the study session to support participants implement their learning.

Who Should Apply: Anyone who is -

- Under 30 years old, some places are available for participants 30+
- Living in a Council of Europe member state
- Working with young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, or;
- Working with LGBTIQ youth
- Interested in the intersection of LGBTIQ youth homelessness and ready to integrate your learning into your work
- Able to communicate in English
- Enthusiastic, energetic and prepared to engage in non-formal education
- Willing to commit yourself after the study session in order to plan and carry out coordinated work together with other participants

In addition to the above criteria, applications are particularly encouraged from:

- Non-European Union Countries, while also a Council of Europe Member State

How: Online applications are now open and will close on 21 June 2019. Click [here](#) to access the online application form.

PLEASE NOTE: A key component of this study session is building partnerships and bringing actors and services together who traditionally do not work together. For this to be successful we highly encourage a homeless service provider and an LGBTIQ organisation to apply from the same city or country. The application form allows you to reference another organisation who is applying with whom you plan to work with beyond the study session.

Both during the evaluation of applications and selection of participants special attention will be given to applicants who reference another organisation that has also applied.

More information: robbie.stakelum@feantsa.org

Application process: 35 participants will be selected by end of August 2019 based on:

- Motivation
- Knowledge of youth homelessness issues or LGBTIQ issues
- Knowledge of human rights-based approaches to social issues
- Geographic, gender and age balance
- Capacity to partner and work with other LGBTIQ and homeless services to implement learning.

A maximum of 2 – 3 participants will be chosen from each country

Applicants will be notified if they have been selected or not by the end of August 2019.

Cost: Travel, accommodation and meal costs will be covered by the Council of Europe; a €50 registration fee will be charged for participants, this will be deducted from the travel expenses reimbursement