



LGBTIQ Homelessness Training:

Date: 30 May 2019

Time: 14.00-17.00

Venue: Holiday Inn Porto, R. Diogo Macedo 220, 4400-107 Vila Nova de Gaia, Portugal

Objectives of Training:

1. **The need for change:** To understand how and why existing mainstream services need to improve how they work with vulnerable LGBTIQ youth to prevent them from experiencing homelessness.
2. **How to change:** To raise awareness of existing tools, resources and strategies that can be used to create a more aware, sensitive and inclusive service.
3. **Partners for change:** To not only become aware of the role of homeless services, but how to partner with the wider LGBTIQ sector and other services to prevent homelessness and support LGBTIQ out of homelessness.

A draft agenda for the training can be seen below.

Target Audience:

Homeless Service providers – this will be a mixture of i) social workers/frontline staff working directly with youth experiencing homelessness, ii) service managers who coordinate several homeless services and iii) policy/advocacy officers who are responsible for a homeless service’s policy direction.

The training will be attended by LGBTIQ Thought Leaders who traditionally do not work with homeless youth but have partnered with homeless services to support LGBTIQ youth.

Supporting Webinar:

To lay the ground work for the training a webinar will be organised with True Colours Foundation and FEANTSA, which will be aimed at ensuring participants to the training have a shared understanding of LGBTIQ homelessness, including research and evidence which highlights the causes of LGBTIQ homelessness.

Partners

FEANTSA

The European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless, comprising over 140+ homeless services.

True Colours United

A US based organisation focussed on developing resources and tools to support mainstream homeless services become more inclusive and engaged in preventing and ending LGBTIQ homelessness

Slovenian Pride

Slovenian Pride Association has committed to examining the intersectionality of the LGBTIQ identity.

Le Refuge

Le Refuge is a dedicated LGBTIQ homeless service operating across 20 cities in France

University of Toronto

Dr. Alex Abramovich is a leading international researcher on LGBTIQ homelessness who focuses on the phenomenon of queer and trans youth homelessness.

LGBT Youth Scotland

A Scottish based organisation playing a leading role in the provision of quality youth work to LGBTI young people that promotes their health and wellbeing.

Rock Trust

A leading homeless service provider dedicated to supporting young people exit homelessness in Scotland

Focus Ireland

Focus Ireland is one of the largest homeless service providers in Ireland who have recently invested in research into the topic of LGBTIQ homelessness.



Draft Agenda:

14.00 – Introductions

- Introduction of the training session, facilitators, organisers and participants.

14.20 – Block 1 – Understanding the needs of LGBTIQ Youth

- Slovenian Pride Association – present on the needs of LGBTIQ youth and how services often unknowingly discriminate and exclude vulnerable LGBTIQ youth.
- Gregory Lewis & Jama Shelton, True Colors United – explore the intersection of identifying as LGBTIQ and experiences of being homeless and identify tools and resources available.

15.00 – Block 2 – Hallmarks of an inclusive homeless service:

- Le Refuge – insights into the services Le Refuge provide to LGBTIQ youth they work with and supports to exit homelessness.
- Dr. Alex Abramovich, University of Toronto – Experience from research and evidence, what makes a successful service for LGBTIQ Youth.

15.40 – Break

16.00 – Block 3 – Partnering to support LGBTIQ Youth:

- LGBT Youth Scotland & Rock Trust: Outline of how LGBT Youth Scotland and Rock Trust work together to audit the Rock Trust's services to ensure young LGBTIQ people feel respected and included in services and how the audit led to training and services being re-designed and implemented.
- Focus Ireland & UCD: Overview of the partnership between Focus Ireland in conducting research on young LGBTIQ peoples' experiences of homelessness in Ireland.

16.40 – Wrap Up

- Key learning, what was valuable for participants, identify further learning needs for future events or to be built into the study session.