

Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Prevention Services for Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered or Queer/Questioning
(LGBTQ) Youth in New Jersey Middle or High Schools RFP
Date of Final Award –November 14, 2022

Name of Program: Prevention Services for Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered or Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) Youth in New Jersey Middle or High Schools RFP

Purpose:

This Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued by the New Jersey Department of Human Services (DHS), Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS), for Prevention Services for Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual/Transgendered or Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ) youth in New Jersey middle or high schools. Funding for services will be provided by the Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Research indicates that young adults who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual or queer/questioning have 1.3 times the odds of heavy alcohol use, 1.6 times the odds of marijuana use, 2.9 times the odds of injection drug use, and 3.3 times the odds of cocaine use than their non-LGBTQ peers.¹ Identifying as LGBTQ affects girls’ substance use risk more dramatically than boys’, though boys are more likely to use drugs and alcohol overall. There is some evidence that bisexual youth are particularly likely to use alcohol and other drugs.² DMHAS sought proposals for prevention programs and non-clinical services for LGBTQ youth that are comprehensive and that employ prevention strategies that are evidence-based or that have been empirically demonstrated as effective in working with this population. DMHAS currently funds a program that serves LGBTQ youth in northern New Jersey. The funding sought to expand regions served in New Jersey. DMHAS awarded one contract in the Southern region in the amount of \$225,000.

Agency Name	CEO/ Executive Director	Amount Funded*	Region of Services
Robert Wood Johnson Barnabas Health Institute for Prevention and Recovery	Connie Greene, Senior Vice President	\$225,000	South

**Actual amount may differ depending upon final contractual negotiation.*

¹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual (LGB) Adults (Annual Report). samhsa.gov. <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/report/2018-nsduh-lesbian-gay-bisexual-lgb-adults>. Published January 14, 2020.

² PREVENTING SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMONG LGBTQ TEENS. Human Rights Campaign Foundation, Growing Up LGBT in America. Washington, DC: Human Rights Campaign, 2012, <http://www.hrc.org/youth-report>