

Youth Resources in Washington, DC

The District Government and numerous nonprofit organizations work to create a safe and healthy environment for all young people, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. This document provides an overview of some of the government agencies and organizations providing direct services.

Government Resources

Children and Family Services Agency

Phone: (202) 442-6000 | Web: www.cfsa.dc.gov

The Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA) is the District of Columbia public agency that protects child victims and children at risk of abuse or neglect.

DC Public Charter School Board

Telephone: (202) 328-2660 | Web: www.dcpubliccharter.com

The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board is authorized to grant charters to establish public charter schools in Washington, D.C.

DC Public Schools

Telephone: (202) 442-5885 | Web: www.k12.dc.us

Provides quality education, ensures a safe and secure learning environment, and provides support services to DC school children.

Office of the State Superintendent of Education

Telephone: (202) 727-6436 | Web: www.seo.dc.gov

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education, formerly known as the State Education Office (SEO), sets policies, exercises oversight, and directs resources that guarantee residents educated in the District of Columbia are fully prepared for successful learning and employment.

Ombudsman for Public Education

Telephone: (202) 741-8777

The Ombudsman is the city's face of customer service for education and assists parents and students with questions and problems within District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), Public Charter Schools, the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), and the Office of the State Superintendent for Education (OSSE).

Summer Youth Program

Telephone: (202) 463-6211 | Web: www.summeryouthprogram.dc.gov

DC's Summer Youth Program, operated by the DC Department of Employment Services, provides a variety of programs such as reading clubs, camps, sports, and summer jobs for young people in the District. There are also free meals, health and mental health services available.

Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services

Telephone: (202) 576-8175 | Web: www.dyrs.dc.gov

The Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) provides citywide services for delinquency prevention and control to the protection of the community and the rehabilitation of youth. Specifically, DYRS provides security, supervision, and residential and community support services for committed and detained juvenile offenders and juvenile Persons in Need of Supervision (PINS). Clients are engaged in a variety of educational, therapeutic, recreational, and cultural enrichment programs.

Community Resources

Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League (SMYAL)

Telephone: (202) 546-5940 | Web: www.smyal.org

The Sexual Minority Youth Assistance League (SMYAL) is the only Washington, DC metro area nonprofit organization solely dedicated to supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. SMYAL provides a youth center, counseling & support groups and HIV testing & counseling.

Transgender Health Empowerment, Inc. (T.H.E.)

Telephone: (202) 636-1646 | Web: www.theincdc.org

Transgender Health Empowerment, Inc. (T.H.E.) works to enhance the quality of life of the diverse transgender population by advocating for and supporting a continuum of health and social services. In fulfilling their mission, T.H.E. is the home of the Tyra Hunter Drop-In Center for transgender, gay, lesbian and bisexual youth, providing showers, laundry, clothing and food to the homeless. T.H.E. also operates the only transitional housing for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth.

Different Avenues

Telephone: (202) 829-2103 | Web: www.differentavenues.org

Different Avenues provides services to youth and young adults, ages 12 to 30 years, who are homeless or living in unstable housing. Many of their clients are transgender, gay, lesbian or bisexual. Different Avenues also assists youth who are parents and their families. Different Avenues services include a drop-in center, HIV/AIDS prevention education, sexual health education, access to drug prevention and mental health services, peer-based leadership training and legal referrals.

Metro TeenAIDS

Telephone: (202) 543-9355 | Web: www.metroteenaids.org

Metro TeenAIDS (MTA) is a community health organization dedicated to supporting young people in the fight against HIV/AIDS. Through education, support, and advocacy, MTA works to prevent the spread of HIV, promote responsible decision making, and improve the quality of life for young people infected with or affected by HIV/AIDS.

Latin American Youth Center

Telephone: (202) 319-2225 | Web: www.layc-dc.org

The Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) is a multicultural community-based organization that supports youth and their families. The Family Connections/Social Services Division is staffed by bilingual outreach workers, case managers, counselors and other clinical staff. LAYC provides advocacy, substance abuse prevention & treatment, case management, counseling, crisis intervention and housing.

La Clinica Del Pueblo

Telephone: (202) 462-4788 | Web: www.lcdp.org

The mission of La Clínica Del Pueblo is to provide free, culturally appropriate health services in the Latino community.



Government of the District of Columbia
Vincent C. Gray, Mayor

Youth Resources in Washington, DC

This document was produced by the Mayor's Office of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Affairs

John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Suite 221 Washington, DC 20004

P: (202) 727-9493 | F: (202) 727-5931 | Web: glbt.dc.gov | Email: glbt@dc.gov