# **Services for Homeless and At-Risk Youth**



The Los Angeles LGBT Center offers lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth, 14 to 24 years old, tools for selfempowerment through its Children, Youth & Family Services Department (CYFS). We believe that all youth have the right to a safe, secure, and nurturing living environment. Whether taking steps toward independent living through our Transitional Living Program or simply getting a hot meal and shower at the Youth Center on Highland, the Los Aneles LGBT Center provides LGBTQ youth the resources they need to reach their full potential.

#### The Youth Center on Highland

The Youth Center was opened in 1997 to help homeless and at risk LGBTQ youth, ages 14 to 24 years old. It serves as an entry point to assist homeless youth in making the transition from the streets into independent living as well as to create a comfortable space to socialize with other LGBTQ youth in a safe and affirming environment. Basic life sustaining and recreational services are provided, such as:

Breakfast, Lunch,	GED Preparation	Case
Dinner, Snacks	Program	Management
Clothing & Laundry	Employment	Counseling &
Services	Services	Support Groups
Showers & Hygiene	Computer Lab	HIV Testing & Counseling
Recreational Activities	Housing Referrals	Art / Music Groups

#### Information: (323) 860-3634 MEL

Address: 1220 N Highland Ave Los Angeles, CA 90038 Hours: Monday – Friday: 730am – 5pm Saturday & Sunday: 730am – 2pm

## Emergency Overnight Beds, Transitional Living & Supportive Apartments

CYFS also operates a 32-bed residential program that is comprised of 6 emergency overnight beds, 24 transitional housing beds and 2 single apartments to assist LGBTQ youth, 18 to 24 years old, who are either homeless or in unsafe living situations. By providing ongoing supportive services such as case management, counseling, art and therapy groups combined with basic life sustaining services like shelter, food and clothing, youth are able to focus on their goals and develop the skills necessary to live independently.

## Information: (323) 860-2280

## Street Smart

Street Smart is an HIV Prevention & Education Program. The Goal of the program is to educate clients and provide them with tools to help reduce their risk of HIV infection. The program includes a series of 4 workshops that emphasize learning and changing behaviors to help young people negotiate and practice safer sex. Individual counseling sessions and referrals to HIV testing and counseling are also provided. Groups are held four times each week and incentives are provided.

#### Information: (323) 860-2213

#### **GED / Education**

The GED (General Education Development) Program gives young people the opportunity to complete their high school education and receive a recognized diploma. In addition to the real sense of achievement, the GED Diploma opens up a new range of opportunities for further education and employment. The GED Program is selfdirected and allows participants to study at their own pace.

Information: (323) 860-3677or (323) 860-3671

#### Youth Employment

The Youth Employment Program provides assistance with career research, resume writing, job searches and interview preparation. In addition to assisting participants find a job, the program also focuses on providing the soft skills necessary to hold onto their job and progress in their career.

#### Information: (323) 860-2295 or (323) 860-3639

## **Senior-Youth Photo Project**

The Senior/Youth Photo Project is an annual collaborative project with the Seniors Program. This 8-week workshop series runs each year between February and May, and is designed to bring youth and seniors together for this unique and highly experimental study of the technical and artistic aspects of photography. The project is open to youth between the ages of 14 to 24 who are still at home but are at risk of homelessness or for those who are already homeless.

### Information: (323) 993-7450