Fact Sheet 2019

Mission and Overview
Lambert House empowers LGBTQ youth through the development of leadership, social, and life skills. We are an affirming community where LGBTQ youth are the norm. Our programs help LGBTQ youth develop the self-esteem necessary to flourish in their schools, families, and communities.

Lambert House was the first independent, self-sustaining LGBTQ youth organization in the world to incorporate (1981) and was the first in the U.S. to receive IRS tax-exempt designation (1981). It is the one social service agency in Greater Seattle dedicated solely to LGBTQ youth and has an unparalleled range of programs for them.

Youth
Lambert House serves LGBTQ youth from all backgrounds and living situations, including youth with strong parental support and those whose parents abandon them.

In 2018, Lambert House served over 1,100 individuals. They participated in our programs approximately 20,000 times. Youth served ranged in age from 11 to 22. We served more females than males. The percentage of youth of color was a little higher than their percentage in Greater Seattle. Eighty-eight percent lived with their families or in other stable housing. Eighty-two youth, or 12%, were homeless.

Programs
Making friends is almost all youths’ primary reason for coming to Lambert House. We provide a safe social environment and varied activities through which youth can form community. Here LGBTQ youth see themselves as normal. Lambert House typically is the one place in their lives where they are in the majority.

Lambert House employs a positive youth development model focused on achievement of youths’ own goals and reliance on their innate strengths, assets, and resilience. We have 30 ongoing programs and services. All programs are youth-driven; some are youth-led. Our programs include social support drop-in; youth-led community dances; community dinners; three weekly facilitated support groups; HIV-prevention education; outdoor education; an LGBTQ movie series; cultural outings; Art Night; and ad-hoc youth-led activities such as writing groups, bicycle repair workshops, ESL classes, queer activist trainings, theater improvisation, Dungeons & Dragons, and an outdoor games day in the park. Youth enjoy a 3,000-volume LGBT lending library, a David Bohnett CyberCenter, and academic or job-training internships at the middle school, high school, college, graduate school, and post-graduate levels.

On site, we provide youth in need with dinner, case management, systems advocacy, personal hygiene items, and clothing. Referrals include LGBT-competent emergency shelter, transitional housing, GED programs, low-cost colleges, and medical care.
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Number of Youth Served
1,113 individual LGBTQ youth participated in 2018

Who We Served
- Youth came from 135 ZIP codes
- 69% ages 11-17
- 31% ages 18-22
- 82 youth were homeless
- 7% left high school without graduating
- 35% youth of color
- 6% to 27% identified as transgender or non-binary depending on definition
- ~65% natal female; ~35% natal male
- 43% reported a disability, mostly mental health

Where Funding Came From (cash and in-kind)
- 47% Individual donors
- 17% LGBT & Allied Community groups
- 10% King County
- 10% City of Seattle
- 9.0% Employer match
- 4.5% Plymouth Church UCC
- 2.0% Foundation and corporate grants
- 0.5% Vehicle donations

Where Your Donations Went (cash and in-kind)
- 65% to programs & services
- 17% to administration and development
- 18% to capital campaign

Volunteers
Seventy-five long-term volunteers serve as a rich pool of informal mentors and role models for youth. The adult volunteers are often cited by program alumni as the most valuable feature of their experience at Lambert House. Volunteers contribute over 10,000 hours annually in direct service with youth.

Goals
- Complete our capital campaign for purchase, renovation, and expansion of our facility
- Expand our youth programs geographically
- Continue to provide needed services for LGBTQ youth and technical assistance for service providers

What We Do for LGBTQ Youth
- Facilitate social connection and give LGBTQ youth hope for the future
- Empower youth to create community and to be proud of who they are
- Provide adult role modeling and informal mentoring
- Deliver a wide range of youth-driven services, programs and opportunities
- Develop youth leaders
- Help develop the next generation of healthy LGBTQ adults

How We Do It
- Safe Space to Make Friends, Open Daily
- Train and manage long-term adult mentors
- Three Weekly Facilitated Peer Support Groups
- Youth-Led Dances and Other Social Events
- Case Management for Housing, Medical, Legal, Educational, and Emergency Shelter Needs
- HIV and STD-Prevention Education
- Home-Cooked Dinner nightly
- David Bohnett CyberCenter
- LGBT Lending Library
- Outdoor Education/Recreation Program
- LGBT Cultural Outings
- Youth Leadership Training
- Paid and Academic Internships
- Resource Referrals to LGBT-sensitive providers
- Staff consultation on LGBTQ youth issues for other service providers

Contact
Ken Shulman, MPA
Executive Director
206.491.0596 text or voice
ken@lamberthouse.org