

The Lambert House LGBTQ Youth Center
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Fact Sheet 2021

Number of Youth Served (In-person in 2019)

1,317 individual LGBTQ+ youth

Where Online Program Participants Are Living During the Covid-19 Pandemic

Five Countries: Australia, England, Indonesia, Saudi Arabia, USA

26 U.S. states: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington

Where Participants Lived Pre-Pandemic

132 ZIP codes, mostly in Washington State

In-Person Service Locations on Hiatus During the Pandemic

In Washington State: Algona-Pacific, Carnation, Covington, Enumclaw, Fairwood, Lake Forest Park, Maple Valley, Seattle, Snoqualmie, Vashon Island

Who We Served (In-person in 2019)

- 70% were minors, ages 10-17
- 30% were young adults, ages 18-22
- 282 youth were BIPOC
- 107 youth were homeless
- 44% self-identified as transgender or non-binary
- Of 351 youth answering an income survey, 59% were low or very-low income
- 7% left high school without graduating

Number of Programs During the Pandemic

20 Virtual Online Programs

Where Funding Came From (cash and in-kind)

- 30% Individual donors
- 17% LGBT & Allied Community groups
- 14% King County
- 12.5% Foundation and corporate grants
- 11% City of Seattle
- 10% Employer match
- 5.0% Plymouth Church UCC
- 0.5% Vehicle donations

Where Your Donations Went (cash and in-kind)

- 66% to programs & services
- 17% to capital campaign
- 17% to administration and development

Volunteers

123 long-term skilled volunteers serve as diverse role models and informal mentors for LGBTQ+ youth. Interactions with the volunteers are often cited by alumni as the highlight of their experience at Lambert House. Volunteers contributed 15,480 hours in direct service with youth in 2019. Their contributions of time and expertise make Lambert House extremely cost-effective.

Goals

- Complete our capital campaign for purchase, renovation, and expansion of our facility
- Find funding to continue online programming after we resume in-person programming

Contact

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Overview

Since 1981 the Lambert House LGBTQ Youth Center has cared for, championed, and celebrated over 14,000 individual minors and young adults in the Greater Seattle Region through over 500,000 direct, in-person service contacts. The Center was founded to address health and mental health disparities faced disproportionately by LGBTQ+ youth. Its employees and 123 skilled volunteers provide support in 10 locations for more LGBTQ youth than any other organization in the Northwestern United States. Lambert House is the only social service agency in Seattle and King County (Pop. 2.25 million) dedicated solely to LGBTQ+ youth. In addition to Seattle, rural and small-city service locations include: Algona-Pacific, Carnation, Covington, Enumclaw, Fairwood, Lake Forest Park, Maple Valley, Snoqualmie, and Vashon Island. In 2019, 1,317 youth were supported through 33,000 direct in-person service contacts. Seventy percent (70%) of the youth were minors, ages 10 through 17.

Lambert House delivers programs, services, and global advocacy that span eight categories: 1) Social Connection, Peer Support, Resilience, and Self-Esteem Building; 2) Family Success, Bullying Resistance and School Retention; 3) Mentoring; 4) Homeless Services including Meals, Clothing, Personal Hygiene Items, and Referrals; 5) HIV and STI prevention and Healthy Relationships Education; 6) Culture, Sports, and Outdoor Recreation; 7) Workplace Skills Development, Youth Leadership, and Academic Internships, and; 8) Systems Change through Training for Licensed Professionals and Governmental and NGO Leaders from around the world.

In March 2020 Lambert House pivoted its programming online due to Covid-19. As of May 2021, online programs serve youth living in 26 U.S. states and five countries. Programs are staffed seven days per week. Five software platforms and 19 programs meet the technology access needs and diverse interests of LGBTQ+ youth.

Lambert House programs are evidence-based and employ positive youth development, and adult and peer social support, as protective factors to minimize the documented health and mental health risks that LGBTQ+ youth face including: Family or peer rejection that can lead to depression, homelessness, or suicide; using alcohol and other drugs as coping mechanisms that can lead to addiction; anti-gay bullying in school that can lead to skipping classes and a disproportionately high rate of school failure; high rates of smoking and risk-taking behaviors due to minority stress and low self-esteem, and; homelessness that can lead to survival sex and HIV.

In one indication of program efficacy, LGBTQ+ youth have actively sought, participated in, and returned to Lambert House's online programs more than 6,000 times during the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Lambert House is a force against bigotry and in the struggle to build a world in which LGBTQ+ children and young adults are healthy and command equality in their families, schools, and communities.