



Workshop Proposal Form

EDGY 2020: DIMENSIONS OF GENDER

EDGY 2020: Overview

Penny Lane Centers proudly presents EDGY (*Embracing the Diversity of GLBTQ Youth and families*), a one day conference to build awareness and cultural competency, learn current and emerging best practices as well as gather resources from leading experts and organizations to create a more supportive environment for LGBTQ+ youth and families.

Understandings of gender continually evolve. In the course of a person's life the interests, activities, clothing, and professions that are considered the domain of one gender or another evolve in ways both small and large. This has perhaps never been truer than it is now. The data shows that today's young people have significantly different understandings of gender than previous generations, with consequences for all children, families, organizations and institutions.

All of us are inundated with gender messages from the time we are born yet we offer children few opportunities to more deeply consider or understand this fundamentally important aspect of life. Basic gender literacy is essential for children to understand their own gender, engage in healthy relationships, identify and place media and social messages in context, and have agency in determining aspects of their gender now and in the future. Societal ideas about gender will affect every critical aspect of their lives, from education to career, finances, relationships and more.

People tend to use the terms "sex" and "gender" interchangeably. But, while connected, the two terms are not equivalent. Generally, we assign a newborn's sex as either male or female based on the baby's genitals. Once the sex is assigned, we presume the child's gender. For some people, this is cause for little, if any, concern because their gender aligns with gender-related ideas and assumptions associated with their sex. Nevertheless, while gender may begin with the assignment of our sex, it doesn't end there. A person's gender is the complex interrelationship between three dimensions: body, identity and social. EDGY 2020 will focus around the topic of these different dimensions of gender and how they impact the LGBTQ youth we work with in our line of work.

How we can support the different Dimensions of Gender for LGBTQ youth:

- Services and resources to reduce the risk of suicide and homelessness among LGBTQ youth
- Communicating the *why* to help professionals understand whatever the big idea at hand is
- Working with LGBTQ youth of color and immigrants
- Inquiring about and being respectful of a person's sexual orientation
- Acknowledging our collective pain and resilience
- Safe and supported gender transitions
- Reduction of and coping strategies as regards bullying for LGBTQ individuals
- Health and wellness issues specific to LGBTQ youth and families
- Engaging parents as Adult allies supporting LGBTQ youth
- Navigating the current socio-political realities for LGBTQ people
- Utilizing social media to help create more positive LGBTQ communities
- The role of religion/faith in the lives of LGBTQ youth, families and individuals
- Taking an interpretive approach to our learning journey



EDGY 2020: Workshop Requests for Proposal

WORKSHOP RFP Form: <https://form.jotform.com/200296944288162> (you must fill this out)

Workshop & Presentation Tracks *(Please notate which track your presentation best fits)*

1. Mental Health
2. School Based: Safe schools, neighborhoods, and housing
3. Child Welfare & Juvenile Justice
4. Health: wellness and homelessness
5. Parenting
6. LGBTQ Advocacy
7. Faith, Families, and Religion
8. Keynote Presentations (30mins – 1hr)

Please include all of the following information in your workshop proposal:

- Workshop Title (*workshop titles are critical as many attendees choose workshops based only on the title*)
- Workshop Description (*200 words or less*)
- Workshop Agenda and Outline (*What are you going to cover? How long do you expect each topic to take?*)
- Learning Objectives (*What do you hope participants get out of your session?*)
- Presenter Information
 - Name
 - Address
 - Contact Information
 - Degree (*if applicable—like BA, BS, Ph.D, MSW, etc.*)
- Presenter Bio (*100 words or less*)
- Take Aways- Preference is given to those that provide “take aways” for the breakout attendees (stats, notes, etc.)

Workshop Guidelines

- Workshop topics may encompass any aspect of lesbian, gay, bisexual, same gender loving, transgender, intersex, queer, questioning, or ally issues specifically or within a broader health and happiness spectrum.
- All workshops will be **1 hour- please allow time for Q&A to follow**
- EDGY prides itself on having **INTERACTIVE** breakout sessions so that all attendees can participate and invest in the topic(s). Presenters are asked to take this in to consideration when putting together their proposal and/or presentation.
- Presenters are strongly encouraged to have some sort of “take-away” that attendees can take back to their agencies and use as a resource.

Audience

- **Professionals** who work with GLBTQ youth and families including educators, government agencies, social service providers and mental health professionals
- College and Grad School Students
- Probation Officers, Police Officers, and School Administrators
- Human Resource professionals
- Affordable Housing Developers for GLBTQ Youth
- Parents, Foster Parents, Teachers, and Families
- YOU!!

