



Engagement and Cultivation of Safe Spaces for 2-SLBGTQIA or SOGIE Youth in Residential and Community-Based Programming

October 24, 2019

Presented By: Bridie Johnson, LMSW, ACT Team Lead, All-Well Being Services

This session provided information and referenced resources to increase service provider awareness of the impact of stereotypes on vulnerable youth populations such as 2-SLBGTQIA (two-spirit, lesbian, bi-sexual, gay, transgender, questioning, intersex, and asexual) youth, increase service providers' confidence in their abilities to properly assess and treat 2-SLBGTQIA youth, and increase service provision that includes family acceptance and involvement through a culturally inclusive lens. More than 90% of indigenous, 2-SLBGTQIA youth report hearing negative messages about their sexual orientation or gender identity, primarily at school, from peers, and on the Internet.

Providing safe spaces for these youths in residential and community-based programs is essential. Resources and information about creating safe spaces and safe places can be found at these links:
<http://nctsn.org/products/nctsn-safe-places-video>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bXnTAnsVfN8>

Ms. Johnson also honored the work and accomplishments of Equality MI Victims Advocate Jeynce Poindexter and encouraged participants to become more familiar with her work. A link for this is: <https://www.facebook.com/jeynce.mizrahi.75/videos/538652040272105/>