



GRANT SAMPLE #4

Provide a description of your project, including the overall goal, and community need(s) you will address.

This outreach project will allow us to increase our efforts on a more regional scale, and to offer education, professional development, and socializing opportunities to GSTA advisors who are directly and indirectly connected to GLSEN Southern Maine. The outreach project will strengthen, maintain and grow a statewide network that connects these advisors with critical resources, allies, and peers to increase their effectiveness in working with LGBTQ youth in schools throughout Maine. The meetings will happen monthly and in different regional areas to reach the most advisors. The design of these meetings will be driven by what advisors state are their needs, through informal information gathering which has been occurring in GLSEN, and through asking the advisors in the first few meetings. The creation of a network to support advisors will continue after this year, with the advisors leading the way.

Outcomes:

List up to three specific results you hope to achieve. Include a brief explanation of how you will track your progress and/or measure your results.

Expected results from Advisor Outreach Project:

- 1) To create a support network for advisors which will result in less turnover in advisors for GSTAs from year to year.
- 2) Through the support network, advisors will share materials and ideas to better support LGBTQ students who participate in 75+ GSTAs throughout the state.
- 3) To increase the knowledge of GSTA advisors through professional development in mental health, gender, and supporting LGBTQ students in a school setting.

GLSEN SOME at the end of the year will survey the advisors who have attended at least two meetings of the support group and ask if they plan to continue as advisors the next year, how this outreach project has supported them in running their GSTAs, and what has been their biggest benefits from becoming involved in the work.

For each of the professional development sessions, we will survey advisors about what they have gained from the trainings.



Impact:

For capacity building requests: Explain how this project will make your organization stronger.

Schools are often hostile places for LGBTQA students, with many reporting high levels of victimization and discrimination based on their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression. GSTAs can help to make schools safer for students and advisors play a critical role in mitigating the negative impact of bullying and harassment experienced by some LGBTQA students. This project will connect GSTA Advisors from across the state to create a community of friends and allies to identify and share best practices, problem-solve challenging situations, strategize next steps and, also, to offer invaluable opportunities for socializing which will hopefully result in a lower turnover rate of GSTA advisors.

Population Served

Describe the people who will most benefit from this project. (If this is a capacity building request, describe the people your organization serves.) Include an estimate of the number of people who will directly benefit from or participate in this project. (Use 50 words or less)

GSTA Advisors; high school and middle school teachers, educators and professional staff; indirectly, the students these educators, advisors and staff interact with will benefit greatly by this outreach and education project. As will thousands of Maine LGBTQ youth, who are most harassed and bullied portion of youth because of their self-identified or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, and/or gender expression, who will benefit greatly from the Advisor support network that connects students and advisors in schools throughout Southern Maine.
