

Intersecting Identities, Intersecting Development: Supporting LGBTQ Youth with Dis/abilities

Program Description

Our identity is made up of many *identities*, developed both through experiences and reflections on those experiences. People with traditionally marginalized identities face unique challenges in identity development due to stigma and exclusion from developmental experiences. Young people with intersecting identities feel more supported when adults structure activities that help them explore their emerging identities at home, school, and in the community. Focusing on youth living at the intersection of LGBTQIA+ and disability, this presentation will share information about how identity develops, what can help build or stall identity development for youth who identify as LGBTQ and disabled, and how adults can be supportive of identity development across settings.

Program Objectives

1. Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to:
2. List the milestones of identity development in young LGBTQ people with disabilities.
3. Explain intersectionality, as it pertains to identity development.
4. Describe common challenges and facilitators of identity development in young LGBTQ people with disabilities.
5. Outline effective and empowering approaches to supporting identity development in young LGBTQ people with disabilities across settings

Target Audience

This program would benefit mental/behavioral health practitioners, healthcare providers, educators, policymakers, and caregivers.

Contact Hours

1.5 to 3.5 hours contact hours

Program Agenda

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM	Understanding identity from a developmental-ecological perspective
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	LGBTQ and Dis/ability Intersectionality
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Break
10:45 AM - 12:30 PM	Voices from the Community: Preferred practices and clinical approaches for serving people with intersectional LGBTQ+ and Dis/Ability
12:30 PM - 12:45 PM	Final Thoughts, Questions, Wrap-Up
12:45 PM	Adjourn

Faculty

Julie Austen, PhD, brings over a decade of clinical experience serving LGBTQIA+ youth in community health and private practice settings. She holds a doctorate in Health Psychology with a specialization in Pediatric School Psychology from East Carolina University and has earned national recognition for her work in developing integrated care programming, clinical training opportunities, and clinical policy for rural, traditionally marginalized, or stigmatized populations. Currently, she serves as the Director of Mental Health for Metro Community Health Center in Pittsburgh PA.