

National Youth Advocacy Coalition
Safe Spaces Training Module
Worksheet

Directions: Use this sheet to follow along in the Safe Spaces Training Module, just “pause” the video at any point that you would like to take notes or write out reactions.

Part I – Introduction to Safe Spaces

Objectives

- To understand that creating safe spaces for LGBTQ youth is something that we can all participate in doing.
- Provide the tools to creating safe spaces for LGBTQ youth through the following training modules.
- To provide resources and activities to help implement a safe space model in your organization or site.

Part II – Attitudes

Objectives

- To initiate the thought process of examining our own misconceptions and values
- To establish a critical thinking framework to discussing privilege and oppression
- Provide resources for further discussion and thought on these issues.

1. “Remember a Time” Activity

What are your reactions to this thought-journey? Take a few minutes to reflect on how you felt going through this exercise.

2. Make a list of misconceptions that you know of about LGBTQ youth, youth of color, low-income youth, youth with disabilities.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

3. Assumptions –

Why do people make those assumptions?

Who benefits from those misconceptions?

4. “Assess your Values” Activity

What are your reactions to this activity? What surprised you? Do you hold values that you can constructively work with?

Part III – Language

Objectives

- To better understand how language is an important and indicative factor of a safe space
- To learn how to talk about the LGBTQ community in an inclusive way.
- To give resources to teach others around you LGBTQ inclusive terminology

1. Words/Phrases used in your organization and alternatives.

Damaging Words and Phrases	Alternative Inclusive words and phrases

2. LGBTQ Umbrella Terms – Use this space to make notes on the terms discussed in the module.

- Biological Sex:

-
-
-
-

- Gender Presentation:

-
-
-

- Gender Identity:

-
-
-
-

- Sexuality:

-
-
-
-

Part IV – Inclusivity and Representation

Objectives

- To better understand how diversity, inclusion, and representation play out in your organization
- To initiate a process of assessing your agency on four levels of inclusivity and representation: Environment, Personnel, Interactions, Resources.

1. Assess your organization below.

	Aspects in which your organization is LGBTQ inclusive	Aspects of which your organization is unsafe – places to improve
Environment		
Personnel		
Interactions		
Resources		

Part V – Resources and Services

Objectives

- To better understand how resources and services shape your organization’s level of safety for LGBTQ youth.
- To initiate a process of assessing your agency’s resources and services and looking at best practices.
- To connect you to more resources and organizations

1. Assess your organizations’ resources and services.

	Aspects in which your organization is LGBTQ inclusive	Aspects of which your organization is unsafe – places to improve
Resources		
Services		

Part IV – Policy

Objectives

- To better understand how and why policies can affect the level of LGBTQ youth safety at your agency
- To initiate the process of assessing the policies and climate at your agency
- Begin to work with the strategies to changing or adding LGBTQ inclusive policies

1. Scenario about Alex

List your reactions to this exercise – what policies could be altered to make this space safe for Alex?

2. List some policies or practices within your organization that you would like to change. Then list possible barriers that you might encounter.

Policy or Practice changes or additions that you want for your organization.	Possible barriers to anticipate.

*Use this table to help work through the “Approaching Barriers with Strategies Worksheet.”