Current Status of the Intervention

Care Coordination Team (CCT)
- Completed data collection in March 2016
- 58 youth have been served by CCT since enrollment opened in 2013
- LA LGBT Center will fund one team of practitioners to continue services for LGBTQ+ youth in LA County through September 2017

Outreach and Relationship Building (ORB)
- Completed data collection in June 2015
- Trained over 3,000 professionals in LA County
- Secured LA County contracts with DCFS and Probation for training, coaching, and consultation for next 12 months
- Continues to provide coaching support and technical assistance to 15 child welfare agencies

Trained over 3,000 professionals in LA County
Completed data collection in June 2015

Overarching Evaluation Results

Pre- and Post-Test Design

CCT
- Baseline and end-point interview surveys of enrolled youth and caregivers on wellbeing, permanent connections, and support or rejection of sexual orientation and gender identity
- Early enrollment & service completion qualitative interviews with youth focusing on services to date and environment of support and acceptance

ORB
- Training pre/post instruments designed to measure aspects of LGBTQ+ knowledge
- Web-based follow up survey about application of training knowledge

Results

CCT
- 89% of adults (n=9) providing complete data, maintained or increased their generally high level of support
- 100% of youth (n=12) that named a foster parent at baseline & follow-up experienced either increased or maintained or increased their generally high level of support

ORB
- 100% of those who reported not using the information since being trained stated that it was not applicable for day work.
- 79% of respondents (n=108) reported using the knowledge they acquired in training during their day to day work.
- 100% of those who reported not using the information since being trained stated that it was not applicable for their clients.

Lessons Learned

- Lack of understanding in child welfare about the needs of LGBTQ+ and gender-expansive children and youth
- System-wide heterosexism, anti-gay bias, and anti-transgender bias is the biggest barrier to implementation
- Lack of safe, affirming homes and placements for LGBTQ+ youth
- Best practices are not widely known or being used to address the safety, well-being, and permanency needs of LGBTQ+ youth in the child welfare system
- Training exists but is not routine or mandatory and often times presents inaccurate information

CCT
A team of practitioners who team with the child or youth, their family, natural supports and other professionals to increase support for the child or youth’s LGBTQ+ identity and to identify, strengthen and expand connections with adults who are willing to commit to a permanent relationship with the child or youth.

ORB
A system level intervention designed to deliver LGBTQ+ training, coaching and consultation to the Los Angeles County DCFS and other child welfare agencies to improve their LGBTQ+ competency, increase usage of LGBTQ+ environmental cues and to build upon and sustain change in practice and policy.

Other Project Findings

Experiences in Care

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Experience</th>
<th>LGBTQ+ Youth</th>
<th>Non-LGBTQ Youth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total # of Placements (mean)</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitalized for Emotional Reasons</td>
<td>13.5%</td>
<td>4.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ever been homeless</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>13.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currently living in a group home</td>
<td>25.7%</td>
<td>10.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reported poor treatment based on SOGIE</td>
<td>37.7%</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


“Trainers were exposed to resistance to the curriculum, extreme bias, rejection, and some hostility. These incidents included participants attempting to bully the trainers or other trainees, using offensive and unprofessional language when discussing LGBTQ+ people and LGBTQ+ rights, and in some cases making inappropriate comments that directly targeted the trainers. As a result, trainers were especially vulnerable to triggering of related trauma and potential internalized bias.”

Youth reported several aspects of RISE that they felt helped them:
- Feeling comfortable and open with RISE staff
- Emotional support of RISE staff
- Having someone that understood them and could relate to their experiences
- Being able to be open about their identity
- Help with connecting to family members and improved family relationships

Other Project Findings

1 in 5 FAIRY TALE
- L.A. foster youth identify as LGBTQ

1 in 5 children need a family
1 in 5 LGBTQ youth are not yet out
1 in 5 LGBTQ can be raised foster care