

Needs Assessment of Egale Youth OUTreach

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About the Client:

Egale Canada Human Rights Trust



Egale Canada Human Rights Trust works to improve the lives of LGBTIQ2S people in Canada and to enhance the global response to LGBTIQ2S issues. Egale's vision is a Canada, and ultimately a world, without homophobia, biphobia, transphobia and all other forms of oppression, so that every person can achieve their full potential, free from hatred and bias. Egale will achieve this by informing public policy, inspiring cultural change, and promoting human rights and inclusion through research, education and community engagement.

About the Project:

Project Scope:

Egale Youth OUTreach (EYO) is a community-based initiative that provides individual counselling, homelessness and suicide crisis services for LGBTIQ2S youth (16-29) in Toronto. EYO has full time counsellors and support workers to help with practical needs ranging from housing, food access, access to health care, navigating government services, filling out forms, applying for ODSP/OW, employment, transition support, etc. To ensure EYO's services best meet the needs of diverse LGBTIQ2S communities, our team conducted a needs assessment of LGBTIQ2S youth in Toronto to determine how EYO can help meet their needs.

Project Rationale:

The objective of this project was to conduct a needs assessment in order to best serve LGBTIQ2S youth through Egale's Youth OUTreach program. The project aimed to enable EYO to provide the most appropriate support to LGBTIQ2S community members, so that the organization can continue to work towards improving lives and ensuring inclusion.

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Methodology:

- **Phase 1** – Jurisdictional Scan and Project Scoping
 - Scan services offered to LGBTQ2S Youth.
- **Phase 2** – Development of Focus Group Sessions
 - Drafted focus group questions in collaboration with Egale staff focusing on identity and needs-based questions.
 - Special attention paid to taking an intersectional and inclusive approach, focusing on the experiences of youth of colour, newcomers, trans youth, poverty, and indigeneity.
- **Phase 3** – Focus Group Session
 - Morning long session to determine what needs are not being met at the OUTreach centre and what can be done to improve programming.
 - Focus group needs session conducted by Egale staff.
 - Consultants acted as observers.
- **Phase 4** – Final Needs Assessment and Analysis
 - Final report written collaboratively by the consultant team.

RESULTS & DELIVERABLES

- Focus Group Question List
- Final Needs Assessment Report

PROJECT IMPACT

The analysis and recommendations found within the needs assessment will allow Egale to implement tangible changes to its Youth OUTreach centre to better meet the needs of their clients.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: The consultants would like to thank Egale Youth OUTreach for their continued support and cooperation, especially Kathleen Pye and Paris Honoraria, and their supervising director, Alexandra Izgorean, for her support.