



# Appreciating Differences

## Understanding Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

### **Designed For: Professionals**

Over the past few years, more and more transgender individuals are coming out at younger ages. Schools find themselves unprepared to address this issue with parents, teachers and the student body.

LGBTQ young people are:

- 5.6x more likely to attempt suicide
- 2.6x more likely to be depressed
- 2.5x more likely to have STD
- 4x more likely to report risk for HIV

As professionals and parents develop a greater understanding of gender differences and choose to support variation in gender expression, we will see a decrease in harassment and violence towards young people perceived as different.

This in-service will address issues such as school records, bathrooms, sports teams, and legal rights. The primary focus is to foster understanding so that school communities can be safe and supportive of all students.

### **Our goals are to help professionals:**

- Understand the differences between Biological Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation.
- Appreciate the enormous challenges that face transgender youth.
- Understand the law as it relates to transgender students.
- Create a strategy for making a safe environment for LGBT students.

**Average Length of In-Service:**

**90 minutes, Half Day, Whole Day**

**Recommended Number of Participants:**

**20 - 100**

**Cost of Program:**

**Contact Us**