

## Local Florida Community Organizations for LGBTQ Youth

### Across Florida:

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

<http://community.pflag.org/Page.aspx?pid=803>

“PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.”

\*There are 29 PFLAG chapters and/or contacts that are located across the state of Florida.

### Jacksonville:

Jacksonville Area Sexual Minority Youth Network, Inc. (JASMYN)

<http://www.jasmyn.org>

“JASMYN is a non-profit organization in Jacksonville, FL, founded in 1993 who's mission is to build safe space for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (GLBTQQ) youth through 13-23 through nurturing their health and well-being and enhance pride and self-esteem. JASMYN offers a wide range of support groups, a telephone Gay Youth Information Line, and enhances youth empowerment through Youth Council. These programs were created to enrich youth with the fundamentals of leadership and learn the skills necessary to develop themselves as future leaders.”

### Lakeland:

Lakeland Youth Alliance

<http://www.lakelandyouthalliance.org/>

“The mission of the Lakeland Youth Alliance is to provide a non-exploitative, safe, drug and alcohol free, social outlet for youth ages 13 to 20 who are grappling with gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning issues; to be proudly diverse by opening membership to youth without regard to sexual orientation, gender, religion, race or background; to serve as an educational and referral service for GLBTQ youth of Central Florida, to educate parents, academia, health care workers and other human service professionals about the development and diversity of sexuality and sensitize them to the

reality and needs of the GLBTQ community, to facilitate in the development of the GLBTQ youth and to empower them to become leaders in the community.”

**Orlando/Central Florida:**

Zebra Coalition

<http://www.zebrayouth.org>

“The mission of the Zebra Coalition is to foster hope, dignity and self-respect in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth and to provide them an opportunity to grow-up in a safe and encouraging environment. Partners in the Zebra Coalition support youth in need of shelter, emotional or spiritual guidance, medical services, or education ~ regardless of their personal, economic or social circumstances. These fundamental services are financially supported by the Zebra Foundation for Youth.”

Orlando Youth Alliance

<http://www.orlandoyouthalliance.org/>

“The mission of the Orlando Youth Alliance is to provide a non-exploitative, safe, drug and alcohol free, social outlet for youth ages 13 to 20 who are grappling with gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning issues; to be proudly diverse by opening membership to youth without regard to sexual orientation, gender, religion, race or background; to serve as an educational and referral service for GLBTQ youth of Central Florida; to educate parents, academia, health care workers and other human service professionals about the development and diversity of sexuality and sensitize them to the reality and needs of the GLBTQ community; to facilitate in the development of the GLBTQ youth and to empower them to become leaders in the community.”

**Palm Beach County:**

Compass Community Center

<http://www.compassglcc.com/>

“Funded by the Children’s Services Council of Palm Beach County, the HOPE Program offers a safe, non-judgmental environment staffed by experienced counselors and trained professionals. HOPE helps lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth between 12 and 18 by counseling, educating and empowering them. HOPE also offers weekly social and support groups allowing them to develop into strong adults.”

## **Sarasota and Manatee County:**

### Also OUT Youth

<http://www.alsoyouth.org/>

“ALSO Out Youth’s mission is to promote the health, safety, and personal growth of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and questioning youth. We strive to end all forms of violence, harassment, and discrimination based on real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.”

## **Tampa Bay Area:**

### Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), Tampa Chapter

<http://chapters.glsen.org/cgi-bin/iowa/tampa/home.html>

“The Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression.”

### Metro Wellness and Community Centers

<http://metrocharities.org>

“Metropolitan Charities, Inc. a 501(c)3 organization, is committed to providing premier HIV services, social networking, and other health and wellness programs that enhance the quality of life. We strive to promote a healthy environment for all and to foster diversity within the community as a whole, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic status. The GLBT Metro Center proudly provides social activities, education events and space rental for all! Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and Straight, all ages, races and gender identities are welcome to participate in any and all events and activities. Everyone is welcome to participate in all events regardless of ability to donate!”

## **South Florida:**

### Alliance for GLBTQ Youth

<http://www.glbqtqalliance.com>

The Alliance for GLBTQ Youth strives to implement comprehensive services for prevention and early intervention at the individual and family level. The agencies organize educational programs in order to promote acceptance and equality for everyone. They also coordinate social and youth enrichment events where GLBTQ youth can share their

experiences and enjoy leisure time with each other.

Pridelines Youth Services

<http://www.pridelines.org/>

“Pridelines Youth Services is dedicated to educating and empowering South Florida’s GLBTQ youth and their straight allies in a safe and diverse environment.”

Safe Schools South Florida

<http://safeschoolssouthflorida.org>

“Safe Schools South Florida's mission is to create safer schools where all students can learn and thrive, regardless of real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, their own or that of their parents. We empower students; train educators, educate parents and the public and constantly monitor the effectiveness of our efforts through evaluations and surveys. We currently operate in Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach County school districts.”

Sunserve—Sunshine Social Services, Inc.

<http://www.sunserve.org>

“Recognizing that the entire LGBTQ community has the right to quality care, our mission is to provide critical life assistance and professional mental health services with an emphasis on economically disadvantaged, marginalized youth, and senior adults in the greater South Florida metropolitan area. We are advocates for strong inclusive families and healthy relationships in all their diverse forms within and across the generations as well as professional volunteer agents for development and change. We are committed to provide quality affordable counseling, psychotherapy, education, and outreach to all regardless of their ability to pay.”

\*Please help keep our list up to date and comprehensive. Email [tloker@mail.usf.edu](mailto:tloker@mail.usf.edu) if there is a broken link or if there is community organization in Florida geared towards LGBTQ youth that you would like FASP to consider including in this resource sheet.