

Department of
Education

Gay/Straight Alliances

A Student Guide



Safe Schools
Program for Gay & Lesbian Students



July 1995



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Education

350 Main Street, Malden, Massachusetts 02148-5023 • (617) 388-3300

Robert V. Antonucci
Commissioner

July 15, 1995

Dear Student:

Thank you for your interest in Gay/Straight Alliances.

This resource guide is for you, individuals or groups of students who want to improve your school by making it safer for gay and lesbian students. One way to do this is by organizing a Gay/Straight Alliance in your school, one kind of support group for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students.

Most of this guide came from ideas, suggestions and experiences of students and staff in Massachusetts schools who are eager to share their stories with others. I hope you will find their advice helpful and that you, in turn, will write the Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian students with your stories.

Working together we can help make schools safer for all students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robert V. Antonucci".

Robert V. Antonucci
Commissioner of Education

Acknowledgments



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The Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students is a project of the Massachusetts Department of Education working in conjunction with the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth.

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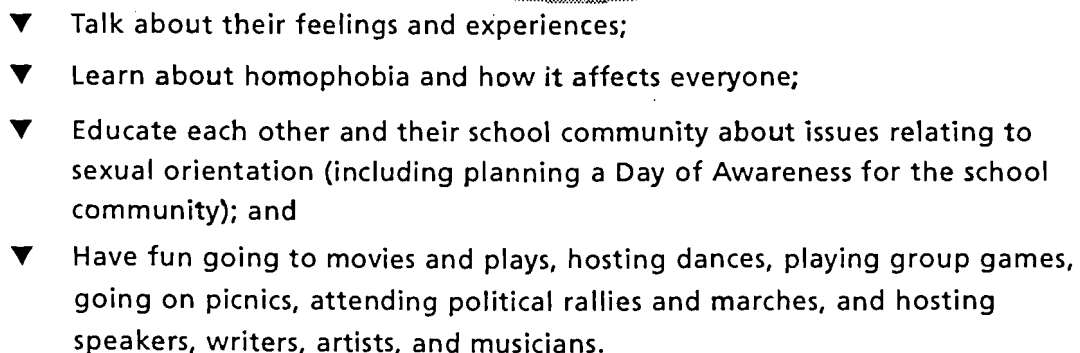
Gay/Straight Alliances: A Student Guide

The third Board of Education Recommendation on the Support and Safety of Gay and Lesbian Students encourages schools to offer school-based support groups for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students.



This guide is to help students and student organizations plan support groups for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students. Methods of providing this kind of support will vary from school to school, depending on the goals of the organizing group and the climate of the school. Because Gay/Straight Alliances have been successfully formed in more Massachusetts schools than any other type of support group for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students, this guide focuses on how to start and maintain such a group. The guide can also help you think about how to organize other types of support groups as well.

School-based support groups can provide students with a place to meet and talk about issues related to sexual orientation. These groups can help to change the climate of a school and make it safer for all students. There are also numerous community-based groups that reach out to young people. This section takes a look at different types of support groups in Massachusetts for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students interested in addressing issues related to sexual orientation, anti-gay prejudice and the concerns of lesbian and gay students and their friends. They provide a safe and informal place where students can:

- 
- ▼ Talk about their feelings and experiences;
 - ▼ Learn about homophobia and how it affects everyone;
 - ▼ Educate each other and their school community about issues relating to sexual orientation (including planning a Day of Awareness for the school community); and
 - ▼ Have fun going to movies and plays, hosting dances, playing group games, going on picnics, attending political rallies and marches, and hosting speakers, writers, artists, and musicians.

A brief sampling of high school campuses reveals a variety of names for these groups. Some use "Gay/Straight Alliance" in their title — for example, Belmont High School Gay/Straight Alliance — while others choose more distinctive terms like SPECTRUM at Concord-Carlisle Regional High School and Project 10 East at

Gay/Straight Alliances help to reduce anti-gay violence, harassment and discrimination by educating the school community about homophobia and by encouraging a greater degree of understanding from students and school personnel. The groups also give all students a safe place to discuss their feelings and fears related to sexual orientation.

Gay Straight Alliances

- The goals of school-based support groups are:**
- 1) to provide safe places for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students to meet in school;
 - 2) to offer opportunities to learn and teach about the challenges surrounding sexual orientation; and
 - 3) to build community spirit, mutual understanding and support among gay and lesbian students and their friends.

SPECTRUM

Project 10 East LeSGaB

Homo-Bi-Hetero

GASP!

Cambridge Rindge and Latin. Some unique names at private schools include Northfield Mount Hermon School Homo-Bi-Hetero Society, GASP! (Gay and Straight People) at Milton Academy, and LeSGaB (Lesbian, Straight, Gay and Bisexual) at Noble and Greenough School.

Gay/Straight Alliances are student-run and have a limited number of faculty advisors, usually two, who help facilitate the group, offer resources and support, and mediate discussions. It is important to note that adults should participate in a limited basis and in an advisory capacity only. If too many adults are in the room, students complain that staff/faculty spend too much time talking about their own issues and dominate discussions. Over time, fewer and fewer students attend the meetings. Adults who want to join a group should consider forming their own parallel Faculty/Staff Support and/or Study Group (see Appendix).



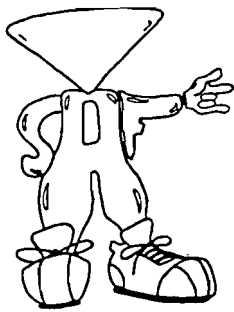
Many groups suggest drawing up a list of rules which might include:

- ▼ Meetings and discussions are confidential — names of group members and anything said at meetings are to remain within the confines of that space;
- ▼ Students, teachers and staff participate as equal members; and
- ▼ Members are in no way obligated to declare or define their sexual orientation, nor are any assumptions to be made regarding members' sexual orientation.

Groups tend to change their agendas for each week depending on the needs of the participants. Most try to strike a balance between the political work of raising consciousness and reducing homophobia at the school, and dealing with the more personal or emotional issues of the members and offering the members support.

(See sections on **Out and About: Other Activities** on page 22 and **Top Ten List of Suggestions for Awesome Meetings** on page 19.)

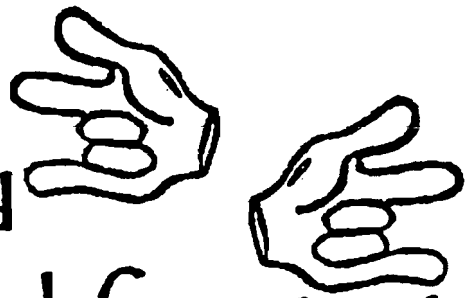
Some groups meet more often than others: Barnstable High School's group meets once a month; Watertown High School's group meets once a week. The size of groups also varies widely from school to school, from just a few members to over fifty. It is important to stress that it does not matter how many people go to meetings. The work Gay/Straight Alliances do fighting prejudice and discrimination can impact the lives of everyone in the student body, and just a few students can make it happen.



(See page 11 for **Ten Easy Steps to Starting a Gay/Straight Alliance in Your School.**)

Rachel Mazor, a member of Brookline High School's Gay/Straight Alliance, sees progress as a result of her group. "There has been a change in the general atmosphere of the school. There is an enormous awareness of what homophobia is and that there are homosexual and bisexual students." She said that, since the creation of the Gay/Straight Alliance, teachers have attended workshops to deal with their own homophobia and that of their students, and are learning how to help students who are struggling with issues of sexual orientation. "People are now willing to interrupt homophobic jokes and slurs. People now include sexual orientation when talking about diversity."

Helping Hands: Building Support and Addressing Issues and Concerns



The broader the coalition you build of people supporting your work, the more effective it will be in making your school safer for all students. This is true, in part, because people tend to be influenced most by people who are like themselves. For example, students will listen to other students, administrators will trust the opinions and experiences of other administrators, parents will sympathize with other parents, and teachers will listen to the experiences of other teachers. Reaching out to a broad cross-section of members of your school and community

will help disseminate the information. Further, having a broad range of support also means having a broad range of perspectives and experiences. This is the foundation on which a vision of inclusion is truly built, a vision that foresees a school that is safe for all students, that uproots all forms of discrimination and oppression. Encourage your allies to view their decision to tackle the issues facing gay and lesbian students as an indication of their personal courage and compassion, and one more thing they are doing to help all students achieve in school.

Emily Hollander, a student at Newton South, said,



"No matter what sort of negative feedback you receive,
KEEP GOING!"

When people first hear about gay and lesbian student issues, some may be fearful and may put up some roadblocks. It is possible that you will encounter resistance from some members of your school student body, staff, administration and/or your community, but it's important to keep going. For many years, issues facing gay and lesbian students have been neglected. There are numerous taboos surrounding issues of sexuality and homosexuality in particular. Bringing these problems and issues into the light may make people anxious.

The following section will provide strategies you can use to establish a support network and address issues and concerns raised by your efforts. These kinds of activities help individual students as well as help to build a consensus in your community and school that this work is important and should go forward. Included will be strategies for getting administrators, teachers, students, parents and community members on board and some concrete things that supporters can do to make schools safer for gay and lesbian students.

Getting People Involved: Establishing a Support Network

Here are some things you can do in your school to build support and address issues and concerns.

1. Distribute Copies of the Massachusetts Board of Education's Recommendations on the Support and Safety of Gay and Lesbian Students

These recommendations outline some basic steps schools can take to become safer for all students. They have the backing of the Massachusetts Board of Education, Governor William Weld and the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education, Robert V. Antonucci. Copies are also available in Spanish and Portuguese. (Contact the Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students for more information: (617) 388-3300 ext. 389.)

2. Distribute the Governor's Commission Education Report, Making Schools Safe for Gay and Lesbian Students

The report is filled with information about gay and lesbian youth and explains in detail why schools should address these issues to ensure the safety of gay and lesbian students. (Contact the Governor's Commission for free copies at (617) 727-3600 ext. 312.)

3.

Distribute copies of the Anti-Discrimination Law

"No person shall be excluded from, or discriminated against, in admission to a public school of any town, or in obtaining the advantages, rights, privileges and courses of study of such public school on account of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation." (Chapter 76, Section 5 of the General Laws)

This recently amended law protects students from verbal or physical harassment in school; from being denied or discouraged from exercising their right to form a school-based Gay/Straight Alliance; from being excluded from school courses, activities, or clubs; from being treated unfairly or differently from other students; and from being unable to get assistance from school faculty or administration in dealing with homophobic harassment or discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation. For a more complete explanation of the law, please call the Massachusetts Department of Education at (617) 388-3300 ext. 389.

4.

Publicize the Concerns of Gay, Lesbian and Straight Students in Your Own School

Use the PTO Newsletter, school newspaper, community newspaper or local media to inform students, parents, teachers, administrators and community members about why your school is addressing issues affecting gay and lesbian students, how you are doing this, and what you hope to accomplish. Encourage students to write articles about their experiences witnessing, encountering or fighting anti-gay prejudice. Some Gay/Straight Alliances have distributed surveys for students, staff and parents, primarily focusing on gathering attitudes about gay and lesbian students and experiences with homophobia and anti-gay harassment and violence. Their surveys were designed to determine how safe the school environment was, if there was a need for support, and how many incidents of harassment had occurred. Giving school administrators and teachers survey results or testimony from students can alert them to the problems gay and lesbian students face in their schools. If positive changes are occurring, document these improvements.

Publicizing the issues and concerns of students not only helps wake people up who think,

"But anti-gay harassment and violence isn't a problem here";

it also helps reinforce that these are important educational issues, not things that should be shameful or secretive.

5. Put These Issues into Context

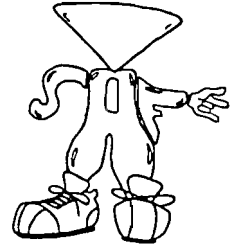
Schools that have already begun to address gay and lesbian student safety find that there are a number of concerns that students, teachers, administrators, parents and community members raise about their work. For the most part, the concerns are rooted in misperceptions about what schools are doing to protect lesbian and gay students. One of the most commonly expressed concerns is that public schools should not be dealing with gay and lesbian issues at all, that it is not part of their mission or role. It is important to help people to understand that since public schools have an obligation to educate all students and to provide them with a safe learning environment, making schools safe for gay and lesbian students is part of their role.

Another common misperception is that this is about sex, that schools are going to be teaching students about lesbian and gay sexual acts. It is important to explain to people that addressing these issues is not about sex, but about student safety. Explain exactly what your school will be doing, why it is important, and what you hope to accomplish.

Put the fight against anti-gay discrimination and prejudice into the context of the school's core values (for example, fostering an appreciation of diversity). Emphasize that providing a safe environment for gay and lesbian students is integral to providing a safe school environment for all students and to helping students learn and live in a society filled with diversity. Superintendents and principals have stressed the need to distinguish between "supporting gay and lesbian students" and "promoting homosexuality."

Sheila Tarlin, a guidance counselor at David Prouty High School, recommends that "Faculty might feel less 'intimidated' by the gay and lesbian issue if it's viewed along a spectrum of other issues that students face, with this one having serious consequences if not addressed adequately...I think the 'struggle' a student might have with his/her sexual identity might be viewed by teachers more sympathetically if described as one more adolescent issue that some teens face."

A very few teachers and administrators have expressed difficulty in separating their personal beliefs about homosexuality from their professional responsibilities. Public school educators have a responsibility to teach all students, including gay and lesbian students. A teacher who feels that homosexuality is morally wrong must nevertheless not let this interfere with professional duties and obligations to their gay and lesbian students. If you are in a good position to do so, remind teachers who profess a difficulty with separating their job from their moral beliefs or personal attitudes that they have probably had to practice this kind of separation on other occasions. Most teachers encounter students they don't particularly like for one reason or another. They have had to put those feelings aside. This also applies to teachers for whom sexual orientation is an uncomfortable issue.



Ernest Van Seasholes, the principal of Newton South, said, "If you don't believe that each and every student deserves our very best efforts, then you don't belong in teaching."

6

• Educate the School and Community

Here are some ways to inform and educate your school and community.

- ▼ Display posters in your school that educate people about homosexuality and homophobia.
- ▼ Sponsor speakers to educate people about issues affecting the safety of gay and lesbian students. Consider inviting students from your school or neighboring schools, faculty members or administrators to speak. Also, the Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students can provide you with trained speakers that can speak at your school. (See the Appendix for a listing of other speakers.)

- ▼ Invite faculty members to attend the annual GLSTN (Gay, Lesbian and Straight School Teachers Network) Conference, which addresses issues of sexual orientation in schools.
- ▼ Encourage your school to put together a team of students, parents, teachers and administrators to attend a Safe Schools Program Regional Workshop.
- ▼ Plan a Gay, Lesbian and Straight Study Group for teachers so they can learn more about homophobia and heterosexism.
- ▼ Plan staff presentations about concerns of gay and lesbian students. For example, the Arlington Public Schools had presentations for all their staff on issues affecting gay and lesbian students, and in-service meetings on the two days before school started in September 1994.
- ▼ Show educational videos like "Gay and Lesbian Youth Making History in Massachusetts" and "Gay Youth."
(See Appendix for ordering information and more video suggestions.)
- ▼ Hold a Parents' Night. Brookline High School hosted a Parents' Night where everyone was invited to learn about the high school's Gay/Straight Alliance and issues affecting gay and lesbian students. This was a time for people to air their concerns and learn why it is important to address these issues. Concord-Carlisle's SPECTRUM invites parents every year to come to an evening get-together to learn about the work the group has done in the past and plans to do in the future.



Solicit Letters of Support

Consider soliciting letters of support and appreciation from a variety of people, including students, teachers, administrators, parents, alumni, influential community members, politicians, religious leaders, pediatricians, physicians who specialize in adolescence and other health professionals. These letters can inspire other people to offer their support and can assure hesitant members of the school administration, staff or community that there is already broad-based support for addressing these issues. If school administrators only hear from a few vocal voices of opposition, they may think that the community in general is more resistant to gay and lesbian student safety than it actually is. According to the superintendents and administrators who participated in the Equity for Gay and Lesbian Students Conference in May 1994, getting supportive and appreciative phone calls or letters from parents and community leaders was extremely important to them.

10 Easy Steps to Starting a Gay/Straight Alliance in Your School

Here's a step-by-step plan for starting a Gay/Straight Alliance in your school. This is not a rigid schedule. Some of these steps can happen at the same time. Be flexible, but be sure you plan carefully and thoroughly.

Step One: Follow Guidelines

Establish a Gay/Straight Alliance the same way you would establish any other group or club at your school. In your Student Handbook, there should be a section detailing the procedure for forming a club or group. Follow those guidelines. In some schools, this may mean that you have to get written permission from an administrator. In other schools, this may mean that you simply have to put up flyers announcing the first meeting and find a faculty member to act as your group advisor. Schools sometimes have rules about where and when you can post flyers, make announcements or set up information tables. Learn what the policy is at your school.

Step Two: Enlist the Support of Your Administration

It is important to inform the school administration about your plans to establish a Gay/Straight Alliance. Having an administrator on your side can be very useful. They can help you to arrange Days of Awareness, speakers for school assemblies, teacher trainings and other events. They can work as liaisons to the community and school committee. Explain why you want to form a Gay/Straight Alliance by doing the following:

- ▼ Set up a meeting with your principal, superintendent and other students, teachers and community representatives.
- ▼ Offer copies of the Federal Equal Access Act and the State Anti-discrimination Law. (The Safe Schools Program can provide you with copies.)
- ▼ Offer them a copy of the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth Education Report.
- ▼ Encourage them to speak with other administrators who work at schools that have formed Gay/Straight Alliances. (See Appendix for names and numbers.)
- ▼ Ask if they would like to speak with a representative from the Massachusetts Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students.
- ▼ Encourage them to speak with P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) members from your town.

Step Three: Find a Faculty Advisor

Some Gay/Straight Alliances have advisors who are teachers; others have faculty advisors who are guidance counselors, nurses or librarians. Just like student members of a group, the faculty advisors don't have to be gay identified to be part of the group. Many existing groups have straight allies as advisors. How do you pick a faculty advisor? Ask a teacher or staff member whom you think would be receptive.

You can encourage them to be your advisor by doing the following:

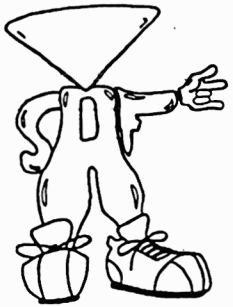
- ▼ Explain to them what issues the group might address and why you think the group would be an important addition to your school.
- ▼ Offer them a copy of the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth Education Report, this Resource Guide, phone numbers and names of faculty advisors at other schools (listed in the Appendix), and the phone number for the Department of Education Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students, (617) 388-3300 ext. 389.

Step Four: Inform Guidance Counselors and School Social Workers about the Group

Guidance staff may know students that you don't know who would be interested in attending meetings. They may be able to encourage students who are dealing with these issues to attend the group, whether they are questioning their own sexuality, know someone who is gay or lesbian, or are interested in issues affecting gays and lesbians. It can be useful to invite school social workers and guidance counselors to meetings to help facilitate discussions about difficult issues like "talking to your parents about homosexuality," "coming out to friends and family" or "supporting a friend or relative who is gay." The meetings may also bring up issues that students will want to discuss in greater detail with a supportive adult.

Step Five: Pick a Meeting Place

If possible, find a classroom or spot in your school that is off the beaten track. At first, students may feel a little nervous or uncomfortable about attending a meeting. They may feel worried that others will harass them or make assumptions about their sexual orientation if they join the group. It is important to acknowledge that being gay or being perceived to be gay or even being a supportive straight ally can put someone at risk for harassment. Try to find a meeting spot that gives members a sense of security and privacy. Some groups meet in rooms that require anyone who's interested in what's happening inside to walk into the room. This makes it impossible for students to hang around outside, spying on the meetings. Some groups have met off-campus because they thought it would be safer. However, you should check your school policies about off-campus meetings.



Nellie Zupanic, from Newtonville, said that her group meets at lunch time. "It's a good time because most people are around and free then." She also added, "It's a good idea to make it as clear as possible that straight people are also welcome at meetings to reduce the assumptions that are made, if for no other reason."

Step Six: Advertise

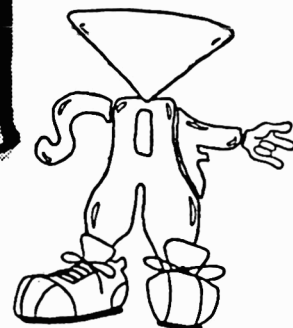
Advertising the formation of the group is one of the first important steps you can take to fight discrimination in your school. For some students, seeing the words Gay or Lesbian on a poster can be the first time they feel that there are other people like them in their world. Some of these students may be questioning their own sexual orientation, or someone close to them may be gay. These students may never even attend a meeting, but seeing the posters may give them a great deal of comfort knowing there are other people in their school addressing these issues, or that there are other people who feel the same way as they do.

The posters can also spark campus-wide discussions. Traditionally there has been silence around issues of sexual orientation. Fear, ignorance and misinformation can make discussing homosexuality a frightening experience. Putting up posters can be the springboard to beginning conversations. The posters may give people a reason to bring up their own feelings, questions or thoughts about homosexuality. Of course, not all these feelings will be positive or supportive. However, breaking the silence is often the first step a school takes in educating people about these issues and addressing the myths and the questions people have about homosexuality.

**Don't be discouraged if the posters
are defaced or torn down.**

Almost all groups have had this experience. Keep putting them back up. The longer you persist, the less often they will be defaced. Josh Bennett-Johnson, a student in the Concord-Carlisle alliance SPECTRUM, reported he was "in the lunch room and a guy started taking down one of our posters. We said 'Don't do that. Leave it there.' And he did." Pauline Pease, another student from SPECTRUM, said, "At first, the posters were shredded and torn down. But now I haven't seen any ripped down and every time I walk by this one poster I put up months ago, I'm amazed it's still there."

Noah Rubin, a student from Concord Academy, said that they put up a poster that said "One in Ten People is Gay" and someone came along and scribbled anonymously, "That means 90% of us are normal." The group made an announcement: "We cannot deal with people that don't have the guts to sign their names." No more homophobic graffiti like that has been encountered since.



What to include in your posters:

- ▼ State the meeting time and location.
- ▼ Describe what the group does, what meetings are like.
- ▼ Highlight that Everyone is Welcome!
- ▼ Keep the posters positive.



Donna Georges from Amesbury High School recommends using "language [on the posters] that is encouraging and supportive."

Brookline High School's Gay/Straight Alliance recommends putting up posters in as many places as possible so if they get torn down, there are still some up. Also, go back and replace the ones that disappear. One Gay/Straight Alliance assumed the monitoring of posters as their group's first activity. You might also want to put some posters in a safe place. Boston Latin used grant money from their Safe Schools mini-grant to buy a glass case that couldn't be broken into. They put posters and announcements about the group in the case.

Sample Slogans: Ways to Advertise Your GSA Meetings

Posters are good for lots of reasons. James McCowan from Weston High School says, "With posters you can attract members, advertise and make sure that no one is ignoring you. Poster making is also a great activity in your meetings. Just be prepared for them to get torn down for a while, and make sure the administration okays them."

James suggests that posters should "emphasize that the group is for the school, not against it. Show that the group is not just for gay and lesbian students, but for straight kids and homophobic people as well."

You might want to use some of the following slogans to advertise meetings of your Gay/Straight Alliance. Don't forget to include the date, time and location of the meeting on the poster!

"Interested in confidential discussions with a group of your peers?
Come to the Gay/Straight Alliance meeting..."

"You don't have to be gay to go - come to the Gay/Straight
Alliance meeting..."



"Straight Not Narrow: Come to the Gay/
Straight Alliance meeting..."

"Homophobic? So am I. Come deal with it at the
Gay/Straight Alliance meeting..."

"SEXual orientation is no big deal. Come to the
Gay/Straight Alliance meeting..."

Step Seven: Get Snacks

Providing food at your meeting is a great idea. Food gives people something to do with their hands. It is a good icebreaker. It gives them something they can share with each other. It can give people an excuse to come to meetings: "I was hungry, so I just thought I'd stop by and get a handful of cheese curls..." Food also makes meetings fun. People can take turns bringing food and this makes meetings more communal.

Step Eight: Hold Your Meeting

Now that you have a faculty advisor, food, a meeting spot and posters advertising your group, you're ready to actually hold the meeting. Some groups begin with a discussion about why they feel having such a group is important. You may want to conduct group-building exercises or see a movie.

(See page 19 for Top 10 List of Suggestions for Awesome Meetings for additional ideas.)

Step Nine: Establish Ground Rules

Some ground rules that other groups have established include:

- ▼ No one will make any assumptions about members' sexual orientations.
- ▼ Confidentiality will be maintained. It may be hard or impossible to ensure that people don't talk about things brought up in the group, but names and identities should never be revealed.
- ▼ You must be respectful of each other, but you don't have to be politically correct all the time. Respect each other and realize that everyone is learning about the issue. It's okay to say something that may sound homophobic. Learn why it is problematic.
- ▼ Faculty advisors participate on an equal basis with students. Faculty may help encourage discussion or participation, but they are not there to teach or lead the group. They are there as participants.

Step Ten: Plan for the Future

You may want to write out an outline of goals that you would like to work towards for the future. A group in Worcester made an assessment plan and an action plan. The former included various ways to assess the climate of their school and determine what work needed to be accomplished in the future. The latter was a list of goals for their future, which led to community-building activities like going to the Gay Pride Parade and to the movies.

(See Out and About: Other Activities for more action-plan ideas on page 22)

The Best Meeting We Ever Had...

Top Ten List of Suggestions for Awesome Meetings



Running good meetings is an essential part of making your group successful. It's not so easy to choose topics or activities that make people feel welcome and encourage them to keep coming back. This Top Ten list was compiled after surveying groups from all across the Commonwealth. The following are some of the best suggestions:

1) "Things I've always wanted to know but was afraid to ask..."

Newton South has a Question and Answer Day. Students anonymously write down questions on any subject they want and then spend the rest of the meeting discussing the questions and coming up with answers.

2) Bring-a-Friend Day.

Concord-Carlisle hosts a Bring-A-Friend Day when every member is supposed to bring someone new to their meeting. They said it changed a lot of people's minds about the group and destroyed some of their stereotypes about homosexuality.

3) "No Adults Allowed" (Or only one).

Some groups have complained that their advisors are too domineering. Having this sort of meeting could be a good change of pace. Tell the adults that only one of them is invited to this special meeting and that they aren't supposed to talk unless absolutely necessary.

4) "What would the world be like if 10% of people were straight and 90% were gay?"

This is an activity that can help participants better understand what it feels like to be devalued. Ask the group to imagine that instead of living in a heterosexist society, you lived in a homosexist society. What would it be like if parents wanted their children to grow up gay? What would it be like if you had to come out as straight? How does it feel to be labelled a minority?

5) "How can the Gay/Straight Alliance work with other school civil rights groups?"

Newton South is planning a meeting with other groups to discuss how they can all work together and educate each other to make their school better for everyone.

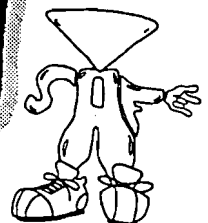
6) Coming Out.

Some groups have found that coming out discussions are very helpful and important. Plan a meeting where people will talk about how they think people would react, what might happen, how to establish support networks, etc.

7) Games...

Brookline High School's Gay/Straight Alliance plays a game called Common Ground. The students and faculty advisors stand in a circle. One person begins by saying, "I've got a younger sister," or some other statement that is true for them. Everyone for whom this is also true steps into the center of the circle. Everyone who doesn't have a younger sister, stays on the outside. You can always lie and choose not to step into the circle. The game often brings up personal and important issues that students may not want to discuss in a more formal setting.

Sally Rubin, a Newton student, recommends an activity her group calls the Culture Walk. She said, "There are one or two mediators and they begin by asking a group of people, for example, the women, to move to one side of the room. The guys then ask them questions they've always wanted to know and the women give them answers. Then the women get to tell the guys what they as women want the guys to know about them. This game gradually becomes more personal. You don't have to talk or walk."



8) The things you'll learn...

Some groups plan meetings where one student researches a topic related to gay and lesbian life, culture, history or oppression, and then reports to the rest of the group what they've discovered. Topics don't have to be dry and boring. They could include: **Rock Stars Come Out**, **The Stonewall Riots**, **Lesbian Pulp Fiction**, etc. Other groups pick current events from the newspaper, such as **Gays in the Military**, and discuss how they feel about these issues.

9) Working for Change.

Most groups have spent at least some meeting time working to institute change in their schools or communities. Some have written editorials for their school papers describing the work of their group, their plans for the future, what they'd like to see change in their school and how to combat anti-gay prejudice. Other groups have detailed instances of homophobia on campus including the defacing of Gay/Straight Alliance (GSA) posters and anti-gay slurs or remarks they've heard and then distributed them to students, teachers, administrators and school board members.

Groups have written editorials for their school newspapers, PTO newsletters and community papers about topics like "Homophobia Hurts Everybody" and "Why I'm a Straight Ally." Groups have also spent their meeting time planning political action strategies or letter-writing campaigns. Brookline High's GSA made posters to carry at rallies for the amended Anti-Discrimination Law, sent letters to their state representatives and distributed petitions to the student body.

10) You're invited!

Inviting other Gay/Straight Alliances or other clubs to your meetings or functions can be a great way to build support in your school and network with other schools. Also, inviting outside speakers can really spark interest in your group. Newton North holds an annual GSA Conference, which is attended by numerous groups from around the state. Boston Latin held a social for GSA's in their area. Other groups have invited speakers to come and talk with them. Winchester High School, for example, invited Michael Smith from the gay and lesbian radio show "1 in 10" on Boston's 101.7 WFNX. Newton North attended a special talk by a history and social sciences teacher on "Gays in Popular Culture," and invited William Johnson from the Boston Police Hate Crimes Division to address the school.

(See Appendix for a list of all the GSA's in Massachusetts as well as suggestions for interesting speakers, musicians, writers and actors you can invite to your school.)

Out and About: Other Activities

Support groups for gay, lesbian and heterosexual students can become involved in many kinds of activities besides holding meetings. Gay/Straight Alliances have done everything from going to Gay Pride Parades to picnics. The most successful of these activities relate to the group's goals. Some goals of Gay/Straight Alliances include:

- 1) working on shared projects as a way to develop a strong organization;
- 2) educating themselves, the school and the community about issues relating to gay and lesbian students;
- 3) fostering understanding among alliance members and all students; and
- 4) having fun! Here is a list of some of the activities groups have enjoyed.

Marching with Pride

Many schools have attended gay pride parades and the annual From All Walks Of Life: AIDS Walk. Brookline High School attended the 1993 March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights.

Pauline Pease, a student at Concord-Carlisle said, "The Pride march was a wonderful sense of community. People were loud and happy about who they were. It was also really sad, though. There was a Die-In where everyone dies on the pavement in memory of AIDS." And Linda Shapiro, the Newton North Advisor, echoed these sentiments. She said, "I'd never been to the Gay Pride march before. There were incredible crowds on the sidewalk. People yelling at us, 'Newton North, Class of '84' or 'Class of '72'. People kept coming up and saying why wasn't the group there when I was in school?' My favorite group was Gays In the Millinery. They had signs that said, 'Make Hats, Not War.'"

Find the Common Links

Sponsor a Day of Diversity where other school groups interested in civil rights issues get together and talk about the problems they've worked on and the issues they address. Discuss the commonalities among various forms of oppression. Look at ways that oppressions overlap. For example, consider how homophobia and racism impact on the life of an African-American gay man. Or look at how people of color suffer from the same sort of erasure and invisibility, being left out of textbooks, for example. Examine how stereotyping circumscribes the lives of people of color and homosexuals. You might discuss how sexism and homophobia can work together to keep women out of powerful positions. For example, look at how strong, independent-minded women are labeled "dykes" or "man-haters," or how lesbian baiting keeps women from advancing in the armed forces. Building coalitions among various school groups can be a great way to meet new people, explore ideas, and increase your base of support.

A number of schools, like Marblehead High School, have hosted Diversity Panels that give spokespeople representing racial, religious and sexual orientation diversity a chance to talk about their experiences and changes they'd like to see in the future. Students from Watertown High School's Gay/Straight Alliance spoke at the "Day of Respect" all-school assembly. This can be a good way to work with other human rights groups to create overarching change in your school and to create alliances and friendships with other students.

Gay and Lesbian Alumni Go Back To School

Alumni can be wonderful allies. They can serve as a bridge between the school and the community. Many have access to helpful and exciting resources. Boston Latin alumni helped students form their Gay/Straight Alliance. Your school's alumni may be able to help you out with everything from vocal and financial support to free theater tickets. Some groups have invited gay or lesbian alumni to return to their alma maters to talk about the experiences they had being a lesbian or gay student. These presentations are informally known as the "Go Back to School Program." Alumni have the distance to talk freely about the obstacles they encountered and can be useful allies in getting support for your work.

How do you find and contact alumni? Your group can put a notice in the town paper, the local community gay paper or in your school's alumni paper stating that your group is interested in speaking with interested, supportive alumni. You might want to describe what your group does, why it's important, and give a contact person readers can call or write for more information.

Parents' Night

Concord-Carlisle's group has held two Parents' Nights. These evenings give parents an opportunity to learn about what activities SPECTRUM has been doing and what they're planning for the future. At first, SPECTRUM members were a little nervous. They were worried that antagonistic community members would show up, but instead, lots of supportive parents attended. The parents offered all sorts of resources to the group and decided to establish support groups in the community.

Outreach to the Community

Gay/Straight Alliances are sometimes surprised by the support they receive from their communities. At a community meeting in Marblehead, students from the high school said they were interested in forming a Gay/Straight Alliance. The meeting became uncharacteristically animated as community members volunteered help, asked what they could do to support the group and shouted out numerous suggestions. Another Gay/Straight Alliance was thrilled when they got a surprise call from an ice cream store owner who wanted to show his support by giving the group free sundaes!

There are a number of ways a group can reach out to the community. Dover-Sherborn held a community meeting featuring a diversity panel. Included in the group of speakers was a gay man who explained how homophobia and heterosexism hurt everyone. Some groups may feel it is important to address some of the questions or concerns raised by community members. Brookline High School asked and received help from the Brookline Adult Community Education Program to organize an informational meeting. And Middleborough High School's superintendent moderated a panel including a student, a teacher, a parent, a member of the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth and a representative from the Safe Schools Program.

Movies, Movies, Movies

Duxbury students said that showing movies was one of their best activities, and Newton South has held Movie Nights. Norwood High School went to see "Schindler's List" and discussed how lesbians and gays were victimized in the Holocaust and the connections between anti-Semitism, racism and homophobia. You might decide to check out a documentary about Massachusetts students who worked for the Anti-Discrimination Law or maybe you'll decide to go down to your local video store and pick up one of the increasing number of commercial films with gay and lesbian themes.

Go Take a Hike

Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School went on an outdoor hiking adventure trip. Outward Bound offers a special program on Thompson Island to assist schools to become safer for gay and lesbian students. (See Appendix for information.) You don't have to do something structured! All sorts of outdoor events can be a wonderful way to strengthen friendships and give your group a chance to get outside of the school and talk freely. Brookline High School's Gay/Straight Alliance held a picnic where they played Ultimate Frisbee and a goofy game of "Red Rover." Sometimes it's important for a group to just get together and have fun.

Teach the Teachers Day

Consider sponsoring an after-school workshop for teachers in your school about issues facing gay and lesbian students, the things you would like them to know. Put together a panel of students who want to talk about their own experiences or things they have witnessed in school. Invite a speaker from the Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students to talk about the Board of Education's Recommendations, and perhaps pick a video for the teachers to watch.

How About a Play?

Plays are a great activity for Gay/Straight Alliances. Recently, "Angels in America," a blockbuster written by a gay man about AIDS, won several Tony Awards and is certain to make gay and lesbian theater more visible than ever before. In Boston, there are two gay and lesbian theater groups, Triangle Theater Company and the Theater Offensive. The Theater Offensive runs free theater workshops throughout the year. Some theaters offer discounts to groups, and others may be willing to offer cheaper seats to students. (See Appendix.)

Speaking to Middle Schools

Name-calling and harassment are common occurrences in middle schools, and often the insults middle school students use refer to gays and lesbians. Research has found that, next to slurs about intelligence, homophobic slurs are the second most commonly used insults uttered by elementary school children.

Ellen Burchett, a freshman at Newton South, summed up a number of students' feelings when she said, "My middle school didn't have a support group working on these issues, and they really needed it."

One of the members of the Newton North Gay-Straight Alliance said, "It's important to go to the middle schools and teach sixth graders that when they say 'fag' it's offensive and wrong." Members of the Newton North group went back to their middle school and talked with the administration about the homophobia they had encountered there. They told the administration that they felt it was important to do something to change the climate of that school. In June, three members of the alliance went to the middle school and talked to three different eighth-grade classes. The eighth graders had lots of questions. One little boy ran up to them in the school cafeteria, stared at their pink triangle buttons, asked if they were gay and then ran off. The group members were exuberant, however, knowing that they had helped to break the ignorance, silence and fear surrounding issues of homophobia at their alma mater.

And This Award Goes to...

Who doesn't love to win an award? The Cambridge Lavender Alliance, a gay and lesbian political group primarily for adults, has given an annual award to the Cambridge Rindge and Latin senior who has done the most for the advancement and well-being of gay and lesbian students in their schools. These sorts of awards can inspire students to work hard on these issues and can also generate publicity for your group. Your alliance could offer a yearly prize, or you could try to get a community group, store, restaurant or company to offer a prize at the end of the year.

Savvy Surveys

A number of Gay/Straight Alliances have sent out surveys to assess the level of tolerance their schools have for gay and lesbian students and to better target the work that needs to be done. Some have surveyed students, teachers and school staff, and parents about issues related to gay and lesbian students and homophobia. SPECTRUM gave out a survey to 849 students "to measure some effects of homophobia in the school" and published the results in the school newspaper. They found that 36% of the school reported that verbal harassment based on sexual orientation occurred at the high school on a daily basis. At Lincoln-Sudbury High School, 400 students were surveyed. Thirty-four percent of them said that their friends would be uncomfortable if they found out someone they knew was gay, lesbian or bisexual. Surveys can be a helpful determinant in figuring out what sorts of educational activities to plan and what sorts of posters might help to make people re-think their assumptions. Consider issuing a survey at the beginning of the year and then one at the end of the year to see how much progress you've made!

Get Funky

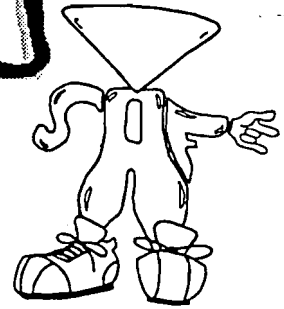
"Gays for Patsy," a Boston-based dance group, hosted a two-stepping dance for Boston Area Gay/Straight alliances. Getting together with other alliances and hosting a dance can be a great way to make new friends and have fun. You might also want to host a dance for your school. Students have defied tradition and gone to their proms in same-sex couples as well.



One such student was Jessica Byers, a student leader of Cambridge Rindge and Latin's GSA, Project 10 East. Before her prom, she was anxious about the response of others in her high school. "I didn't have a girlfriend at the time," Jessica said, "So I asked my good friend Josie Gold (co-founder of the Gay/Straight Alliance at Belmont High School) who also asked me to her prom." On the day of the prom, the young women dressed in their finest party dresses, exchanged corsages, and entered the hall like all the other couples.

Aside from one rude remark made by a male who was apparently intoxicated, and some rather uncomfortable and prolonged glances from some individuals, both proms were quite remarkable in that they were not at all remarkable. The young women danced, drank punch, stood hand-in-hand to have their pictures taken, laughed and chatted with one another, with other students, and with staff chaperons. Jessica reflected, "I'm glad we did it for a lot of the closeted people at both schools. I think it was important for everyone to see that we could do it, and it wasn't a big deal."

(Excerpted from "Gay/Straight Alliances: Transforming Pain to Pride" by Warren Blumenfeld, published in the High School Journal, Volume 77, Nos. 1 and 2)



Field Trips

Cape Cod Technical High School's group went to a local community college program on homophobia. Watertown's Gay/Straight Alliance went to a Red Sox Game. And Barnstable High School's Gay/Straight Alliance went to a "Youth Day" at Cape Cod Community College and to a Safe Schools Program Regional Workshop. GSA's from Boston Latin, Newton South, Concord-Carlisle Duxbury, and Winchester High School attended the annual GSA Conference hosted by the Newton North High School group.

Students from several schools across the state went to the State House to rally for the Anti-Discrimination Law. There were many students like Sarah Longberg-Lew, a Brookline High School student, and Mark DeLellis, from Belmont High, who spent every Monday for weeks standing on the State House steps holding placards and signs with slogans like "Gays Make Up 30% of Youth Suicides" (a reference to a U.S. government report on suicides by young people published in 1989).

Students have also attended and made presentations at a variety of conferences held across the state, including the Gay and Lesbian Student Rights Conference that was held at Northeastern University in March 1994. Students also spoke at the Equity for Gay and Lesbian Students Conference: Progress and Promise in Our Schools held at Lesley College in May 1994 for school superintendents, administrators, teachers, parents and students. They have participated in numerous Safe Schools Program Regional Workshops held on Fridays and Saturdays in various towns and cities in Massachusetts.

Awareness Days

One of the most popular and effective events that Gay/Straight Alliances hold for the whole school are awareness days. They are full days when a series of events are held to create awareness and celebrate gay and lesbian pride. A number of alliances have hosted Days of Awareness. Susanna Kittredge, from Newton South, said that they passed out pink triangle stickers on their BGLAD Day (Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian Awareness Day) and tons of people wore them in support. Norwood High School's Day of Awareness focused on "Respecting Yourself and Others." Donna Georges, from Amesbury High School, recommends a question-and-answer Panel "for youth and caring adults" so that people can find out the answers to their questions about gay and lesbian issues. Lincoln-Sudbury High School had a Gay Day on Valentine's Day. They had a student panel with kids from the GSA and students from FRAGLY (Framingham Area Gay and Lesbian Youth Group).

Sample agendas from Gay Awareness days

The following are the agendas from Gay Awareness days hosted by Newton South in consecutive years. The members of Newton South's Gay/Straight Alliance chose to address new topics in the second year that reflected the interests and changes within their school. Use their ideas as a springboard for your own Day of Awareness.

Newton South Gay and Lesbian Awareness Day

(Held on December 18, 1992)

C-Block: Students from BAGLY (Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth) discuss how they came to terms with their sexual orientation and what it is like to be gay in high school.

H-Block: Panel of students from TRISKELION, an alliance of lesbian, gay, bisexual and straight students from Brandeis University, discuss issues faced by college students, and changes in attitude that occur when one makes the transition from high school to college.

D-Block: Homophobia 101. Newton South history teacher, Bob Parlin, delivers a presentation on the basic issues surrounding homosexuality and homophobia.

G-Block: "What Can High Schools Do To Combat Homophobia?" Members of Newton South's Gay/Straight Alliance lead an open discussion.

F-Block: Arlene Isaacson, Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Political Caucus, talks about the gay and lesbian civil rights movement.

Newton South Gay and Lesbian Awareness Day

(Held on December 20, 1993)

A-Block: "Gay Rights and the Law." Katherine Triantafillou, Cambridge City Councilor, speaks about current legal issues.

B-Block: "Gay Youth" film and discussion.

C-Block: "The Depiction of Lesbians and Gay Men in the News and Entertainment Media." WBZ-TV newscaster and openly gay man, Randy Price, talks about positive and negative images of gay men and lesbians in the media.

D-Block: "Transgender Issues." A panel of transgender individuals talks about issues relating to transvestites and transexuals.

E-Block: "The Common Roots of Oppression: What Are the Connections Between Racism, Sexism, and Homophobia?" A diverse panel of civil rights activists talk about the links among oppressions.

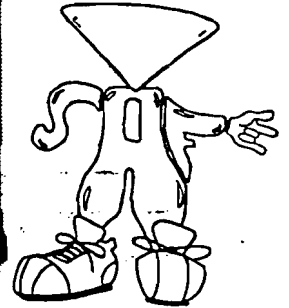
F-Block: "Openly Gay in High School." A panel of young lesbians and gay men share their personal experiences.

G-Block: "Hate Crimes." William Johnson, Deputy Superintendent of the Boston Police Department, explains what hate crimes are and how they are dealt with by the police.

When Everything Comes Together

It is important that schools take the next step, whatever it might be, in building a support network to ensure the safety of all students. Your group might want to work with the administration to rewrite the school harassment policy, or perhaps it might want to put up posters. No matter which way you decide to progress, no matter how small the next step, as soon as the silence surrounding issues of homophobia and homosexuality has been broken, your school will be changed and the lives of students will be changed.

Peter Atlas, the faculty advisor to Concord-Carlisle's Gay/Straight Alliance, SPECTRUM, told this success story. He said that a confluence of events helped his school to effectively address the safety of gay and lesbian students. "In my school we had an 'out' teacher, which I don't think is necessary, but I do think is helpful. We had a large group of supportive straight-identified faculty which I think is vital. We had the backing of the state in that the Governor and Board of Education said it is important to address these issues. So we were able to go to the administration and say we have to begin to deal with these issues."



It is crucial to remember that all schools addressing the safety of gay and lesbian students have the backing of state law and policy. By building consensus within your school that it is important to address these issues, getting the support of members of the faculty, administration, student body and the community, you will have the building blocks you need to go forward with this work. The following are some concrete ways supporters can help make schools safer for all students.

How Supporters Can Help Make Schools Safer for Gay and Lesbian Students

Sometimes people are passively supportive. They may believe that addressing lesbian and gay student issues is important, but they don't know how to express their support, and they don't know that students need and want their help. These people can help lesbian and gay students by establishing themselves as visible allies — people that students know they can turn to for support and help. Some teachers, administrators and guidance counselors have put up gay-positive posters in their classrooms. Others have made a conscious effort to use inclusive language. Many have stuck stickers in their classrooms that have a pink triangle and the word "ally" printed on the front. Some students have plastered these stickers to their sneakers or books.

Supporters can also help fight anti-gay prejudice by addressing instances of anti-gay prejudice whenever they occur.



Josh Bennett-Johnson, a student at Concord-Carlisle, said, "Lots of guys on the baseball team were making fag jokes. They didn't realize it was insulting." Now, whenever he hears someone say something anti-gay, he goes up to them and says, "How can you find so much pleasure in putting someone down, in ruining their day? It doesn't bother me that you think homosexuality is wrong. It bothers me that you have to insult someone."

In addition to helping individual students, supporters can help build consensus within your school and community that it is important to address these issues. Here are some suggestions for ways that supporters can help make schools safer for gay and lesbian students.

- ▼ Members of the community can encourage Youth Commissions that meet to discuss a range of issues of concern to youth, to look at the problems unique to gay and lesbian students.
- ▼ Community leaders can establish a Community Task Force dedicated to addressing the needs of young gays and lesbians — for example, a Superintendent's Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Students.
- ▼ Religious leaders can establish special rap groups for gay and lesbian youth.
- ▼ Members of the PTO and Parent Advisory Board can address gay and lesbian student safety in their meetings and newsletters.
- ▼ Administrators and superintendents can change policies to include sexual orientation and provide in-service time for staff to learn about making schools safer for gay and lesbian students.
- ▼ Stores, restaurants, community groups and individuals can help show their support for Gay/Straight Alliances by providing food for meetings, donating t-shirts, etc. For example, P-FLAG donated books for the library at Cape Cod Technical High School on behalf of their Gay/Straight Alliance.

Having a strong, active support network will ensure that if you do encounter resistance you will have allies in the student body, the faculty, the administration and the community.

A Little Money Goes a Long Way: The Safe Schools Program Grants

As your group develops, it may benefit from some financial help. Like any school-based group, you can raise money through traditional fund-raising, like raffles and car washes, or you can look for other help. Business and community organizations have donated to Gay/Straight Alliances in the past. In addition, school and state funds may be available. Small grants are often available to schools from the Massachusetts Department of Education's Safe Schools Program for Gay and Lesbian Students. The following is a selected listing of things schools around the Commonwealth did with their grant money. Use these ideas as springboards for your plans.

ABCD University School:

Attended a play at Boston Center for the Arts and hosted a day-long poetry reading workshop.

Boston Latin School:

Bought banner-making supplies for various walks and events.

Brookline High School:

Sponsored a community forum and the high school's Gay/Straight Alliance held a Day of Awareness with speakers.

Cambridge Rindge and Latin:

Produced a photography exhibit.

East Boston High School:

Hosted a teacher training session counseling gay and lesbian students and their families with George Smart from Boston Children's Services.

Arlington High School and Everett High School:

Went to see the movie *Philadelphia*, and then sponsored a discussion afterwards about AIDS/HIV and homophobia.

C.H. McCann Technical School and Drury High School:

Produced a one-act play on the theme of homophobia called "Removing the Glove: An Allegory in One Act."

Hoosack Valley Regional School District:

Established a countywide network of working group consisting of educators, administrators and youth to discuss violence prevention and anti-harassment strategies for gay and lesbian students.

Masconomet Regional High School: New Bedford High School:

Silk-screened artwork representing sexual orientation diversity.

Worked with a community agency called Gays, Lesbians and Supporters to educate school staff on the amended Anti-discrimination Law.

Lunenburg High School:

Sponsored mini-workshop for student council members on issues facing gay and lesbian students.

Provincetown High School:

Set up a computer bulletin board information system where students from across the Cape can communicate with each other.

Marblehead High School and Middleborough High School:

Sponsored a community forum addressing issues of gay and lesbian students.

Westford Elementary, Middle and High Schools:

Sponsored staff training in equity in education, conflict resolution and suicide prevention; they also added a Gay/Straight Alliance component to the existing W.O.R.D. (Westford Opposes Racial and other Discrimination).

Ralph C. Mahar Regional High School:


Went on an outdoor hiking, camping, and canoeing adventure trip.

Milford High School, Milford Middle School West and Milford Middle School East:

Offered in-service training using The World of Difference Program and Mediation Program.

Appendix of Resources

While we wanted to make you aware of these groups and publications, the Department of Education does not necessarily endorse this listing of resources, and we encourage you to make choices based on what would be appropriate for you.



Other Support Groups

There are other models for support groups besides Gay/Straight Alliances. These are a few examples.

Support Groups for Gay and Lesbian Students

Some schools have chosen to organize support groups for students who are identified as gay or lesbian. Emily Hollander, a student at Newton South, said "I think there should be a group for only gay, lesbian and bisexual students so they can feel less alone and more comfortable with themselves while they are in or out of the closet at school." One student said that her school has "a group for gay/lesbian/bisexual/questioning students that meets in the home economics room." She said, "That's a good place because there's a microwave in it and it's fairly out of the way." Some students also advised against publicizing the group. "It should be by word of mouth," one student said. "Otherwise people will be snooping around."

Of course, offering a group of this sort may present the problem that students who are extremely closeted (not open about their sexuality) may not learn about the group. There may be no easy or perfect solution. Some schools may be safe enough for students to be "out" and openly questioning their sexual orientation. In other schools, they would be at risk for harassment. Each school must make its own decision about whether or not to publicize a group of this sort.

Human Rights Groups or Diversity Groups

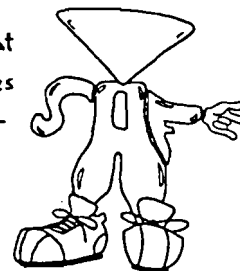
Schools whose climate may appear hostile to addressing gay and lesbian student safety, or very small schools, may want to establish Human Rights or Diversity Groups. These groups can look at the commonalities among various forms of oppression including racism, sexism, ageism, classism, anti-Semitism, and homophobia. This may be the first step for a school in forming a Gay/Straight Alliance. Patrick Tortora, a guidance counselor at Cape Cod Tech, said that "because we felt our school was not ready for a Gay/Straight Alliance, the group was advertised as a Human Rights Support Group. We have discussed instances of discrimination and harassment in school, dealt with family issues, and talked about job discrimination." The school now has a Gay/Straight Alliance. Norwood High School has an "Alliance Against Discrimination" that has 20-40 student members. The group is part of an ongoing strategy to address homophobia in the larger context of oppression.

Parallel Faculty/Staff Support Groups

These groups have sprung up in a number of high schools. They are in addition to

student-based support groups and exist to provide a place for staff and teachers to support each other in addressing discrimination in the school. Student liaisons are invited to attend these groups and to offer their input or bring up some of the issues that the student group has been dealing with. Often these groups are an umbrella group for all the work that is being done at the school to support gay and lesbian students. While these groups are usually not places where students would go to receive support, it is important to have student input in these groups so there is coordination and collaboration between the work of the students and the work of the faculty/staff.

Peter Atlas, a teacher at Concord-Carlisle High School, said that his school has formed a committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Safety. The committee has two faculty sub-groups in addition to the Gay/Straight Alliance. One sub-group deals with issues of Curriculum and Support by addressing ways that teachers can integrate gay and lesbian issues into the curriculum, offer faculty training, and gather resources. The second sub-group deals with Outreach to the Community by looking at ways to solicit resources and help from the community and to address concerns of the community and parents.



Community-Based Support Groups

Community Study Groups

Patricia Boland, a teacher at Mount Everett Regional School, said, "In our district at this time, I feel that it would be difficult for students who are gay or lesbian to come forward, to be in a

school-oriented group. They may, however, feel safe enough for a community group." Community study groups are usually open to all interested students, parents, teachers, administrators and community members.

Pat Griffin, a professor at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has been involved with a community study group in the Amherst area. She said the group has focused on ways to implement the Board of Education's Recommendations on the Support and Safety of Gay and Lesbian Students in the junior and high school. The group began when a team of teachers and an administrator from the high school went to the Safe Schools Program Workshop in their area. The team was very excited and inspired to organize a parent/teacher/administrator/student group in their school to see what they could do to make their school safer. They meet every other week at the high school and publicize their meetings in the local newspaper and the PTO newspaper. They've distributed surveys and resource guides with readings about issues affecting gay and lesbian students.

Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)

The P-FLAG mission is "to promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, and bisexual 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 acts to create a society that is healthy, and respectful of human diversity." There are 350 P-FLAG chapters across the United States and Canada, and eleven other countries in the world.

Young people are encouraged to call the closest P-FLAG chapter or come to a meeting for information and support. P-FLAG can provide assistance and advice about "coming out" and strategies on how to approach family members. Parents, friends and family members of young gays and lesbians also can call to learn more about issues related to sexual orientation and how to be helpful. P-FLAG is an ideal resource for family members and friends to receive support. (

See Appendix for phone numbers and contacts for a P-FLAG group in your area.)

Alliances of Gay and Lesbian Youth (AGLY's)

Alliances of Gay and Lesbian Youth are "community-based, youth-run, adult-advised support groups that hold meetings for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth 22 years old and younger." There are AGLY groups in 13 different

areas of Massachusetts so far, and more groups are developing all the time. (See Appendix for a list of AGLY's.) The AGLY groups sponsor meetings, drop-ins, and services for gay and lesbian youth. They host special events, like proms and tobacco education forums. All AGLY's are different. Some groups are large, and some are small. Some address the special needs of rural youth; others focus on urban populations. But all have the same basic objectives. Here is their statement of beliefs:

- *To provide a safe place for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth to get together and socialize with other young people.
- *To address the isolation and invisibility of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth.
- *To provide educational services. AGLY's educate lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth about health issues, as well as gay and lesbian history and culture. They help students with their educational and professional goals and provide services to get young people back in school or keep them in school.
- *To provide role models. The group introduces members to positive role models — adults who are successful and out at their jobs, people with families — to help young people realize that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people can be valuable, important members of society.
- *To empower young people.



Gay/Straight Alliances and Other Public School Groups

Marilyn Cairnes, the advisor of NAGLY (North Shore Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth) said, "the services we provide are quite different from the in-school services provided in that our organizations are solely gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender kids. Therefore it is a very, very safe place for kids to identify themselves as lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender. It may, perhaps, be a long time before all kids in school feel comfortable identifying themselves in a school-based Gay/Straight Alliance... For the most part... schools that have alliances still have kids in those alliances who are not out to the members of the alliance or to their school. And that's probably going to continue for a long time... They look at NAGLY as completely removed from the school setting. We provide different kinds of support. At NAGLY you can be as gay as you want to and deal with some issues that you maybe wouldn't talk about with anyone else. At GSA's [Gay/Straight Alliances] you can feel comfortable in your school setting, you can interact with other kids at your school, and educate other people in your school setting. Both groups are important."

Public School Groups and Contacts - Massachusetts

-A-

**Acton-Boxborough Regional High School
Common Ground**
96 Hayward Rd.
Acton, MA 01720
Contact: Allison Kaufman
978.264.4700

**Agawam High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
760 Cooper St.
Agawam, MA 01001
Contact: Bernadette Conte
413.821.0530

Algonquin Regional High School
79 Bartlett St.
Northboro, MA 01532
Contact: Mrs. Jan Rosenberg
508.351.7010 x 825

**Amesbury High School
Education and Support Services**
Highland Street
Amesbury, MA 01913
Contact: Donna Georges
978.388.4800

**Amherst-Pelham Regional High
School**
**Students United By Diverse
Sexualities (SUDS)**
21 Mattoon St.
Amherst, MA 01002
Contact: Michael Bardsley
413.549.9716

**Andover High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
Shawsheen Rd.
Andover, MA 01810
Contact: Debbie Burch
978.623.8617

**Andover Public Schools
Gay/Straight Alliance**
36 Bartlett St.
Andover, MA 01810
Contact: Brenda O'Brien
978.623.8561

**Apponequet Regional High School
Diversity Coalition**
100 Holland Road
Lakeville, MA 02347
Contact: Greg Lee, Steven Driscoll
508.947.2660
508.763.5140

**Arlington High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
869 Massachusetts Ave.
Arlington, MA 02476
Contact: Kate Cremens-Basbas
781.646.1000 x 3165
Safe Schools Task Force x 3102

Ashland High School
87 West Union St.
Ashland, MA 01721
Contact: Gail Gauthier
508.881.0177

Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

215 Fitchburg St.
Marlboro, MA 01752
Contact: Michael Stanton, Karen Reed,
Tracey Arvin
508.485.9430

**Athol-Royalston Regional High School
Pride Alliance**

2363 Main St.
Athol, MA 01331
Contact: Tina Brown, Melissa Perez
978.249.2435

**Attleboro High School
SUPA**

100 Rathbun Willard Dr.
Attleboro, MA 02703
Contact: Damon Bethel
508.222.5150 x 268

**Auburn High School
Alliance For Human Dignity**

99 Auburn St.
Auburn, MA 01501
Contact:
Debra Bolz 508.832.7714
Joe Phelan 508.832.7711

**Ayer High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

141 Washington St.
Ayer, MA 01432
Contact: Kim Sweetland
978.772.8600 x 127

-B-

**Barnstable High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

744 West Main St.
Hyannis, MA 02601
Contact:
Ellen Varnerin 508.790.6445x56
Claudia Smith-Jacobs 508.790.6445x71

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School

Gay Straight Alliance

57 Old Mugget Hill Road
Charlton, MA 01507
Contact:
Janice Johnson 508.248.5971 x1375
Ben Monfredo 508.248.5971 x1713

**Bedford High School
School Atmosphere Council**

9 Mudge Way
Bedford, MA 01730
Contact: Joseph Modzelewski
781.275.1700x140

**Bellingham Mem. Jr/Sr High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

Blackstone Street
Bellingham, MA 02019
Contact: Barbara Flanagan
508.883.9321

**Belmont High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

221 Concord Ave.
Belmont, MA 02478
Contact: Lucy Myers, Brian Dunn
617.484.2956

**Beverly High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

Sohier Road
Beverly, MA 01915
Contact: Tony Witwicki
978.921.6150 x6166

**Boston Arts Academy
Gay/Straight Alliance**

174 Ipswich St.
Boston, MA 02215
Contact: Peter McCaffery
617.635.6470

**Boston High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

152 Arlington St.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Frank Pantano, John MacDonald
617.635.8937

Boston Latin School
Gay/Straight Alliance
78 Avenue Louis Pasteur
Boston, MA 02115
Contact: Leslie Lane, Mary Colvario
617.635.8895

Bourne High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
75 Waterhouse Rd.
Bourne, MA 02532
Contact: Judy Cox
508.759.0670

Bridgewater/Raynham Regional H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance
Mt. Prospect St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324
Contact:
Jennifer Kelly 508.697.6902x267
Mary Perry 508.697.6902x265

Brockton High School, Red House
Gay/Straight Alliance
470 Forest Ave.
Brockton, MA 02301
Contact:
Celeste Ignacio 508.580.7624
Robyn Kaplan, Advisor 508.580.7462

Bromfield School
Gay/Straight Alliance
14 Massachusetts Ave.
Harvard, MA 01451
Contact: Kathleen Doherty
978.456.4152

Brookline High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
115 Greenough St.
Brookline, MA 02445
Contact:
Christian Polos 617.730.2752/54
Roxanne Pappenheimer 617.730.2723
Switchboard 617.730.2602
Freshman Campus:
Pat Herrington 617.730.2637
Polly Attwood 617.730.2712

Burlington High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
123 Cambridge St.
Burlington, MA 01803
Contact: Mrs. Ellie Packer,
Dr. Suffredini 781.270.1838
Multicultural Group Contact:
Pamela Bafi 781.270.1789

- C -

Cambridge Rindge and Latin School
Project 10 Cambridge
459 Broadway R 309
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Al Ferreira
617.349.6486

Canton High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
900 Washington St.
Canton, MA 02021
Contact:
Robert Ringuette 781.821.5055/56
Paul Meoni 781.821.5050
E-mail: RinguetteR@Canton.MEC.Edu

Cape Cod Regional Vocational Technical
High School, Guidance Department
351 Pleasant Lake Ave.
Harwich, MA 02645
Contact:
Patrick Tortora 508.432.4500 x241
Val Girelli 508.432.4500 x225

Chatham High school
Gay/Straight Alliance
425 Crowell Road
Chatham, MA 02633
Contact: Russell Slagle
508.945.5140

Chelmsford High School
200 Richardson Road
Chelmsford, MA 01863
Contact: Bill Joplin, Edward Rubin
978.251.5111

Chelsea High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
299 Everett Ave.
Chelsea, MA 02150
Contact: Deidre Collins, Lincoln Tamayo
617.889.8418

Chicopee Comprehensive High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
617 Montgomery St.
Chicopee, MA 01020
Contact:
Julie Morrison 413.594.3535
Richard Kopeski 413.735.4242 (beeper)

Chicopee High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
650 Front St.
Chicopee, MA 01013
Contact:
Diane Vecchiarelli 413.594.3572
Richard Kopeski 413.735.4242 (beeper)

Concord Carlisle Regional H.S.
Spectrum
500 Walden St.
Concord, MA 01742
Contact:
Peter Atlas, faculty advisor
978.318.1417 x 306
Andrei Joseph, Co-ordinator of Committee
on G/L Youth x 342

-D-

Danvers High School
Student Diversity Committee
60 Cabot Rd.
Danvers, MA 01923
Contact: Kevin Fahey, Ted Butler
978.777.8925

David Prouty High School
Safe Schools Alliance
302 Main Street
Spencer, MA 01562
Contact: Maryanne Hammond 508.885.8539
Alicia Howard, Jim Whittimore,
Cindy Phillips 508.885.8505

Dedham High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
140 Whiting Ave.
Dedham, MA 02026
Contact: Adele Traniello, Linda Goulet
781.329.6623

Dennis-Yarmouth Regional H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance
210 Station Ave.
South Yarmouth, MA 02664
Contact: Joseph O'Donnell,
Michael Sadowski 508.398.7630

Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School
Youth Against Ignorance
2700 Regional Rd.
North Dighton, MA 02764
Contact: Charlene Guibeau, Kerry McElroy
508.252.5025
Anne Kotch 508.252.5080

Dover-Sherborn High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
9 Junction St.
Dover, MA 02030
Contact: Walter Crepeau
508.785.1730 x 617

Drury High School
Just A Bunch Of People (JABOP)
1130 South Church St.
North Adams, MA 01247
Contact:
Greg Houston 413.662.3240
Ann French 413.662.3245

Duxbury High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
130 St. George St.
Duxbury, MA 02332
Contact:
Joe O'Neil 781.934.7661
Mark Destler 781.934.7640

- E -

East Bridgewater High School
Students and Teachers Against Needless
Discrimination (STAND)
11 Plymouth St.
East Bridgewater, MA 02333
Contact:
Harry Ferrell Locke 508.378.8224
Judith Kraemer, Pat Lovett, Sherley Phillips
508.378.8214

Easthampton High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
70 Williston Ave.
Easthampton, MA 01027
Contact: Cindy LeBeau
413.529.1588

Essex Agricultural and Technical Institute
Rainbow Links – GSA
562 Maple St., PO Box 362
Hathorne, MA 01937-0362
Contact:
Christine Leach 978.774.0050 x 238
Sandy Donahue 978.774.0050 x 220

- F -

Falmouth High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
874 Gifford St.
Falmouth, MA 02540
Contact: Helen S. Ladd
508.540.2200 x 363

Fenway High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
174 Ipswich St.
Boston, MA 02215
Contact: Cindy Blank-Edelman
617.635.9911

Fitchburg High School
SPECTRUM
98 Academy St.
Fitchburg MA 01420
Contact:
Barbara Christopher 978.348.2313
Carlos Garcia, Carole Christensen
978.345.3240

Framingham High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
115 A St.
Framingham, MA 01701-4195
Contact: Holly MacLean
508.620.4963 x138

Franklin High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
218 Oak St.
Franklin, MA 02038
Contact:
Bonnie Heaton, Martha Donovan
508.528.5600

Frontier Regional School District
Gay/Straight Alliance
219 Christian Ln, RFD #1
South Deerfield, MA 01373
Contact:
Christine Swelko 413.665.1155
Katharine Tolles 413.665.2118

- G -

G. Stanley Hall School
Gay/Straight Alliance
340 Main St.
Worcester, MA 01608
Contact: Mikki Roberts, Pam Hatstat
508.755.3698

Gardner High School**Diversity Works**

200 Catherine St.
Gardner, MA 01440
Contact: Mrs. Cathy Rogers
978.632.1600

Gloucester High School

Leslie O'Johnson Rd.
Gloucester, MA 01930
Contact: Deechie DelTorchio
978.281.9868

Greater Eggleston Community H.S.

PO Box 4
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
Contact: Beatriz M. Zapater
617.524.2555

Greater Lawrence Technical High School**Gay/Straight Alliance**

57 River Rd.
Andover, MA 01810
Contact: Nancy Wrigley
978.686.0194 x 360

Greater Lowell Regional Vocational**Technical High School****Gay/Straight Alliance**

Pawtucket Boulevard
Tyngsboro, MA 01879-2199
Contact: Ed Kazalski
978.454.5411 x 316

Greenfield High School**Gay/Straight Alliance**

141 Davis St.
Greenfield, MA 01301
Contact: Scott Rice
413.772.1356

Groton Dunstable Regional High School**Students of Diverse Attitudes (SODA)**

Main St.
Groton, MA 01450
Contact: Michael Byrne
978.448.6362

- H -

Hamilton-Wenham Regional H.S.**Gay/Straight Alliance**

775 Bay Rd.
S. Hamilton, MA 01982
Contact: Ken Jones, Jean Jones
978.468.8408, 978.468.8412

Hampshire Regional High School**Safe Schools Task Force**

19 Stage Rd.
Westhampton, MA 01027
Contact:
Janice Doppler 413.527.7200
Leslie Giordano 413.527.7680
Karen Hellstrom 413.529.2330

Hibbard Alternative School**Diversity Group**

280 Newell St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Contact: Arlene Fricker
413.448.9635

High School of Science & Technology**Gay/Straight Alliance**

1250 State St.
Springfield, MA 01109
Contact: Micky Cahillane
413.750.2000

Hingham High School**Gay/Straight Alliance**

41 Pleasant St.
Hingham, MA 02043
Contact: Greg Nevader
781.741.1565

Holliston High School**Gay/Straight Alliance**

370 Hollis St
Holliston, MA 01746
Contact: GSA Advisor
508.429.0677

Hoosac Valley High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

125 Savoy Rd.
Adams, MA 01220
Contact: Becky Barnini
413.743.5200

Hopedale High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

25 Adin St.
Hopedale, MA 01747
Contact: Abigail Abbott
508.634.2217

Hopkinton High School

Gay/Straight Alliance – HORIZONS

88 Hayden Rowe St.
Hopkinton, MA 01748
Contact: Sharon Hamer
508.497.9820

Hudson High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

69 Brigham St.
Hudson, MA 01749
Contact:
Ellin Tsiaras 978.567.6260
June Murray 978.567.6250

Hull High School

WHEN - We Help Each Other Now

180 Main St.
Hull, MA 02045
Contact: Peggy Raymond
781.925.4400

- K -

King Philip Regional High School

Diversity Club

201 Franklin St., PO Box 49
Wrentham, MA 02093
Contact: Janna Bremer, David Sumner
508.384.1000

- L -

Lee High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

300 Greylock St.
Lee, MA 01238
Contact: Sally Maish
413.243.2781

Leominster High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

122 Granite St.
Leominster, MA 01453
Contact: Barbara Bayley
978.534.7720

Lexington High School

BI GLASS

251 Waltham St.
Lexington, MA 02421
Contact: Michael Lerner
781.861.2362

Lincoln Sudbury High School

Gay/Straight Alliance

390 Lincoln Rd.
Sudbury, MA 01776
Contact: Vicky Edelmann, Susan Frommer
978.443.9961 x371

Longmeadow High School

Gay/Straight Alliance REALITY

95 Grassy Gutter Rd.
Longmeadow, MA 01106
Contact: Sue Burns
413.565.4220

Lowell High School

Rainbow Connection

50 Fr. Morissette Blvd.
Lowell, MA 01852
Contact: Janet Dendy, Dr. Marie Duggan
978.937.8907

Lunenburg High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
1079 Massachusetts Ave.
Lunenburg, MA 01462
Contact: Alexis Pukaite
978.582.4115

Lynn English High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
50 Goodridge St.
Lynn, MA 01902
Contact:
Pat Bart 781.477.7366
Sue Lunden 781.598.8127

Lynnfield High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
275 Essex St.
Lynnfield, MA 01940
Contact: John Qualters
781.334.5820

- M -

(Mahar Regional-See Ralph C. Mahar)

Manchester Jr./Sr. High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
Lincoln St.
Manchester By-the-Sea, MA 01944
Contact:
Dr. John W. Stuart 978.526.4494
Mrs. M'Lena Gandolfi 978.526.4412

Marblehead High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
Duncan Sleigh Square
Marblehead, MA 01945
Contact: Kathy Glennon
781.639.3116

Marlborough High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
431 Bolton St.
Marlborough, MA 01752
Contact: Linda Perez
508.460.3565

Marshfield High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
89 Forest St.
Marshfield, MA 02050
Contact: Nancy Currie
781.834.5050

Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Safe Schools Group
PO Box 1385
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557
Contact:
Beverly Mann, Jay Schofield
508.693.1033

Masconomet Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
20 Endicott Rd.
Toppsfield, MA 01983
Contact:
Donna Cameron 978.887.2323 x 245
Susan Haas 978.887.2323 x 235

Maynard High School
G/SA - Safe School Partnership
One Tiger Drive
Maynard, MA 01754
Contact: Jacquie Rodgers
978.897.8891

Medfield High School
Harmony
24 Pound St.
Medfield, MA 02052
Contact: Carol Baine, Bob Lynch
508.359.4367

Medford High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
489 Winthrop St.
Medford, MA 02155
Contact: Stephanie Tauber
781.393.2354

Methuen High School
Project Awareness
1 Ranger Rd.
Methuen, MA 01844
Contact: Mrs. Jean Matthes
978.681.1357

**Middleboro High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

71 East Grove St.
Middleboro, MA 02346
Contact: Tanya Sullivan
508.946.2010 x 125
E-mail: sullivat@mec.edu

**Millis High School
Common Ground**

245 Plain St.
Millis, MA 02054
Contact: Bill Dooling
508.376.7010

**Milton High School
Gay/Bisexual/Straight Alliance**

451 Central Ave.
Milton, MA 02186
Contact: Jennifer McCleary Sills
617.696.4470/78

**Mohawk Trail Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

26 Ashfield Rd.
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370
Contact: Nancy Hoff, Eric Sossbaeur
413.625.9811

**Montachusett Reg. Voc. Tech. H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance**

1050 Westminster St.
Fitchburg, MA 01420
Contact: Sue White, Wilbur Carter
978.345.9200

**Mount Everett Regional H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance**

PO Box 219
Sheffield, MA 01257
Contact: Pat Boland
413.229.8734

**Mount Greylock Regional School
District - Gay/Straight Alliance**

1781 Cold Spring Road
Williamstown, MA 01267
Contact: Brian McCarthy, Bonnie Paddleford
413.458.9582

- N -

**Nantucket High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

10 Surfside Rd.
Nantucket, MA 02554
Contact:
Sarah Dunton 508.325.5056
Ginnie Faria 508.228.7208

**Narragansett Regional H.S.
Common Ground-Diversity Group**

464 Baldwinville Rd.
Baldwinville, MA 01436
Contact: Patricia Weiss
978.939.2020

**Nashoba High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

12 Green Rd.
Bolton, MA 01740
Contact: Charles Whipple
978.779.2257 x 3027

**Natick High School
Gay/Straight Alliance - Crossings**

15 West St.
Natick, MA 01760
Contact:
Beth Grady 508.651.7179
Marie Caradonna 508.651.7162

**Nauset Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

Box 1887 Cable Rd
North Eastham, MA 02651
Contact:
Judy Trotta 508.255.1505 x5201
Val Cohen 508.255.1505 x5204

**Needham High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

609 Webster St.
Needham, MA 02494
Contact: GSA Advisor
781.455.0800

New Bedford High School
Diversity Alliance
230 Hathaway Blvd.
New Bedford, MA 02740
Contact: Paula Daigle
508.997.4511 x 2466

Newton North High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
360 Lowell Ave.
Newtonville, MA 02460
Contact:
Janice Lichtman 617.552.7494
Beth Holmberg 617.552.7490
Linda Shapiro 617.552.7471

Newton South High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
140 Brandeis Rd.
Newton, MA 02459
Contact: Bob Parlin
617.552.7530

Nipmuc Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
90 Pleasant St.
Upton, MA 01568
Contact:
Katherine Ducat, Stephen Gressak
508.529.2140

Norfolk County Agricultural High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
400 Main St.
Walpole, MA 02081
Contact:
Heather Dube 508.668.0268
Bill Cannon 508.668.0268

North Andover High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
675 Chickering Rd.
North Andover, MA 01845
Contact: Jeffery Fuller, Steve Sousa
978.794.1711

North Middlesex Regional H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance
19 Main St.
Townsend, MA 01469
Contact: Patricia May 978.597.8721

No. Quincy High School
SPECTRUM
316 Hancock St.
Quincy, MA 02171
Contact: Peg Farren
617.984.8982, 617.944.8747

Northhampton High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
380 Elm St.
Northampton, MA 01060
Contact:
Jim Bridgeman 413.587.1344
Sharon Carlson 413.587.1498
Pat Williams 413.587.1361

Norwell High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
18 South St.
Norwell, MA 02061
Contact: Maryclaire Gerety, Susan Ward
781.659.8808

Norwood Senior High School Alliance
Against Discrimination
Nichols St.
Norwood, MA 02062
Contact: Dr. Alice Axelrod
781.769.2333

- O -

Oakmont Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance OGASY
9 Oakmont Dr.
Ashburnham, MA 01430
Contact: Kathy Egan, Peg Callagy
978.827.1401

Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical
High School - Safe Schools Alliance
476 North Ave.
Rochester, MA 02770
Contact:
Cas Santos 508.763.8011 x 174
Kathy St. Martin x 149
Rick Mitchell x 129

**Oliver Ames High School
Diversity Group**

100 Lothrop St.
North Easton, MA 02356
Contact:
Elaine Clement-Holbrook 508.230.3222
William Sullivan 508.230.3213
Caroline Paulino 508.230.3210

- P -

**Pittsfield High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

300 East St.
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Contact: Susan Strong
413.499.9549

**Plymouth North High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**

Obery St.
Plymouth, MA 02360
Contact: Donna Eddy
508.830.4400

**Plymouth South High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
490 Long Pond Rd.
Plymouth, MA 02360
Contact: Bruce J. Jones,
Francesca DiMambro 508.224.7512

Provincetown High School
12 Winslow St.
Provincetown, MA 02657
Contact: Jonathan Roberts
508.487.5050

- Q -

**Quabbin Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
800 South St.
Barre, MA 01005
Contact: Candace Ericson
978.355.4651

**Quincy Schools
SPECTRUM**

c/o Ed Grogan
Atlantic Middle School
86 Hollis Ave.
Quincy, MA 02170
Contact: Ed Grogan
617.984.8727, 617.472.3716

- R -

**Ralph C. Mahar Regional H.S.
Save Our Schools Alliance (SOS)**
PO Box 680 (South Main St.)
Orange, MA 01364
Contact: Polly Bixby, Paula Swenson
978.544.2542

**Randolph Jr./Sr. High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
70 Memorial Pkwy
Randolph, MA 02368
Contact: Brendon Riordan
Dianne Yearwood 781.961.6237

**Reading Memorial High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
60 Oakland Rd.
Reading, MA 01867
Contact: Dorothy Quinlan
781.942.9135 x 24

**Revere High School
RALLY**
101 School St.
Revere, MA 02151
Contact: Maddy Klyne
781.286.8266

**Rockport High School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
32 Jerden's Lane
Rockport, MA 01966
Contact: Ann Gallagher
978.546.1234/35

Salem High School
Tolerance, Acceptance, Diversity
77 Willson St.
Salem, MA 01970
Contact: Paul Harrington
978.740.1170

Seekonk High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
261 Arcade St.
Seekonk, MA 02771
Contact: Jan Noble
508.336.0312

Sharon High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
180 Pond St.
Sharon, MA 02067
Contact: Sheryl Lampert, Eileen Fitzgerald
781.784.1554

Shrewsbury High School
Safe Schools Program
Straight /Gay Alliance
45 Oak St.
Shrewsbury, MA 01545
Contact:
Pat Degon 508.841.8856
Ellen Meyers 508.841.8817

Smith Vocational and Agricultural H.S.
Diversity Alliance
80 Locust St.
Northampton, MA 01060
Contact:
Kimberlee Baitler 413.587.1446
Lora Jo Webber 413.587.1415

Somerville High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
81 Highland Ave.
Somerville, MA 02143
Contact:
Lora Venesy 617.666.9297
Paula Monahan 617.625.6600 x6129

South Hadley High School
Diversity Group – Education Support
Protection
153 Newton St.
South Hadley, MA 01075
Contact: Sally Watson-Menkel
413.538.5063

Southwick – Tolland Regional H.S.
Diversity Committee
93 Feeding Hills Road
Southwick, MA 01077
Contact: Bob Bardwell
413.569.3011

Springfield Central High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
1840 Roosevelt Ave.
Springfield, MA 01109
Contact: Joyce Alonge
413.787.7453

Stoneham High School
PRISM
149 Franklin St.
Stoneham, MA 02180
Contact: Paula Sampson
781.279.3810

Stoughton High School
Peer Leadership Group/GSA
232 Pearl St.
Stoughton, MA 02072
Contact: Alton Flynn, James Boushell
781.344.4000 (ask for h.s.)

Swampscott High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
207 Forest Avenue
Swampscott, MA 01907
Contact: Rick Brown
781.596.8830

- T -

Taunton High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
50 William Street
Taunton, MA 02780
Contact:
Florence Canavan 508.821.1125
Elizabeth Paquette 508.821.1147

- W -

Wachusett Regional High School
Youth Pride
1401 Main Street
Holden, MA 01520
Contact: Pamela Robinson
508.829.6771

Wahconah Regional High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
150 Windsor Road
Dalton, MA 01226
Contact: Robert Aeschback
413.684.1330 x 36

Wakefield High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
60 Farm St.
Wakefield, MA 01880
Contact: Jude Daley
781.246.6440

Walpole High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
275 Common St.
Walpole, MA, 02081
Contact: Linda Maccini Pavloff
508.668.9540

Waltham High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
617 Lexington St.
Waltham, MA 02452
Contact: Nancy Ryan
781-893-8050 x 2177

Wareham Middle/High School
Safe Schools Alliance
7 Viking Dr.
Wareham, MA 02571
Contact:
Leslie Cozza, Chris Mars,
Mary Jane Muello 508.291.3510x821

Watertown High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
50 Columbia St.
Watertown, MA 02472
Contact:
Jim Strouse 617.926.7760
Jim Devin 617.926.7705
Rosemary Trowbridge 617.926.7740

Wayland High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
Old Connecticut Path
Wayland, MA 01778
Contact:
Ginny Buckley 508.358.3707
Michael Clark 508.358.3721

Wellesley High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
50 Rice Street
Wellesley, MA 02481
Contact: Kem Morehead, Kim O'Byrne
781.446.6290

West Springfield High School
SPECTRUM
425 Piper Road
West Springfield, MA 01089
Contact: Mary Birks
413.263.3497

Westford Academy
Westford Academy GSA
30 Patten Road
Westford, MA 01886
Contact: Susan Beers
978.692.5570 x 236

Weston High School
Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Coalition
444 Wellesley Street
Weston, MA 02493
Contact: Kay Cottle 781.899.0620 x 7659

Westport High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
19 Main Rd.
Westport, MA 02790
Contact: Edith LaBran
508.636.1054

Westwood High School
G/L/SA-Spectrum
200 Nahatan St.
Westwood, MA 02090
Contact: James M. Ash
781.326.7500 x 362

Whittier Regional
Vocational Technical H.S.
Gay/Straight Alliance
115 Amesbury Line Rd.
Haverhill, MA 01830
Contact: Marcie Schaefer
978.373.4101

Winchester High School
SPECTRUM
80 Skillings Rd.
Winchester, MA 01890
Contact: Alexandra Bennett
781.721.7020

Worcester North High School
Gay/Straight Alliance
150 Harrington Way
Worcester, MA 01604
Contact: Margarita Delgado
508.799.3373

Private School Groups - Massachusetts

- B -

**Beacon High School
Diversity Committee**
74 Green Street
Brookline, MA 02445
Contact: Pat Mattina, Gilbert White
617.232.1958

**Buckingham, Browne and Nichols
School
Diversity Committee**
Gerry's Landing Road
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Lewis Bryant, Morgan Mead
617.547.6100

- C -

**The Cambridge School of Weston
Gay/Straight Alliance**
Georgian Road
Weston, MA 02493
Contact: Marci Cohen
781.642.8600

**Commonwealth School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
151 Commonwealth Ave.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Jean Segaloff
617.266.7525

**Concord Academy
Gay/Straight Alliance**
166 Main Street
Concord, MA 01742
Contact: Ms. Cynthia Katz
978.369.6080

- D -

**Dana Hall School
BRIDGE**
45 Dana Road
Wellesley, MA 02482
Contact:
Julie Sheldon 781.235.3010 x 3176
Liz Gray x 2186
Jacqueline Bloomberg x 3151

**Deerfield Academy
Get Rid Of Homophobia (GROH)**
Deerfield, MA 01342
Contact:
Nicole Hager 413.774.1400
Joel Thomas-Adams 413.774.1889

- M -

**Milton Academy
GASP!**
170 Centre Street
Milton, MA 02186
Contact: Bob Cornigans
617.898.2400

- N -

**Noble and Greenough School
LeSGaB**
10 Campus Dr.- Nobles
Dedham, MA 02026
Contact: Reggie Sellars
781.320.9523
781.326.3700 x 222

**Northfield Mount Hermon School
HBH Society**
206 Main Street
Northfield, MA 01360-1089
Contact: Naomi Levine
413.498.3227

- P -

**Phillips Academy
Gay/Straight Alliance**
180 Main St.
Andover, MA 01810
Contact: Susan R. Perry
978.749.4252

**The Winsor School
Gay, Bi, Straight Alliance**
Pilgrim Road
Boston, MA 02215
Contact:
Janet Youngholm 617.912.1308
Nancy Bilodeau 617.912.1331

- S -

**Saint John's Prep.
Justice Alliance**
10 Sylvan Street
Danvers, MA 01923
Contact: David A. Mills
978.777.1710

- T -

**Thayer Academy
ALLIES**
745 Washington Street
Braintree, MA 02184
Contact: Karen Jodoin
781.843.3580 x 367

- W -

**Walnut Hill School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
12 Highland St.
Natick, MA 01760
Contact: Louise Gilpin
508.650.5054

**The Williston Northampton School
Gay/Straight Alliance**
19 Payson Avenue
Easthampton, MA 01027
Contact:
Stan Samuelson 413.529.4189
Alison Marsland 413.529-3282

Community Based Youth Groups

Massachusetts

A centralized clearinghouse of information, including phone numbers, has been established for the network of community based youth support groups throughout Massachusetts. Contact:

The G/L/B/T/ Youth Group Network of MA 1.877.GAY.TEEN (toll free).

Info about the network is also available through BAGLY (see listing below).

A Slice of Rice

A Support Group for GLBT Asian, Asian-American, and Pacific Islander Youth

Contact:

Leah Eckelberger

c/o Boston GLASS

93 Massachusetts Ave.

Boston, MA 02115

617.868.2213

Group meets Mondays 7:00-8:00PM

At Boston GLASS, 93 Mass. Ave.,

3rd floor, Boston.

E-mail: asliceorice@usa.net

Boston Alliance of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Youth (BAGLY), Inc.

PO Box 814

Boston, MA 02103

Contact:

Grace Sterling-Stowell, Executive Director

Katrina Avila, Program Director

Jim Sullivan, Office Manager

1.800.42.BAGLY, 617.227.4313

TTY: 617.983.9845

E-mail: bagly@bagly.org

Web site: www.bagly.org

BAGLY meets Wednesdays 6-9PM and

Sundays 2-5PM at

St. John the Evangelist Church

35 Bowdoin St., Boston

Boston Gay and Lesbian Adolescent Social Services (Boston GLASS)

93 Massachusetts Avenue, 3rd Floor

Boston, MA 02115

Contact: Patrick Truman 617.266.3349

TTY: 617.375.5779

E-mail: glass@jri.org

Hours: Mon., Tues. and Thurs.: 3-8PM;

Wed.: 4-8PM; Fri.: 3-7PM; Sat.: 1-5PM

Boston Outreach Program

Drop-in ctr.: Mon., Wed., and Fri., 7-10PM

At the Arlington Street Church,

351 Boylston St., Boston.

For info: Nancy Asch c/o JRI Health

617.457.8150 x 309

Building Bridges

c/o PYCO

186 South Main St.

Fall River, MA 02721

Contact: Carlos Pavao

508.324.0321 #3

508.679.0962

Meets every Wednesday 6:30 – 8:30PM

Call for further info.

Cape and Islands Gay and Straight Youth Alliance

CIGYA (pronounced “see ya”)

PO Box 805 Y

Monument Beach, MA 02553-0805

508.743.9957; 1.877.GAY.PRIDE (toll free)

E-mail: gayyouth@capecod.net

Meets: Wed. 7-8:30PM

At Barnstable Teen Center, 135 South St.,

Hyannis

Framingham Regional Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (FRAGLY)

PO Box 426
Framingham, MA 01704
Contact: Becky Kent
508.655.7183
Meets every Tuesday 6:30-8PM
Call for location.

Gay, Lesbian and Straight Society (GLASS)

c/o FCAC Youth Programs
393 Main Street
Greenfield, MA 01301
Contact: Becky Lockwood
413.774.7028

The Glub Club

PO Box 3354
Pittsfield, MA 01201
Contact: Cathy Roth, Karla Kavanaugh
413.528.0956; 413.443.7903
Meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month from 7-9PM at:
Unitarian Universalist Church
175 Wendell Avenue,
Pittsfield, MA 01201

Lowell Teen Coalition

585 Merrimack St.
Lowell, MA 01854
Contact: Denise O'Connor,
Bophamony Vong 978.937.6045 x262

Metro Southeast Youth Alliance MSEYA/BRAGLY)

792 No. Main St.
Brockton, MA 02301
Contact: Heather M. DiMarino
508.559.1174; 1.888.240.SSAP

Milford Area Gay and Lesbian Youth (MAAGLY)

c/o Rev. Robin Gray
Milford Unitarian Universalist Church
PO Box 425
Milford MA 01757
508.473.3589

North Shore Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (NAGLY)

c/o MA Prevention Center
27 Congress Street
Salem, MA 01970
Contact: Bill Farrick
978.740.1536
Meets every Tuesday at 7:00PM
At First Universalist Society of Salem,
211 Bridge Street, Salem

Oasis at Lawrence Teen Coalition Gay/Straight Youth Support Group

191 Essex St.
Lawrence, MA 01840
978.681.4978

Out Now-Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Youth Group of Greater Springfield

c/o Ericka Tucker
PO Box 833
Northampton, MA 01060
Contact: Ericka Tucker, Holly Richardson
413.739.4342
E-mail: glbt@javanet.com

Project 10 East, Inc.

c/o Old Cambridge Baptist Church
1145 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Christine Markowski
617.864.GLBT
E-mail: Project10E@aol.com

Queer Teens

PO Box 3301
Amherst, MA 01004
Contact: KJ Nichols
413.586.0633 x 162

ROCA, Inc.

101 Park St.
Chelsea, MA 02150
Contact: Caroline Hopkins
617.889.5210

South Shore Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (SSHAGLY)
c/o First Parish Church
24 River St.
Norwell, MA 02061
Contact: Michael Kozuch, Susan Saltzburg
1.888.SSHAGLY
E-mail: sshagly@aol.com

SouthCoast Diversity Alliance
PO Box 7265
New Bedford, MA 02742-7265
Contact: Mary Bettley
508.979.1234

Supporters of Worcester Area Gay and Lesbian Youth (SWAGLY)
PO Box 804
Worcester, MA 01613-0804
Contact: Jim Leatherman
508.755.0005
Meets: Wednesdays, 6-8PM

Connecticut

Central Connecticut Youth Group
A Middletown, CT youth support group
Contact: Paul
860.347.9514

Lifestyles United
c/o Bridgeport Health Dept.
752 East Main St.
Bridgeport, CT 06608
Contact: Ryan Melvin
203.576.7679

OUTSPOKEN-Gay Youth Support Group
Triangle Community Center
PO Box 4062, 25 Vanzant Street
East Norwalk, CT 06855
Contact:
Dan Woog 203.227.1755
Meets: Sundays 4-6PM, Ages 16-22

Project One in Ten
New London, CT
860.439.2363

Your Turf
c/o Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health
Collective
1841 Broad Street
Hartford, CT 06114
860.278.4163
Group meets Fridays at 7:30PM
Call for location

Maine

Downeast Outright
PO Box 5114
Ellsworth, ME 04605
Contact: Judy
207.664.2527

Mid Coast OUTRIGHT
PO Box 851
Brunswick, ME 04011
207.798.4586

OUTRIGHT
PO Box 5077
Portland, ME 04101
Contact: Cathy Kidman, Jeff L'Heureux
207.828.6560
1-888.567.7600 (Maine only-help line)

OUTRIGHT-Bangor
PO Box 2038
Bangor, ME 04402
Contact: Shawn Box 207.990.2095
1-800-429-1481 Toll free (Maine only)

OUTRIGHT-Lewiston/Auburn
PO Box 7738
Lewiston, ME 04243-7738
Contact: Nancy Bullett
207.786.2717

OUTRIGHT
PO Box 956
Belfast, ME 04915
Contact: Paul O'Berst
207.338.1427
(Sponsor: Waldo-Knox AIDS Coalition)

New Hampshire

Concord OUTRIGHT, Inc.

c/o Knox Turner Associates
PO Box 172
Northwood, NH 03261-0172
Contact: Knox Turner
603.463.5608
E-mail: Coutright@aol.com

Manchester OUTRIGHT

c/o Sonja Jasinski
816 Elm St. #344
Manchester, NH 03101
603-645-5274
Meets: Tues. 7-9PM at
Unitarian Church
Union St., Manchester

Monadnock OUTRIGHT

Gay and Straight Youth Alliance
For ages 14 to 21,
c/o Gordon Sherman
731 Bennington Road
Francestown, NH 03043
Contact: Gordon Sherman
603.547.2545
Meets in confidentiality every Thurs. 7-9PM
at The Place to Go,
46 Concord Street, Peterborough

Nashua OUTRIGHT

443 Amherst Street, Ste 220
Nashua, NH 03060
Contact: Gypsy Griska, Steve Kenson
603.889.8210
E-mail: outright@aol.com
Meets Mondays, 7-9PM at
Unitarian Universalist Church,
Canal and Lowell Streets

Seacoast OUTRIGHT

206 Court Street, PO Box 842
Portsmouth, NH 03802
Contact: Carina Self or Executive Director
603.431.1013
1.800.639.6095 (NH&VT-crisis line)

Rhode Island

Youth Pride, Inc.

134 George M. Cohan Blvd.
Providence, RI 02903
Contact:
Liz Salomon, Michelle Duso
401.421.5626
Offers opportunities for youth to
participate in peer educator programs;
provides individual and family counseling,
crisis intervention, and advocacy.
Drop in: Mon.-Fri. 12noon-8PM
Support group: Mon. 4-6PM
Movie night: Wed. 5-8PM
Activity day: Fri. 4-6PM

Vermont

G-LEARN (Gay, Lesbian Education and Resource Network)

PO Box 113
Norwich, VT 05055
802.296.3858

OUTRIGHT Vermont

PO Box 5235
Burlington, VT 05402-5235
802.865.9677
1.800.GLB.CHAT (VT only-help line)

Youth Aware of Addison County

PO Box 646
Middlebury, VT 05753
1.800.452.2428 (VT only)
Meets first Tuesday, second Friday and
fourth Saturday of every month. Call for
more info.

Parent Groups/ PFLAG

(Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)

Massachusetts

ALEINU (pronounced "A-LAY-NEW")

A support, educational and advocacy group
for parents, families and friends of GLBT
Jews.

c/o Temple Israel

Longwood Ave. and Plymouth St.

Boston, MA 02215

Contact: 617.527.2830

E-mail: Tisrael@shore.net

Catholic Parents Network

Affirming support for parents of GLBT
people, addressing Catholic issues.

6 Edward St.

Canton, MA 02021

Contact: Jeanne 781.828.7259

Meets first Tuesday of the month, 7:30PM,
Immaculate Conception Rectory. Call for
further information.

PFLAG Amherst

78 Crooked Ledge Rd.

Southampton, MA 01073

Contact: 413.529.2330

Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7PM,
Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall,
Spring Street Amherst.

PFLAG Arlington

PO Box 440004

West Somerville, MA 02144

INFO/HELPLINES: 617.547.2440,

978.579.9769, 781.749.7730

Meets second Tuesday of every month,
7:15PM, First Parish Church,
630 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington Center.

PFLAG Boston

12 Marmion St.

Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

INFO/HELPLINES: 617.547.2440;

978.579.9769; 781.749.7730

Meets fourth Monday of every month,
6:30PM, Fenway Community Health Center,
7 Haviland St., Room 201A, Boston.

PFLAG Brewster/Cape Cod

PO Box 1167

Orleans, MA 02653-1167

Contact: 508.240.2737

Meets third Monday of every month, 7PM,
First Parish Brewster Church, Main Street
(Rte. 6A), Brewster.

PFLAG Concord

PO Box 344

Stow, MA 01775

Contact: 978.579.9769

Meets third Sunday of every month, 6:30PM,
Trinitarian Congregational Church, 54
Walden St. Concord, MA

PFLAG/ Easton

PO Box 187
Stoughton, MA 02072
Contact: 781.238.6373
Meets fourth Monday of every month,
(except holidays, then 3rd Monday),
7:30PM, Unity Church, 9 Main Street,
North Easton.

PFLAG Falmouth/Cape Cod

66 Joyce St.
East Falmouth, MA 02536-6809
Contact: 508.548.1038
Meets the last Tuesday of the month,
7:30PM, Falmouth Jewish Congregation
Social Hall, 7 Hatchville Road
Falmouth.

PFLAG Fitchburg

20 School St.
Gardner, MA 01440
Contact: 978.579.9769; 978.632.5186
Meets at St. Camillus Church,
233 Mechanic St., Fitchburg.
Call for day and time.

PFLAG Framingham/Metro West

PO Box 5088
Framingham, MA 01701
Contact: 978.579.9769
Meets fourth Sunday of every month, 5PM
Grace Church, 73 Union Avenue,
Framingham.

PFLAG Hingham

PO Box 122
Hingham, MA 02043-0122
Contact: 781.847.4301
Meets first Tuesday of every month,
7:30PM, Old Ship Church,
Parish House Parlor, 107 Main Street,
Hingham.

PFLAG North Andover/Merrimack Valley

c/o 175 Richdale Ave. #414
Cambridge, MA 02130
Contact: 978.579.9769
Meets third Tuesday of every month,
7:30PM, North Parish Church,
190 Academy Road, N. Andover.

PFLAG Springfield

PO Box 625
W. Springfield, MA 01089
Contact: 413.789.4330
Meets second and last Wednesday of every
month, Faith United Church, Sumner Avenue
Springfield.

PFLAG Williamstown/Berkshire

29 Stringer Avenue
Lee, MA 01238-9402
Contact: 413.243.2382, 802.447.0176
Meets second Sunday of every month, 2PM,
First Congregational Church, Main Street,
Williamstown.

PFLAG Worcester

PO Box 413
North Grafton, MA 01536
Contact: 508.839.5585
Meets second Wednesday of every month,
7:30PM, United Congregational Church,
6 Institute Road, Worcester.

Rhode Island

PFLAG Greater Providence

c/o 500 Angell St. #212
Providence, RI 02906
Contact: 401.751.7571
Meets fourth Sunday of every month,
3-5PM. Call for location.

PFLAG Tiverton/East Bay

No public mailing address.
Contact: 401.624.6944
Meets monthly, call for info.

Teacher Groups

**American Federation of Teachers
National Gay and Lesbian Caucus**
c/o Stephen Severance
1495 Midway Parkway
St. Paul, MN 55108
Contact: 612.645.2173

Cambridge Lavender Alliance
Parents, Teachers, and Allies
Contact: 617.354.8306

**GLSTAQ-Gay, Lesbian and Straight
Teachers Alliance of Quincy**
c/o Ed Grogan
Atlantic Middle School
86 Hollis Avenue
Quincy, MA 02170
Contact: Ed Grogan
617.472.3716, 617.984.8727

GLSEN/Boston
132 Boylston St. 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: 617.451.1119
E-mail: glsenboston@glsenboston.org
WWW: GLSEN.org

GLSEN/ National Headquarters
121 West 27th St. Suite 804
New York, NY 10001
Contact: 212.727.0135
FAX: 212.727.0254
E-mail: GLSEN@glsen.org

**Massachusetts Teachers
Association (MTA)**
Committee on Lesbian and Gay
Employment and Civil Rights
20 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108-2795
Contact: Al Ferreira
617.349.6486

**Vermont Education Assn.
G/L/B Educators and Their Allies**
c/o Nancy Clifford
510 Gage Street
Bennington VT 05201
Contact: 802.442.2452

Part III: College Organizations

Massachusetts

-A-

American International College
1000 State St.
Springfield, MA 01109
Contact: Dean Weaver, Psychology and
Education Department
413.737.7000

Amherst College
Queer/Straight Alliance
Amherst College Campus Center
Box 1808
Amherst, MA 01002
Contact: Richard Alama
413.542.5773 (Student activities)

Andover Newton Theological School
Gays and Lesbians at Andover
Newton Theological School
(GLANTS)
210 Herrick Road
Newton Centre, MA 02459-2243
Contact: Tony Green 617.964.1100
(Ask for Dean of Students office)

Anna Maria College
Sunset Lane
Paxton, MA 01612
Contact:
Sandra Stern 508.849.3300
E-mail: sstern@anna-maria.edu

Assumption College
A.C. ALLIES
PO Box 1179 - Assumption College
500 Salisbury St.
Worcester, MA 01615
Contact: Jim Tredeau 508.767.8170

- B -

Babson College
GLB & Straight Alliance
c/o Health Services
Babson Park
Wellesley, MA 02457
Contact: 781.239.4979
781.235.1200 (main #)
E-mail: glbsa@babson.edu

Bay State College
122 Commonwealth Ave.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Counseling Office
Rose DeLuca, Jamie Butterweck
617.450.8334

Becker College
61 Sever St.
Worcester, MA 01615-0071
Contact: Diana Comer
508.791.9241 x 370
E-mail: comer@go.becker.edu

Bentley College
Gay and Lesbian Alliance
Office of Student Admin. Services
& Equal Opportunity
LaCava 170B
175 Forest Street
Waltham, MA 02452-4705
Contact: 781.891.BGLA
Paul Angkachatchai 781.891.2329
Nancy Stanco 781.891.1598
E-mail: nanc@bentley.edu

Berklee College of Music
BGLAM
c/o Student Activities – Box 82
1140 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02115
Contact: Bryan George 617.747.2096
Lucy Holstedt, College Diversity Committee
617.747.8231
E-mail: lholstedt@berklee.edu

Berkshire Community College
Gay/Straight Alliance
1350 West St.
Pittsfield, MA 02101
Contact: Sharon Mack
413.499.4660 x 379

Boston College
LGB Community at Boston College
Box L-112 Boston College
140 Commonwealth Avenue
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
Contact: Danielle Murray
617.655.5672; 617.552.2979

Boston University
Spectrum
George Sherman Student Union
775 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
Contact: Nathan Sherman
617.353.9808
E-mail: spectrum@bu.edu

Boston University School of Law
Outlaw
765 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
Contact: Prof. Robert Volk, faculty advisor
617.353.3156

Bradford College
G.L.B.T. Association
320 South Main Street
Bradford, MA 01835
Contact: Luis Rodrigues, Peggy Walsh
978.372.7161
Jason Frederickson 978.469.1650
Sean Nickerson 978.469.1649

Brandeis University
Triskelion
c/o Student Senate
PO Box 9110
Waltham, MA 02454-9110
Contact: Daniela Freda
781.736.4761

Bridgewater State College
Gay and Lesbian Alliance (AWARE)
Office of Residential Life
131 Summer St.
Bridgewater, MA 02324
Contact: Lisa Evaneski
508.697.1200

Bristol Community College
Pride
777 Elsbree Street
Fall River, MA 02720
Contact: Ellen Olmstead
508.678.2811 x 2392

Bunker Hill Community College
GLBT Union
c/o Student Activities
250 New Rutherford Avenue
Charlestown, MA 02129-2991
Contact: John Reeves
617.228.2000 x 3272

- C -

Cape Cod Community College
Gay, Bisexual, Lesbian, Straight Alliance at CCCC
2240 Iyanough Road
West Barnstable, MA 02668-1599
Contact: John French
508.362.2131 x 4320

Clark University
Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay Alliance (BILAGA)
Box B-5; 950 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01610-1477
Contact: James Raby, Advisor
508.793.7309

Curry College

EGAL

c/o Student Activities
1071 Blue Hill Avenue
Milton, MA 02186
Contact:
Heidi Cox 617.333.2252

-D-

Dean College

GLBSA

99 Main Street
Franklin, MA 02038
Contact: Francesca Purcell, advisor
508.541.1558

- E -

Elms College

291 Springfield St.
Chicopee MA 01013
Contact: Ann Harrison
413.594.2761 x 418
E-mail: harrison@javanet.com

Emerson College

**Emerson Alliance for Gays, Lesbians and
Everyone (EAGLE)**

100 Beacon Street
Boston MA 02116
Contact: Curtis Hoover
617.824.8087

Endicott College

Health Services
376 Hale St.
Beverly, MA 01915
Contact: Lorraine Ellis
978.232.2104

- F -

Fitchburg State College

One in Ten and Friends

160 Pearl St.-Box 6688
Fitchburg, MA 01420
Contact: Christine Corsello
978.665.3298
E-mail: ccorsello@fsc.edu
Lisa DuBose, Assoc. Dir., Student Activities
978.362.2131 x 4320

Framingham State College

G/L Support Group

Counseling Center
100 State Street, 517 College Center
Framingham, MA 01701-9101
Contact: Paul Welch
508.626.4640

Framingham State College

Ten Percent Alliance and Allies

100 State St., 509 College Center
PO Box 9101
Framingham, MA 01701-9101
Contact: Julie Bell-Elkins
508.626.4693
E-mail: jeboston@yahoo.com
<http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/village/6613>

- G -

Greenfield Community College

PRIDE

1 College Drive
Greenfield, MA 01301
Contact:
John Murphy 413.774.3131 x214

- H -

Hampshire College

Rainbow Collective

c/o Student Affairs
PO Box 5001
Amherst, MA 01002-5001
Contact: Yanina Vargas
413.559.4960

Harvard BGLTSA and Resource Center
PO Box 380232
Cambridge, MA 02238
617.495.1193
E-mail: queer@hcs.harvard.edu

**Harvard Business School
Gay and Lesbian Students
Association**
2435 HBS Student Mail Center
Boston, MA 02163

**Harvard Divinity School GABLES
(Caucus for Gay, Bisexual and
Lesbian Students)**
c/o Sarah Duncan
45 Francis Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Sarah Duncan
617.489.4495

**Harvard Gay and Lesbian Caucus
Alumni, Faculty and Staff**
PO Box 381809
Cambridge, MA 02238
Contact: Robert Mack
617.441.9498
chair@hgcl.org
<http://www.hgcl.org/hgcl/>

**The Harvard Gay and Lesbian
Review**
PO Box 180300
Boston, MA 02118
Contact: Richard Schneider
617.421.0082
hglr@aol.com

**Harvard Law School
Lambda**
23 Everett St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
617.495.4087

**Harvard PRIDE Group (Promoting
Respect, Inclusion and Diversity in
Education)**
Alliance of G/L Students on Campus
c/o Beth Anderson
48 Putnam St. #2
Somerville, MA 02143
617.666.5332
E-mail: bethanderson@gse.harvard.edu

**Harvard Queer Student Leadership
Network**
Contact: Kara Lewis
E-mail:
klewis@mothership.harvard.edu hds.harvard.edu

**Harvard University L/B/G/ Graduate
Students**
E-mail: lbggs@hcs.harvard.edu

**Harvard University,
The Open Gate Foundation**
A Fund for Gay and Lesbian Life at Harvard
University
One Corliss Place
Cambridge, MA 02139
Contact: Professor Warren Goldfarb
goldfarb@fas.harvard.edu

**College of the Holy Cross
ABIGAYLE (g/l/b student group)**
PO Box 1617, Holy Cross
Worcester, MA 01610
Contact: Malcom McCluskey, J. Grant
508.767.4188 or 508.767.4298

**College of the Holy Cross
ALLIES**
PO Box 934, Holy Cross
Worcester, MA 01060
Contact: Jaime Grande
508.767.4005

**College of the Holy Cross
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Student
Support Group**
PO Box 16A, Holy Cross
Worcester, MA 01610
Contact: Marybeth Kearns-Barrett
508.793.2618

Holyoke Community College
Lambda Center, Rm. G309
303 Homestead Ave.
Holyoke, MA 01040
Contact:
Tom Stewart 413.552.2418
Lambda Center 413.552.2237

Holyoke Community College
BGLAD
Homestead Ave.
Holyoke, MA 01040
Contact:
Carol Potter 413.552.2369
Carol Ann Smalley 413.552.2317

Holyoke Community College
c/o Ann Scott
34 Vernon St.
Northampton, MA 01060

- L -

Lasell College
Center for Public Service
1844 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton MA 02466
Contact: Kerri Heffernan
617.243.2156

Lesley College
Gay/Straight Bisexual Alliance
23 Mellen Street, Second Floor
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Stephan Cohen
617.349.8151
E-mail: slcohen@lesley.edu

- M -

Marian Court College
35 Little's Point Rd.
Swampscott, MA 01907-2896
Contact: Helen Powers
781.595.6768

Mass Bay Community College
Student Services
50 Oakland Street
Wellesley, MA 02482
617.237.1100

Massachusetts College of Art
ALLIANCE
621 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115
Contact: 617.232.1555
Kelly Fitzpatrick, student trustee x 389
Student activities x 369

Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies
Making a Difference (BGLAD)
375 Church St.
North Adams, MA 01247
Contact: Peg Cookson, Tony Chalmers,
Lucy Pavalock
413.662.5680/5240
E-mail: pcookson@mcla.mass.edu

Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals,
Transgenders and Friends at MIT
(GAMIT)
MIT 50-306
142 Memorial Drive
Cambridge, MA 02139
617.253.6777 (residence life)

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
W20-549- 77 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02139
Contact: Carol Orme-Johnson
617.258.8423
E-mail: carolorm@mit.edu

Massasoit Community College
Alliance of Gay, Lesbian and Straight
Students at Massasoit
One Massasoit Blvd.
Brockton, MA 02302
Contact: Ed LeMay, Theresa Fresina,
Jeremy Mahoney
508.588.9100 x 1679
Joyce MacLaughlin x 1306
617.727.1740
E-mail: mccgsa@aol.com
<http://members.aol.com/mccgsa/prof/index.htm>

Merrimack College
315 Turnpike Rd.
No. Andover, MA 01845
Contact:
Mary-Ellen Colliton 978.837.5438
Dan Graney 978.837.5630
Chris Batty 978.837.5000 x 4539

Middlesex Community College
PRIDE (Gay and Lesbian Alliance)
Counseling Dept. Bldg.#9
591 Springs Road
Bedford, MA 01730
Contact:
Lynn Gregory 781.280.3763
E-mail: gregoryl@middlesex.cc.mass.us
Patrick Roache 781.280.3813
E-mail: roachep@middlesex.cc.mass.us

Montserrat College of Art
22 Essex St. Box 26
Beverly, MA 01915
Contact: Julie Loring, Director of Student
Services - 978.922.8222

Mount Holyoke College
Lesbian Bisexual Transgender Alliance
c/o Blanchard Campus Center, Rm. 118
South Hadley, MA 01075
Contact: Charleen Elvers
413.538.2478
E-mail: celvers@mhc.mtholyoke.edu
Laura Khoudari
E-mail: lgkhouda@mtholyoke.edu

Mount Holyoke College
Spectrum
c/o Blanchard Campus Center, Rm. 118
South Hadley, MA 01075
Contact: Radley Emes
E-mail: vremes@mtholyoke.edu

Mount Holyoke College – SYSTA
(Network for LBQ Women of Color)
c/o Blanchard Campus Center
South Hadley, MA 01075
Contact: Sandra Aguirre
E-mail: saguirre@mtholyoke.edu

Mount Ida College
Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance
(BIGALA)
Counseling Center
777 Dedham Street
Newton, MA 02459
Contact: Josie Greene
617.928.4599

Mt. Wachusett Community College
LGBSA
444 Green Street
Gardner, MA 01440
Contact: Heather O. Beam
978.632.6600 x 120

- N -

New England Conservatory of Music
BGLAM
290 Huntington Ave.
Boston, MA 02115
Contact: Jim Klein 617.585.1310

North Shore Community College
BGLAD
1 Ferncroft Road
Danvers, MA 01923
Contact: Lisa Milso
978.762.4000 x 2164

**Northeastern University
Bisexual, Lesbian and Gay
Association (NUBILAGA)**
Curry Student Center, Rm. 240
360 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
Contact: Austin Cornelius, Mark Erickson
617.373.2738

**Northeastern University School of
Law
Lesbian and Gay Caucus**
400 Huntington Avenue
Boston, MA 02115
617.373.5147

**Northern Essex Community College
Gay/Straight Alliance**
100 Elliott Way
Haverhill, MA 01830
Contact:
Pricilla Bellairs 978.556.3385
Frank DeSarro, Faculty Advisor
978.556.3408/3614

Northern Essex Community College
45 Franklin St.
Lawrence, MA 01840
Contact:
Kelly Sullivan 978.738.7403
E-mail: ksullivan@necc.mass.edu
Elizabeth Coyne 978.556.3790
E-mail: ecoyne@necc.mass.edu

- Q -

**Quinsigamond Community College
Gay Straight Alliance**
670 West Boylston St.
Worcester MA 01606
Contact: 508.853.2300

- R -

**Regis College
GLBT group**
235 Wellesley St.
Weston, MA 02493
Contact:
Sr. Carmella Abruzzo 781.768.7423
Sarahi Almonti 781.768.8077

Roxbury Community College
Academic Bldg. Rm. 431
1234 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02120
Contact: Sterling Giles
617.427.0060 x 5125

- S -

**Salem State College
The Alliance**
352 Lafayette Street
Salem, MA 01970
Contact: Greg Clement
978.542.6436

**Simmons College
Lesbians, Bisexuals and Allies
Association**
300 The Fenway
Boston MA 02115
Contact: Diane Raymond, Philosophy Dept.
617.521.2212

**Smith College
Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Alliance**
Clark House-SGA Office
Elm Street
Northampton, MA 01063
Contact: Meg Chilton
413.585.4607
LBTA 413.585.4907

**Springfield College
GSA and GLBA**
263 Alden St.
Springfield, MA 01109
Contact: Allen Noble
413.748.3118; 413.748.3750

**Springfield Technical Community College
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Alliance**
One Armory Square, PO Box 9000
Springfield, MA 01105
Contact: Kent Goodchild
413.781.7822 x 3884
E-mail: goodchild@stccadm.stcc.mass.edu

Stonehill College
Gay Student Alliance
320 Washington Street
North Easton, MA 02357
Contact: Mr. Alex Gallagher
508.565.1163

Suffolk University
Rainbow Alliance
41 Temple St.
Boston, MA 02114
Contact: Marcie Butler
617.573.8039

Suffolk University Law School
Unite
Caucus for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual
Students and their allies
41 Temple St.
Boston, MA 02114
Contact: Student Bar Assn.
617.573.8174

- T -

Tufts University
LGB Resource Center
North Basement
Carmichael Hall
Medford, MA 02155
Contact:
Judith Brown 617.627.3770
E-mail: jbrown@emerald.tufts.edu

Tufts University
Transgender, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual
Collective (TTLGBC)
c/o Student Activities
Campus Center
Medford, MA 02155
Contact: Carl Sciortino, Elizabeth Garcia,
James Railey
617.627.3770

- U -

University of Massachusetts/Amherst
Pride Alliance (G/L/B/T and straight allies
student organization)
413-B Student Union
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003
413.545.0154

University of Massachusetts/Amherst
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Graduate
Student Organization (GLBGSO)
c/o Graduate Student Senate
919 Campus Center
Amherst, MA 01003
Contact: Ignacio Campillo
E-mail: campillo@larp.umass.edu

University of Massachusetts/Amherst
Stonewall Center-Crampton House/SW
Amherst, MA 01003
Contact: Felice Yeskel
413.545.4824
E-mail: stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

University of Massachusetts/Boston
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Center
c/o Student Life
W-4-125
100 Morrissey Blvd.
Dorchester, MA 02125-3393
Contact:
Leila Kohler 617.287.7983
Justin S. Pratt 617.287.7950

University of Massachusetts/
Dartmouth
Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Alliance
(BiGaLa)
Room 237, Campus Center
North Dartmouth, MA 02747
Contact:
Robert Greer 508.999.8163
Penn Reeve, Sociology Dept.
508.999.8400
E-mail: preeve@umassd.edu
Steve Velanger 508.999.8659

**University of Massachusetts/Lowell
Bisexual Gay and Lesbian Alliance
(BI-GALA) /SPECTRUM**

Student Info Center South

PO Box 34 (S)

71 Wilder St.

Lowell, MA 01854

Contact: Rhoda Trietsch, Counseling Center

978.934.4331, 617.727.9820 x 4331

Tony Puopolo

E-mail: puopoloa@woods.uml.edu

- W -

Wellesley College

Lesbians, Bisexuals and Friends

106 Central Street- 441 Green Hall

Wellesley, MA 02481

Contact:

Katya Salkever, Director of Programs and
Services for L/B Students

781.283.2389

E-mail: ksalkever@wellesley.edu

Amy Huang 781.283.3676

E-mail: ahuang@wellesley.edu

**Wentworth Institute of Technology
GSAW**

600 Huntington Ave.

Boston, MA 02115

Contact: Michael Thelan

617.989.4080 (student activities)

Westfield State College

Gay Student Alliance

Western Avenue

Westfield, MA 01086

Contact: Brian Cahillane

413.572.5790

Wheaton College

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and
Transgender Alliance**

Box W0973 Wheaton College

East Main St.

Norton, MA 02766

Contact:

Elizabeth Funk 508.286.4812

Laura Hudecki 508.286.4672

Wheelock College

Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Group

55 Pilgrim Road

Boston, MA 02215

Contact: Carolyn Carey, Director of

Student Activities 617.734.5200 x 2301

Williams College

**Bisexual, Gay, Lesbian and Transgender
Union**

SU Box 3209

Williamstown, MA 01267

413.597.3131 x 2413

Worcester Polytechnical Institute

Gay and Lesbian Alliance

100 Institute Road

Worcester, MA 01609

Contact: Mary Cox, Dept. of Healthy

Alternatives 508.831.5291

Worcester State College

Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Alliance

486 Chandler Street

Worcester, MA 01602

Contact: Ruth Haber

508.929.8706

E-mail: rhaber@worc.mass.edu

Laurie Drazek 508.929.8124

Hotlines and Help Lines for Youth

AIDS Action Committee
1.800.235.2331

AIDS Action YO Line
Youth Only AIDS info/hotline
1.800.788.1234 Mon-Fri: 3PM-9PM

AIDS Project Hartford (CT)
24 hr. helpline 860.247.AIDS

AIDS Project Rhode Island
1.800.726.3010 (English/Spanish)

AIDS Response Seacoast
1.800.375.1144 (NH & Maine only)

Centers for Disease Control
National AIDS Info. Clearinghouse
1.800.458.5231

CONNECTICUT INFOLINE
Referrals 24hrs. 1.800.203.1234 (toll free CT only)

CWEALF (Connecticut Women's Education and Legal Fund)
Advice, information and referrals
860.524.0601 Mon.-Fri. 9AM-1PM

DSS-Child at Risk Hotline
Child abuse or neglect
1.800.792.5200 (24 hours)

DSS-Teen Peer Line(MA only)
Statewide helpline staffed by teens and adults;
help, info, resources for Massachusetts teens
1.800.238.7868 Tues/Wed/Thurs: 5PM-8PM

Elizabeth Freeman Center
Rape crisis/domestic violence hotline:
413.443.0089-Western MA

Fenway Community Health Center
Gay and Lesbian Hotline
617.267.9001, 1.888.340.GLBT

Fenway Community Health Center
Peer Listening Line (Youth Only)
617.267.2535 voice or TTY
1.800.399.PEER (4PM-10PM:Mon-Fri)

Gay and Lesbian Helpline
PO Box 5671, Weybosset Hill Sta.
Providence, RI 02903
401.751.3322 Mon,Wed,Fri:7PM-10PM

Gay and Lesbian Youth Teen Line
1.800.639.6095 (VT and NH only)

HES/Project Rap
Crisis Intervention Hotline and Drop-in Center
131 Rantoul St, Beverly, MA 01915
978.922.0000 Mon-Thurs:12-8PM, Fri:12-5PM

Mayor's Youth Line - (Boston)
617.635.2240 3PM-11PM

Nat'l HIV/AIDS Info Svc. Hotline
US Dept of Health and Human Svcs.
1.800.342.AIDS 24hrs/daily
1.800.344.7432 8AM-2AM, (Spanish)
1.888.243.7889 (TTY) 10AM-10PM Mon-Fri

National Runaway Switchboard
1.800.621.4000

National Sexually Transmitted Diseases Hotline:
1.800.227.8922

New Hampshire AIDS Foundation
1.800.639.1122

New Hope Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Hotline 1.800.323.HOPE

OUTRIGHT (Maine only)
1.888.567.7600

OUTRIGHT (Vermont only)
1.800.GLB.CHAT

Samaritans/Boston: SAMARITEENS:
617.247.8050/1.800.252.8336 (MA)
hotline staffed by teenagers:2PM-11PM;
other hours by adults

Samaritans/Framingham: Teen Line
1.888.217.TEEN

Samaritans/Merrimac Valley
Teen Line: 1.888.SOS-TEEN
Northeastern MA & Southeastern NH

Samaritans/Providence, RI
401.272.4044

Teen AIDS Line (Maine)
1.800.851.AIDS (Wed: 6PM-9PM)

Tri-City Mental Health
24Hr Crisis Line: 1.800.988.1111

Women's Protective Services
24Hr rape crisis/domestic violence Hotlines:
1.800.593.1125, 508.626.8686

Youth Organizations-General

Children From the Shadows (CFS)

A non-profit organization of youth and adults who work on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Youth issues in Connecticut and nationally. An annual conference is held the 3rd weekend in March for LGBT youth, their teachers, social service providers, family members and peers. Maintains a resource guide for LGBT Youth services in Connecticut and conducts a Youth Leadership training twice a year.

PO Box 1855
Manchester, CT 06045-1855
Robin Passariello, Director
860.649.7386

Hetrick-Martin Institute

Training and resources; counseling services; after school drop-in center; Project First Step; Harvey Milk H.S.
2 Astor Place
New York, NY 10003
Verna Eggleston, Executive Director
212.674.2400 voice
212.674.8695 tty
E-mail: hmi@hmi.org

National Youth Advocacy Coalition (NYAC)

Advocates with and for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Youth through the collaboration of a broad spectrum of over 100 community based and national organizations. NYAC's **Bridges Project**, originally established by the American Friends Service Committee, provides information resources, referrals and assistance to GLBT youth and their allies, addressing youth and sexual orientation issues in schools and communities, including information packets, a newsletter Crossroads, and a "safe-zone" sticker campaign.

1711 Connecticut Ave. NW,
Suite 206
Washington, DC 20009-1139
Rea Carey, Director 202.319.7596
M'Bwende Anderson,
Outreach and Education Coordinator x 14
E-mail: NYouthAC@aol.com
nyac@nyacyouth.org
www.nyacouth.org

!OutProud! The National Coalition for GLBT Youth

369 B Third St. Suite 362
San Rafael, CA 94901-3581
415.460.5452
E-mail: info@outproud.org
www.outproud.org

Out Youth, Inc.

1117 Red River
Austin, TX 78701-1912
512.708.1234
1.800.96.YOUTH-national toll free crisis
help line: 5:30 – 9:30PM daily (Central Time)
E-mail: out@outyouth.org
www.outyouth.org

Tapestry of Life, Inc.

Provides recreational opportunities and activity planning for GLBT Youth Groups, including team building workshops, outdoor adventure experiences and art programs. Also offers a July/August Camp for GLBT Youth
25 Westview Terrace
Easthampton, MA 01027
Elizabeth Brooke, Kay Willbanks, directors
413.527.6582
E-mail: TapofLife@aol.com

Massachusetts Prevention Centers

These regionally located centers offer consultation, training, technical assistance, videos and other resources on prevention issues for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, focusing on a wide range of public health topics, including disease prevention, substance abuse prevention, violence prevention services and trainings, and other resources for building healthy communities.

MA Prevention Center/The Medical Foundation/Boston

95 Berkeley St.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Susan Wilson 617.423.4337 x 202
For peer leadership trainings:
Sweet Joy Hachuela 617.423.4337 x 225
617.451.0007 TTY

MA Prevention Center/Cambridge

552 Massachusetts Ave. Suite 203
Cambridge, MA 02139
Contact: 617.441.0700
Betsy Grennan x 201
Daniel Aguilar x 203
(voice or TTY)

MA Prevention Center/Central MA

531 Main St., 2nd floor
Worcester, MA 01608
Contact: Leopoldo Negrón Cruz
508.752.8083 x17
1.800.752.8083
508.753.3115 TTY
E-mail: lnegroncruz@mpccentral.org

MA Prevention Center/Greater Western MA

10 Main St.
Florence, MA 01062
Contact: Maureen Feyre 413.584.3880 x 120
1.800.850.3880
413.586.6598 TDD

MA Prevention Center/ Lower Pioneer Valley

110 Maple St. Suite 301
Springfield, MA 01105-1857
Contact: Ellen Leahy-Pile, MPH
413.732.2009 x 3012
Ann Marie Hines
413.732.2009 x 3006
1.800.789.3070 (Western MA only)
413.732.1501 TTY

MA Prevention Center/ Merrimack Valley

101 Amesbury St. Suite 405/406
Lawrence, MA 01841
Mailing address: 34 Haverhill St.
Lawrence, MA 01841
Contact: 1.800.LIVEWELL
Rita Lara 978.688.2323 x524
978.975.7778 TTY
E-mail: ritaprev@ma.ultranet.com

MA Prevention Center/ Metro/ Southeast MA

942 West Chestnut St.
Brockton, MA 02301
Contact: Sapna Padte 508.583.2350
508.583.2847 TTY, 1.800.530.2770

MA Prevention Center/ Metro West/West

158 Union Ave.
Framingham, MA 01702
Contact: Fraelean Curtis 508.875.5419 x32
508.875.5502 TDD

MA Prevention Center/CAB Health and Recovery Svcs./North Shore

27 Congress St.
Salem, MA 01970
Contact: Bill Farrick
978.740.1536 voice/TTY
E-mail: wfarrick@hotmail.com

Prevention Resource Library/ Southeast Regional

105 William St.
New Bedford, MA 02740
(Mailing address: PO Box 2097
New Bedford MA 02741)
Contact: Kathy Lindquist
508.996.3147 x 107

Legal Organizations

**American Civil Liberties Union of
Massachusetts**

99 Chauncy St. Suite 310
Boston, MA 02111
Contact: Don Guyton
617.482.3170

**American Civil Liberties Union of
Western Massachusetts**

39 Main Street
Northampton, MA 01060
Contact: 413.586.9115

**Gay and Lesbian Advocates and
Defenders (GLAD)**

294 Washington St. Suite 740
Boston, MA 02108
Contact: Andrea Hildebran,
Public Information Director
617.426.1350
1.800.455.GLAD (toll free-New England)

**Harvard Committee on Gay and
Lesbian Legal Issues**

Pound Hall
Harvard Law School
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: 617.495.4087

JRI Health Law Institute

29 Stanhope St. 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Jeff Chatlos
617.867.7880

**Massachusetts Lesbian and Gay Bar
Association**

PO Box 9072
Boston, MA 02114
Contact: Sue Wilson
617.277.2101

Religious Organizations

Baptist

American Baptists Concerned of Massachusetts

PO Box 368
Newton Center, MA 02459
Contact: Cliff
781.444.4547

Central Baptist Church

457 Main St.
Hartford, CT 06103
Contact:
Dr. Paul Gillespie 860.522.9275

Old Cambridge Baptist Church

G/L/B Support Group
1151 Massachusetts Ave.
Cambridge, MA 02138
617.864.8068

Catholic

Catholic Parents Network

Affirming support for parents of GLBT
people, addressing Catholic issues.
c/o 6 Edward St.
Canton, MA 02021
Contact: Jeanne
781.828.7259

Dignity/Boston

PO Box 408
Boston, MA 02117-0408
617.421.1915

Dignity/Hartford

PO Box 72
Hartford, CT 06141
860.522.7334

Dignity/Maine

PO Box 8113
Portland, ME 04104-8113
207.646.2820

Dignity/New Hampshire

PO Box 7
Manchester, NH 03105-0007
603.647.0206

Dignity/New Haven

134 Washington St. #D-205
Norwalk, CT 06854
203.855.0377

Dignity/Providence

PO Box 40832
Providence, RI 02940
401.273.4297

Dignity/Provincetown

PO Box 354
Provincetown, MA 02657
Contact: Dr. Rich Rasi
617.266.2266

Dignity/USA

1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW
Suite 11
Washington, DC 20005
Contact: Sean Fucci
1.800.877.8797
E-mail: dignity@aol.com
www.dignityusa.org

Dignity/Vermont

c/o Peggy Burns, NE Reg. Dir.
3 Field Rd.
Arlington, MA 02174
781.648.6052

Jesuit Urban Center

775 Harrison Ave.
Boston, MA 02118
Contact: Sr. Jeanette Normandin
617.536.8440

The Paulist Center

Open and welcoming Catholic liturgy.
Masses: Sat. 6PM;
Sun. 10AM, 12noon, 6PM
5 Park St.
Boston, MA 02108
Contact: 617.742.4460

St. Francis Chapel and City Ministry Ctr.

(All are welcome!)
58 Weybossett St.
Providence, RI 02903
401.331.6510
G/L spiritual group:
Contact: Brother Tom Cole, OFM

Episcopal

Church of St. John the Evangelist

35 Bowdoin St.
Boston, MA 02114
617.227.5242

Emmanuel Episcopal Church

15 Newbury St.
Boston, MA 02116
617.536.3355
E-mail: emmanuel15@aol.com
www.emmanuel – boston.org

Integrity/RI

474 Fruit Hill Ave.
North Providence, RI 02911
Contact: Rev. Al Barnaby
401.353.2079

Integrity/Western MA

PO Box 5051
Springfield, MA 01101-5051
Contact: Jim
413.568.8477

St. James Episcopal Church

Contact: Rev. Al Barnaby
401.274.4109

St. Peter and St. Andrew Episcopal Church

25 Pomona Ave.
Providence, RI 02908
Contact: Rev. Jan Nunley
401.861.0441, 401.272.9649

Jewish

ALEINU

Support, education and advocacy for parents,
families and friends of GLBT Jews.
c/o Temple Israel
Longwood Ave. and Plymouth St.
Boston, MA 02215
617.527.2830
E-mail: Tisrael@shore.net

Am Tikva

PO Box 1268
Brookline, MA 02446
617.883.0893
E-mail: amtikva@world.std.com

RI/SE MA Gay /Lesbian Jewish Group

60 William St.
South Dartmouth, MA 02748
Contact: Fred
508.992.7927

Lutheran

Lutherans Concerned/Boston

66 Winthrop St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: Lori Pearson
617.876.3256

MCC

Metropolitan Community Church/Boston

PO Box 15590 Kenmore Station
Boston, MA 02215
Contact: Rev. Joan Saniuk
617.973.0404

Metropolitan Community Church/ Hartford

1841 Broad St.
Hartford, CT. 06114
Contact: 860.724.4605
E-mail: mcc.hartford@snet.net

Metropolitan Community Church/ New Haven

566 Whalley Ave. Suite 1-D
New Haven, CT 06511
Contact: Rev. Frank Beard
203.389.6750
www.mccnh.org

Morningstar Metropolitan Community Church

231 Main Street
Cherry Valley
Worcester, MA 01611
508.892.4320

Presbyterian

Christ Church/Presbyterian

400 Redstone Campus
Burlington, VT 05401
Contact:
Rev. Michael Brown,
Rev. Rebecca Strater
802.862.1898

Church of the Covenant

(A more light church)
Gay and Lesbian Support Group
67 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: 617.266.7480

Clarendon Hill Presbyterian Church

(A more light Presbyterian church)
155 Powderhouse Blvd.
Somerville, MA 02144
Contact: Rev. Patricia Kepler
617.625.4823
<http://www.tiac.net/users/chp>

Quaker

Friends for Lesbian and Gay Concerns

Beacon Hill Friends House and Meeting
6 Chestnut Street
Boston, MA 02108
Contact: 617.227.9118

Friends Meeting at Cambridge

5 Longfellow Park
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact: 617.876.6883

Unitarian-Universalist

Arlington Street Church

351 Boylston Street
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: 617.536.7050

First and Second Church in Boston

66 Marlborough St.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: 617.267.6730

First Parish Church of Duxbury - UU

PO Box 1764
Duxbury, MA 02331
Contact: Church: 781.934.6532
Fred French: 781.834.0005
Jeanne Penvenne: 617.627.5460

First Parish Church of Stow and Acton

323 Great Rd.
Stow, MA 01775
Contact: Welcoming Congregation
Committee
978.562.7225

First Parish of Needham – UU
Worship Services: 10:30Am on Sun.
23 Dedham Ave.
Needham, MA 02492
Contact: Rev. Judy Mannheim, minister
781.444.0823

First Religious Society - UU
26 Pleasant St.
Newburyport, MA 01950
Contact: Dr. Steven James
978.465.0602

First Unitarian Church
1 Benevolent Street
Providence, RI 02906
Contact: Rev. Tom Ahlborn
401.421.7970

**First Unitarian Universalist
Society of Middleboro**
24 South Main St.
Middleboro, MA 02346
Contact:
Jim Norris, Chair of Welcoming Committee
508.947.2519

**UU Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual
Concerns**
25 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
Contact: 617.742.2100 x 465/470

**Unitarian -Universalist Society of Greater
Springfield**
245 Porter Lake Dr.
Springfield, MA 01106
Contact: Minister
413.736.2324

**United Church of Christ/
Congregational**

Church of the Covenant
(An open and affirming Church)
Gay and Lesbian Support Group
67 Newbury St.
Boston, MA 02116
617.266.7480

**First Church in Cambridge
Congregational**
11 Garden St. (Harvard Sq.)
Cambridge, MA 02138
Contact:
Reverend David Grishaw-Jones, minister
617.547.2724
<http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org>

Old South Church
Lesbians and Gays and Friends at Old South
645 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02116
Contact: Jim
617.327.7736

**Plymouth Congregational,
United Church of Christ**
4 Post Office Square
PO Box 86
Plymouth, NH 03264
Contact: Reverend Judith A. Gooch, pastor
603.536.2626

United Church of Jaffrey
54 Main St.
Jaffrey, NH 03452
Contact: Pastor
603.532.7047

**Youth and Young Adult Program
of the United Church of Christ
Coalition for L/G/B/T Concerns**
(Referrals for U.C.C. support and youth
programs in New England)
1005 East 9th Ave. #102
Broomfield, CO 80020
Contact: Tim Brown
303.439.2698
E-mail: gayyouth@ecunet.org