



Fact sheet: Homeless lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth in Florida?

1) How many homeless youth in the state?

- a) There is no publicly available data on the number of youth in Florida who are homeless.
- b) There are an estimated 85,907 homeless people in Florida (adults and youth) on any given day according to a June 2006 report by the state's Department of Children and Families' Office of Homelessness. The report does not indicate what percentage of that count are homeless youth.

2) How many are LGBT?

Because there is no source of data on the number of homeless youth, it is not possible to estimate what percentage may identify as LGBT.

3) What are their public agencies city or state that deal with them?

- a) Department of Children and Families
 - i) Gov. Charles Christ has appointed Bob Butterworth as new head of this agency. Butterworth has spoken out prior to his appointment in favor of lifting the state's anti-LGBT adoption ban.

4) What has the state done to address needs of homeless LGBT youth?

- a) The state has taken no direct action to address the needs of homeless LGBT youth.
- b) All homelessness service provision in Florida is privatized through a network of continuums of care across the state. Public funds are funneled to these providers via privately managed "Lead Agencies."
- c) Florida's Office of Homelessness acknowledges that "...**there are fewer than 4 beds available for every 10 persons who are homeless.**"

5) Contact information for a Florida service provider with expertise on LGBT youth:

a) SunServe Center for Community Services and Family Development

1480 SW Ninth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL
Tel: 954.764.5557
Rev. Frank Faine
Sunshine Cathedral (houses SunServe)
Tel: 954.462.2004

b) Florida Keys Children's Shelter

Administrative Office:
73 High Point Road
Tavernier, FL 33070
Tel: 305.852.4246
Fax: 305.852.6902

Key West Satellite Office:
5503 College Road, Ste. 2085
Key West, FL 33040
Tel: 305.852.4246
Fax: 305.852.6902

6) Contact information for public agencies or key person's office:

a) **Florida Department of Children and Families**

Secretary: Robert A. Butterworth
1317 Winewood Blvd.
Building 1, Room 202
Tallahassee, FL
32399-0700
Tel: 850.487.1111
Fax: 850.922.2993
Office of Communications: 850.488.4855

b) **Office on Homelessness**

Executive Director: Tom Pierce or Bonnie Hazelton, Senior Management Analyst II
Tel.: 850.922.4691
Fax: 850.487.1361