MISSION

LYRIC’s mission is to build community and inspire positive social change through education enhancement, career training, health promotion, and leadership development with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQQ) youth, their families, and allies of all races, classes, genders, and abilities.

HOW LYRIC’S PROGRAMS ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

Founded in 1988, LYRIC is an anchor institution where vulnerable, predominantly low-income LGBTQQ youth of color collaborate with peers and adult allies to promote social justice in their communities. Combining advocacy efforts with a holistic set of services, LYRIC strives to transform the systems that marginalize LGBTQQ youth and provide them the supports they need to thrive.

PROGRAMS

LYRIC creates a network of supports for LGBTQQ youth at three levels: youth advocacy (individual level); community building (interpersonal level); and workforce development (community engagement level). In this way LYRIC provides stability and a safety net by creating education and economic development opportunities designed for disconnected LGBTQQ youth so they can move beyond merely surviving to flourishing as productive and connected young adults.

YOUTH ADVOCACY

Youth find support through a continuum of case management services that build youth’s resiliency by providing access to mental and physical health services, jobs and educational opportunities, housing and basic needs.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Youth learn to love themselves and be proud of who they are, develop their capacity to build healthy relationships and connect with a supportive community of peers and adult allies.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Youth engage in a continuum of paid, work based learning opportunities building their leadership and life-skills, many holding a job for the first time, earning their first paycheck.
LYRIC’S IMPACT

In this last year alone, LYRIC’s impact on the lives of LGBTQ youth and allies has been significant; we deeply engaged 567 youth in direct services and reached 4522 youth through our outreach efforts.

Every step of the way, youth connect with LYRIC’s Youth Leadership Pipeline—leading self, leading others, and leading in community.

**YOUTH LEADING SELF**

Youth engage in youth advocacy available on-site at LYRIC, the Castro-Mission Health Center’s Dimension Clinic, and at school sites.

**YOUTH LEADING OTHERS**

LYRIC youth develop skills and knowledge to build healthy relationships and community while participating in LYRIC community building groups, such as:

- **Queer Seeds**: for queer and trans youth between the ages of 16 to 24 to meet and use art as a medium to heal from trauma
- **Queer Zine Group**: a youth-led calendar creation project focused on self care, art, poetry to aid youth to be better organized
- **SWAG**: a leadership opportunity for youth ages 18 and older with experiences in the sex trade
- **Harm Reduction Group**: for youth with histories of substance use to focus on harm reduction and self-care strategies
- **Get Into It**: for trans and gender non-conforming youth to explore body image and plan the annual Trans March Youth and Elder Brunch

- **SexTalks**: for youth to talk about safer sex and sexual health in a sex positive space

Additionally, youth participated in LYRIC’s school-based Q Groups—leadership and healthy relationship groups for LGBTQ middle school and high school students of all genders—and a school based Young Men’s Health Group empowering high school young men to make healthy life choices. LYRIC also continued our HIV Prevention Retreats for African American and Latinx “young men who have sex with men” entitled “Get Your Life.”

Youth build community with their peers through numerous community building events including our LYRIC youth dance and our annual Trans Youth & Elder Brunch.

**YOUTH LEADING IN COMMUNITY**

Youth engage in LYRIC’s continuum of paid work-based learning opportunities including specific job training for undocumented youth and our LYRIC Fellowship, a paid two-year position for trans and gender non-conforming youth ages 18 to 24.

**BE A LYRIC CHAMPION**

Become a LYRIC Champion—http://lyric.org/give—with a recurring gift of $10/month or more and help us celebrate our past and sustain our future.