National Strategy For Black Gay Youth In America

National Youth Needs Assessment

First Quarter Results

(Jan/Feb/March 2012)

Report presented by: Youth Pride Services

Special thanks to national partners: GLAAD, Advocates For Youth, Campus Pride and the 51 LGBT youth programs and Black Prides across the country distributing the needs assessment.
As of April 31, 2012, **578** black gay youth, under the age of 25, from across the United States have taken the national needs assessment via survey monkey, through our partner organizations on the national level and though our local community centers and programs that serve black gay youth.

This publication is simply designed to give a snapshot of data collected as we head towards our goal of **2,500** youth completing the needs assessment by the end of 2012, detailing what it is like to grow up black and gay in America. All questions from the survey are not in this publication; however they will be included in the final, detailed, state by state report and national report.

The National Strategy will also be presented at several national conferences including the Allied Media Conference in Detroit, MI, the Gay men’s Health Summit in Washington, D.C. and the National LGBT Health Equity Summit in Kansas City, MO

**Brief summary**

![HIV Status Pie Chart]

**Average Age:**

The average age of respondents to the survey was 19.6, with the youngest of the 578 being 12 and the oldest selecting an age of 25.

The majority of respondents took the survey at a local youth center who signed on to support the project (65%) with the remaining taking the survey online.

All respondents entered contact info to start the needs assessments. This will be used for additional assessments for black lesbians, bisexual and transgendered youth.
Barriers You Encounter Due To Sexuality

- Homelessness: 8%
- Unemployment: 17%
- Mental Abuse: 22%
- Bullying: 26%
- Sexual Abuse: 9%
- Physical Abuse: 10%
- Access to healthcare: 8%

Did You Experience or Do You Believe Coming Out Will Result In Disownment?

- Yes: 51%
- No: 35%
- Not Sure: 14%

Contact info:

youthpridecenter@gmail.com, 773-977-8051, Twitter: @youthpride, Facebook: Youth Pride Services
Have You Ever Thought of Or Attempted Suicide Due To Issues Surrounding Your Sexuality?

- Yes: 43%
- No: 57%

Do You Get Tested For STD's Other Than HIV?

- Never, Only HIV: 36%
- Every Month: 6%
- Every 3 Months: 10%
- Twice A Year: 48%
Most questions on the survey provided fixed answers, however there were a few questions that allowed youth to enter data/answers themselves:

**What Things Would Make Your Life Bearable as A Black Gay Youth Living In The United States of America?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acceptance</td>
<td>90% of respondents listed this item</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Love/Respect</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Security</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More Social Services</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Events (For Under 21)</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Rights</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Race related Issues</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*There were 22 categories listed by youth who took the survey. All 22 categories will be listed in the full report – overall, and state by state.

**States Represented in the Survey – First Quarter**

Alabama  
Arizona  
California  
Connecticut  
Florida  
Georgia  
Illinois  
Indiana  
Kentucky  
Louisiana  
Maryland  
Michigan  
Mississippi  
Missouri  
Nevada  
New Jersey  
New York  
North Carolina  
Ohio  
Pennsylvania  
South Carolina  
Tennessee  
Texas  
Virginia  
Washington, D.C.  
Wisconsin  

* The final report will break down data per state, as well as list participating cities.