



Strategies to Reduce Risk and Increase Resilience in LGBTQ+ Youth

Melissa Blitz, LCPC

Associate Director of the Center of Excellence for Adult Mood & Anxiety programming at Compass Health Center.

Joe Serio, LCPC

Chief Clinical Quality Officer at Compass Health Center.

Tiffany Myers, LCSW

Social work department chair at New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL.

Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 7:00 PM (on Zoom)

Register: www.bit.ly/LGBTQFANWebinar

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**, in partnership with

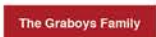
The Alliance for Early Childhood, The Avery Coonley School, Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, Brickton Montessori School, British International School of Chicago/Lincoln Park, British International School of Chicago/South Loop, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Chicago Jewish Day School, Compass Health Center, Connections for the Homeless, The Cove School, Evanston Scholars, Evanston Township HS D202, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Family Service Center, Foundation 65, The Frances Xavier Warde School, Francis W. Parker School, Glencoe D35, Gorton Center, Grayslake Community High School D127, Haven Youth and Family Services, Hyde Park Day School, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Kenilworth D38, Lake Bluff D65, Lake Forest Academy, Lake Forest Community High School D115, Lake Forest Country Day School, Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools, Latin School of Chicago, Loyola Academy, Lycée Français de Chicago, Magnetar Capital, Mindful Psychology Associates, Morgan Park Academy, Near North Montessori School, New Trier High School D203, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Rebel Human, Resurrection College Prep High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Santa Clara University School of Law, The Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School, Science & Arts Academy, Stevenson High School D125, University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, Wilmette Public Library, Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District, Wintrust Financial, Wolcott College Prep, Woodlands Academy, and Youth & Opportunity United.

This event is #freeandopentothepublic and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+. familyactionnetwork.net

Sponsors



Partners



Supporters

The Anderson Family
Gorton Community Center
Stephanie & Roger Hochschild
Mammel Foundation
Maureen & Collin Kebo
The McCall Family
New Trier Parents' Association
Northwestern University/SESP

Rebel Human
Santa Clara University College of Law
Lonnie Stonitsch & Eric Dynowski
The Alliance for Early Childhood
University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice
Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.)

Community Allies

Connections for the Homeless
Evanston Scholars
Family Service Center
Foundation 65
Haven Youth and Family Services
Karen & Steven Malkin

Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools (LMAIS)
Mindful Psychology Associates
New Trier Multifaith Alliance
Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations

Cari & Michael Sacks
Julene & John Stellato
Wilmette Public Library
Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District
Wintrust Financial

In-Kind

Acclaim Media
Deft
Kirkland & Ellis
Psychgeist Media
The Book Stall



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: MELISSA BLITZ, LCPC and JOE SERIO, LCPC – ON ZOOM
CONTACT: Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 7:00 PM, Strategies to Reduce Risk and Increase Resilience in LGBTQ+ Youth, a FAN webinar featuring Melissa Blitz, LCPC and Joe Serio, LCPC, in conversation with Tiffany Myers, LCSW.

REGISTER: www.bit.ly/LGBTQFANWebinar

FAN has invited **Melissa Blitz, LCPC** (she/her) and **Joe Serio, LCPC** (he/his) of Compass Health Center to create a program addressing the complex issues that LGBTQ+ youth face. Our many school and mental health partners ask us for content that would be helpful to students, parents, educators, and clinicians.

In this webinar, Blitz and Serio will delve into specific risk factors affecting this demographic and offer insights into personal, communal, and societal hurdles. They will explore pathways to active allyship, shedding light on opportunities for advocacy. Additionally, they will emphasize the importance of increasing awareness of personal and societal biases, addressing overt, subconscious, and implicit prejudices.

Attendees will leave with practical strategies to empower and build resilience in LGBTQ+ youth, spanning various crucial settings such as home, intrapersonal relationships, school, work, social environments, and broader political and societal contexts. It is crucial to provide valuable insights into both existing and potential opportunities for advocacy efforts on behalf of LGBTQ+ youth.

Blitz is the associate director of Compass' Center of Excellence for Adult Mood & Anxiety programming, and Serio is the Chief Clinical Quality Officer there. They will be in conversation with **Tiffany Myers, LCSW** (she/her), a licensed clinical social worker and the social work department chair at New Trier High School in Winnetka, IL. Myers has 30 years of experience working in mental health and has spent the last 27 years counseling and learning from her students in a high school setting.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available on FAN's website and YouTube channel.

Sponsored by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with The Alliance for Early Childhood, The Avery Coonley School, Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Bernard Zell Anshe Emet Day School, Brickton Montessori School, British International School of Chicago/Lincoln Park, British International School of Chicago/South Loop, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Chicago Jewish Day School, Compass Health Center, Connections for the Homeless, The Cove School, Evanston Scholars, Evanston Township HS D202, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Family Service Center, Foundation 65, The Frances Xavier Warde School, Francis W. Parker School, Glencoe D35, Gorton Center, Grayslake Community High School D127, Haven Youth and Family Services, Hyde Park Day School, Illinois Student Assistance Commission, Kenilworth D38, Lake Bluff D65, Lake Forest Academy, Lake Forest Community High School D115, Lake Forest Country Day School, Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools, Latin School of Chicago, Loyola Academy, Lycée Français de Chicago, Magnetar Capital, Mindful Psychology Associates, Morgan Park Academy, Near North Montessori School, New Trier High School D203, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood and Community Relations, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Rebel Human, Resurrection College Prep High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Santa Clara University School of Law, Science & Arts Academy, The Sonia Shankman Orthogenic School, Stevenson High School D125, University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, Wilmette Public Library, Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District, Wintrust Financial, Wolcott College Prep, Woodlands Academy, and Youth & Opportunity United.