

VERMONT HIGHER EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE





LGBTQ + Allyship: Creating Gender-Celebrating School Environments ~ A "Beyond the Basics" Workshop •

Presenter: Mara Iverson

Target Audience: Educators and administrators who have engaged in foundational learning of gender and sexual identity in youth. Especially valuable for those who have begun implementing genderaffirming changes within their schools and are seeking guidance on next steps.

The dynamics involved in supporting LGBTQ+ students are constantly evolving. Best practices can change quickly, but implementing new procedures takes time. Making cultural shifts that change hearts and minds, however, requires patience and persistence. If your school has already established gender-neutral bathrooms and/or updated other policies and practices to be inclusive of students of all genders and sexualities, it can be hard to imagine next steps.

Participants will learn to distinguish between different levels of commitment to inclusion and allyship. We will also define and understand the roles of implicit bias and intersecting identities in addressing challenges students may face at school. Participants will leave this workshop with strategies for coalition-building and shifting root causes of inequity at school. Join us as we explore the difference between increasing safety at school and creating genuinely affirming and celebratory environments for students of all genders and sexualities.

Mara Iverson is Director of Education at Outright Vermont, a statewide LGBTQ+ youth advocacy organization. She has worked at universities in Pennsylvania, Texas, and Vermont and has 15 years of LGBTQ+ advocacy and education experience. Mara also works in advocating for racial justice and understanding and managing implicit bias.

Dates: March 27, 2020

Place: Capitol Plaza, Montpelier, VT

Cost: \$190 (lunch included)

Time: 8:30-3:30

Register for Workshop

