

# outright youth



**A Voice For Rainbow Youth**

## OUR PROJECTS

### Outright Youth



The intent of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (GLBTI) in establishing the Outright Youth program (OY) is simply to provide for strategies that will allow young GLBTI people (12-25) in the Tasmanian regions to 'come out with pride' and live in their community with dignity as fully respected and participating members.

OY works at local/regional levels through the Coming Out Proud Program (COPP) Community Liaison Committees and at state level through the Tasmanian Council for Sexual & Gender Diverse People Inc. (TCS&GDP).

Regions include Greater Hobart, Kingborough/Huon, Greater Launceston/East Coast, Cradle Coast (North West/West Coast).

OY maintains an GLBTI youth agenda in these forums.

### Outright Youth Objectives

Rainbow people have observed that, in the past, many young and some older GLBTI people in Tasmania have had to leave the regions in which they live because of local prejudice. Some have even suicided or attempted to do so. They have also observed that prejudice and 'hate crime' still exist against GLBTI people in Tasmania.

The Outright Youth program offers its support to the development and implementation of a Management Plan to ameliorate the situation locally. The program aims to achieve equality of access and respect within each regional community for young GLBTI people.

### Why?

Research in Australia also shows the results of harassment and discrimination of sexual & gender diverse people, especially same sex attracted young people (SSAYP) :

- Are three times more likely to attempt suicide than heterosexual youth (*Howard, J. et al, Same Sex Attracted Youth in Mental Health Promotion and Young People: Concepts and Practice. 2002. Eds Rowling, L, Martin, G., Walker, L. McGraw Hill, Australia.*)
- Rural SSAYP are six times more likely to attempt suicide than the population as a whole (*Quinn, K., Rural Youth and Same Sex Attracted Youth: Issues, Interventions and Implications for Rural Counsellors. Rural and Remote Health. 2003 Vol 3.*)

**A Voice For Rainbow Youth (GLBTI)**



# APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

These statistics and research explain the importance of recognising and celebrating initiatives like Outright Youth GLBTI Support Group.

## How It Works At The Local Level

The Outright Youth program in each region is operated in accordance with a locally developed COPP Management Plan. Outright youth are a significant part of the local/regional Management Plan as follows:

- Making Tasmania a safer place for the youth of the GLBTI community to 'come out' with dignity and pride;
- Working with schools and youth organisations on lowering the amount of bullying of GLBTI people using the Elizabeth College GLBTi Network model;
- OY has initiated a program using the specially designed toolkit and cultural awareness package, *Not Round Here*, with all schools and Polytechnics to identify teachers and social workers who will be able to help GLBTI students when they're in need of help at school or college;
- A commitment in all schools and youth organisations to invest in GLBTI "Peer Youth Leaders" who can work with teachers and other professionals to ensure a safe and positive environment that acknowledges, respects and celebrates diversity;
- Creating social opportunities and events to allow young sexual & gender diverse people to celebrate in a safe and welcoming environment.

## How It Works At The State Level

Through the Tasmanian Council For Sexual & Gender Diverse People Inc., as follows:

- Establishing funds through the COPP Trust to support administrative and volunteer finance;
- Consultation and coordination with Tasmania's GLBTI communities, government organisations and youth-oriented organisations will provide for more appropriate, effective and efficient assessment of needs and issues for sexual and gender diverse young people;
- A voice on the State Government GLBTI Reference Group;
- Working with TasCAHRD, Working It Out and mainstream youth-oriented organisations.

Participation in the broader community will improve as the unique skills and attributes of young members of GLBTI communities are enabled to come into play at the local, regional and state level.

**INFO AT [www.comingoutproud.org](http://www.comingoutproud.org)**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ **Postcode:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other Relevant Details:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Which regional Community Liaison Committee would you join? (Tick one)**

**North:**

**Cradle**

**South:**

**Greater**

**Coast:**

**Hobart:**

### PRIVACY POLICY

Outright Youth (OY) respects the privacy of all its members. Your details are only used to inform you of OY news or events, or , with your consent only, for consultation on GLBTI or related issues.

**Please return this form to:**

**[scott@logtas.org](mailto:scott@logtas.org)**

**or post to: 2001 Old Huon Road LONGLEY TAS 7150**