

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision

The Optunia College Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Ally Resource Center envisions a campus where LGBT individuals are safe, equal, and included in all aspects of the community. We desire an environment where education of allies is requested instead of suggested. And ultimately we aspire to serve as an advocate for the acceptance of all people at Optunia regardless of identity

Mission

The mission of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Ally Resource Center at Optunia College is to provide safe space and personalized attention to the students in need of support, information, counseling, and advising; to contribute to a culturally rich community through advocacy and education on issues such as homophobia, heterosexism, and being an ally; and to focus on efforts towards the future success of the office and its students through training and research.

Goals & Strategies

- 1) Provide a safe and welcoming space for all members of the LGBTQA community across the campus including students, staff, faculty, family, and friends.
 - a) Provide training to LGBTQA student organization leaders
 - b) Advise and collaborate with LGBTQA student groups
 - c) Begin a LGBT Welcome Assembly open to all new students at Optunia College
 - d) Develop a mentorship program to provide additional support services to LGBT and questioning students

- 2) Educate college faculty and staff so that institutional policy change that recognize the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals can occur.
 - a) Provide training for staff through continuous professional development.
 - b) Conduct assessments of the office's programming to increase the value to its recipients as well as support the office's efforts.
 - c) Collect information and data on the experiences of members of the LGBT community on campus.

- 3) Increase the office's ability to better serve our students by establishing effective communication with student organizations, faculty/staff, and outside agencies.
 - a) Receiving Information Technology training in order to provide accurate information on our websites and in our office and to remain current with social networking sites and other preferred method of student contact.
 - b) Increase communication efforts with LGBTQA campus staff and alumni associations
 - c) Retain an up-to-date referral list for services and agencies on campus and in the surrounding communities that support the LGBT community.

- 4) Educate Allies
 - a) Develop programming essential for potential student allies
 - b) Continuous education focusing on education regarding the value of all sexual and gender identities

 - 5) Coordinate efforts to increase revenue for the office.
 - a) Plan fundraising activities such as an additional program during the days leading up to or following National Coming Out Day.
 - b) With additional funding, ensure that resources such as library materials, computer access, and physical space are available for student's use.

 - 6) Demonstrate a commitment to social justice by ensuring a diverse unit staff.
 - a) Examine the hiring practices of the office to ensure diversity and representation of multiple identities.

 - 7) Maintain close connections with other functional areas especially advocacy units to ensure the success of all underserved students at Optunia College.
 - a) Develop programming with other functional areas
 - b) Provide education and resources in collaboration with Health Services towards safer sex practices.
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