



Consultancy brief

X2Y LGBT Youth Group, Wolverhampton, are inviting expressions of interest in the following piece of work:

Co-ordination and project management of our 'Finding our new normal' project

About X2Y

X2Y LGBT youth group was established in 2000 and became a charity in 2015. We provide support for LGBTQ+ young people in Wolverhampton and surrounding areas. X2Y offers physical, mental and emotional support through open access youth groups, support for individuals and online information. We also provide training, advice and guidance for schools and organisations working with children and young people.

'Finding our new normal' project

X2Y has successfully bid to Comic Relief for a project called 'Finding our new normal.' This project aims to reconfigure our services to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ young people aged 11-25 in Wolverhampton and the Black Country during the Covid-19 pandemic and beyond. We have funding in place to continue our 11 to 17 youth group and our 18 to 25 young adults' group for the next year. This project will enable us to commission consultancy support to redesign our services and build future sustainability.

The contractor(s) will:

- work with the young people, sessional youth workers, outreach coordinator and board of trustees to co-design and implement a clear plan for reconfiguring the organisation to meet the needs of LGBTQ+ young people during the Covid-19 pandemic and into our new normal.
- work with young people and the Outreach Coordinator to develop ways of reaching out to parents/carers of LGBTQ+ young people so that they can feel supported in allowing their child to attend group sessions in a Covid-secure environment and participate in activities offered by X2Y. This will include giving advice and guidance to parents on LGBTQ+ issues and

facilitating peer support to help parents who are struggling to come to terms with their child's sexuality/gender identity.

- work with the young people and the Outreach Coordinator to co-design and implement a marketing strategy to raise awareness of the services provided by X2Y in Wolverhampton and the Black Country to reach all of Wolverhampton's diverse intersectional communities
- implement the fundraising strategy to ensure future sustainability of the service.

What we expect the project to achieve

We expect the project to enable X2Y to:

1. Deliver an appropriate range of services to LGBTQ+ young people in Wolverhampton and the Black Country to support them during the challenging period ahead
2. Reassure families of LGBTQ+ young people in Wolverhampton and the Black Country that their children will be in a safe protected environment when attending the group – both in terms of Covid-19 and safeguarding concerns - and empower parents/carers and other family members to offer peer support to each other.
3. Raise awareness of X2Y's services in Wolverhampton and the Black Country so that more schools, colleges, universities, voluntary and community organisations and the wider community know about our work and can signpost LGBTQ+ young people to us.
4. Ensure the future sustainability of the service.

How we expect to achieve this

Draw up a detailed project plan which will be co-designed with LGBTQ+ young people and managed by the contractor(s). The project plan should include:

- Contacting parents/carers/siblings of our current service users to identify any issues and concerns about attending the group, whether Covid-related or not
- A full Covid-19 risk assessment for online and face to face activities
- Implementation of the fundraising strategy to include submitting 3 funding bids and developing a case for support

Work with the young people and the Outreach Coordinator to develop and implement a marketing strategy. This strategy should include specific actions to:

- Strengthen our links with schools, colleges, and universities in the region
- Reach out to organisations working with Black Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) communities that are under-represented in the group
- Reach out to BAME LGBT+ groups and individuals in the region for advice in ensuring that our services are welcoming to all, and asking for help to identify and remove potential barriers

Costs and timescale

We have a maximum of **£9,000** available for this contract. CR funding must be spent and accounted for by the end of June 2021 so we would like all work completed by **Friday 18 June**.

Proposals

Application is by submission of a short proposal with accompanying CV(s). The proposal should be a maximum of two sides of A4 (not including CVs). The proposal should demonstrate how the applicant(s) will approach the project and outline their relevant skills and experience.

Proposals should be submitted by 5.00 on 5 February 2021 and emailed to Dr Ruth Wilson on ruth@equalitiesineducation.co.uk