

WELISTEN: IDENTIFYING GOOD CHILD HELPLINE PRACTICES FOR LGBTQI CHILDREN AND YOUTH

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE



BACKGROUND

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning and Intersex (LGBTQI) children and young people are at heightened risk of violence and discrimination. This is despite improvements in legislation, public attitudes and a growing visibility of diversity of gender and sexuality in popular culture. Discrimination, risk of violence and violence can have grave negative consequences for the emotional and physical well-being of LGBTQI children and young people.

Child helplines across the world support tens of thousands of LGBTQI children and young people each year. We aim to further establish child helplines as a key support and information mechanism for LGBTQI children and young people.

We will, therefore, convene a six-month [Community of Practice](#) to exchange knowledge on how child helplines can best support LGBTQI children and young people.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen the capacity of our network of child helplines to support and advocate for the rights of LGBTQI children and young people.
- To contribute to a more integrated child protection system for LGBTQI children and young people.
- To build working partnerships between child helplines and expert organisations.

THE FORMAT OF THE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

[Communities of Practice](#) are a form of peer-to-peer learning, held together by a shared concern or passion for a specific topic¹ – in this case [LGBTQI children and young people](#). This community of practice will be multi-sectoral in order to harness and share knowledge from different perspectives. The discussions will take place both face-to-face and online in the following structure:

- One day kick-off meeting with all participants at the end of September 2018 in Amsterdam².
- Structured monthly group calls via [WebEx](#).

The main language of communication will be English, and we will do our utmost to ensure that our communications meet the needs of all participants. Please let us know what you might require.

¹ <http://wenger-trayner.com/introduction-to-communities-of-practice/>

² Exact date will be confirmed with participants.



THE CONTENT

The core of communities of practice is the ownership and leadership of the participants. Therefore, only the overall topic, [child helpline support for LGBTQI children and young people](#), is established beforehand. The task of the participants will be to:

- Identify a set of core issues relating to LGBTQI children and young people and child helpline services.
- Exchange practices, experiences, theory and thoughts on how to approach the identified issues.
- Document and define ideas and discussions as a basis for upcoming capacity-building initiatives (webinars, training of trainers).

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

We are seeking participants who:

- Live and work in an EU member state.
- [Have a passion and interest in tackling issues facing LGBTQI children and young people.](#)
- Have knowledge and experience relating to promoting the rights of LGBTQI children and young people.
- Can commit to contribute on a voluntary basis for
 - One kick-off meeting in September³ 2018.
 - Monthly groups calls of 1,5 hours.
 - A period of 6 months, starting September 2018.

We also encourage participants to take part in or present at our webinar on LGBTQI children and young people (November 2018), but this is not a requirement.

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Fill in this form to register your interest and we will contact you individually:
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CoP_LGBTQIchildren
- For more information, please send an email to ronja@childhelplineinternational.org or call our offices on +31205289625.

³ Exact date will be confirmed with participants.