

CHANGE UP : LGBTQ+



University of Salford



NATIONAL LOTTERY FUNDED

Funded Healthy Relationships and Domestic Abuse Programme For LGBTQ+ Teens in Manchester and Salford.

Social Sense Community has secured funding for a pioneering healthy relationship programme for LGBTQ+ teens.



On the back of a successful pilot in Salford and a recent award at the UK Public Sector Communications Awards, the Big Lottery Fund has commissioned Social Sense's Change Up programme for a pilot study on healthy relationships and domestic abuse amongst LGBTQ+ teens.

The study, which is due to start in September, will be delivered in Manchester and Salford by Social Sense in partnership with the University of Salford and supported by The Proud Trust.

Why is it needed?

Social Sense and the University of Salford identified a gap in healthy relationships programmes with young people which do not address LGBTQ+ youths. The shocking statistics as seen below show the vital need to discuss domestic abuse with LGBTQ+ teens.



Young LGBTQ+ people's experience of Domestic Abuse³



only **37%** recognised the behaviour as abuse.

1. Donavan et al. (2006) Comparing Domestic Abuse in Same Sex and Heterosexual Relationships. 2. The Scottish Transgender Alliance
3. LGBT Youth Scotland, voices unheard: LGBT domestic abuse and gender-based violence. Educational resource. (2014).

The project

The project aims to promote healthy (non-violent) relationships amongst LGBTQ+ teenagers in Manchester and Salford using Social Sense's evidence based social norms approach.

The aim of this peer to peer project is to address misperceptions and educate young people about the norms surrounding healthy relationships and inspire them to display and promote resilience-building values. There is also a strong emphasis on reducing barriers to reporting through peer to peer support and greater visibility of support services.

The project will dispel social norms that apply specifically to teen relationships in the LGBTQ+ community as well as norms that are applied to heteronormative relationships. We will include, for example, issues such as the fear of 'being outed' as gay, lesbian, trans being used as a form of domestic abuse.

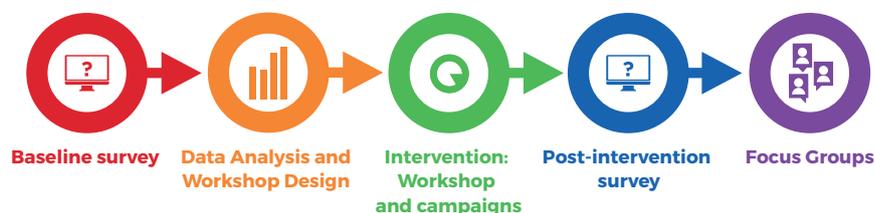
The objectives of project are:

- ✓ to help LGBTQ+ youth better identify what a 'healthy relationship' is
- ✓ to address norms and dispel harmful myths surrounding LGBTQ+ relationships
- ✓ to promote/celebrate a relationship culture free from all forms of abuse
- ✓ to increase recognition of abuse behaviours/ experiences and in reporting, help-seeking and victim support

The project will follow a social norms design integrating: a baseline survey, an intervention (workshop and a peer-to-peer campaign), followed by a repeat survey.

Young people will co-construct the programme in different ways. We will collaborate with the Proud Trust, a Manchester based charity which empowers LGBTQ+ youth to make a positive change for themselves and their communities.

The project is split into five elements:



During the focus groups we will gain quantitative and qualitative feedback from LGBTQ+ youths in Salford and Manchester on their experiences of domestic abuse, their knowledge of local services and opinions on what can help LGBTQ+ teens access services. We will also conduct interviews with the wider community such as parents, local services and youth workers.

Which areas are receiving funding?

The chosen areas are Manchester and Salford. We will be working with the Proud Trust and local LGBTQ+ groups.

Who is eligible to apply?

- ✓ Local teen LGBTQ+ groups

The Programme commences in September 2018 and will run to August 2019.

If you are a Salford and/or Manchester based LGBTQ+ teen youth group looking to find out more about getting involved, email reece@socialsense.co.uk or call **07808 556 114**.