

## THE NEED

Six in ten LGBTQ students report feeling unsafe at school because of their sexual orientation.

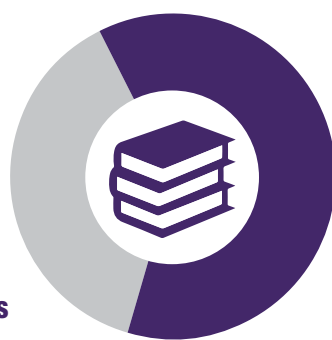


Four in ten LGBTQ students report feeling unsafe at school because of their gender expression.<sup>1</sup>

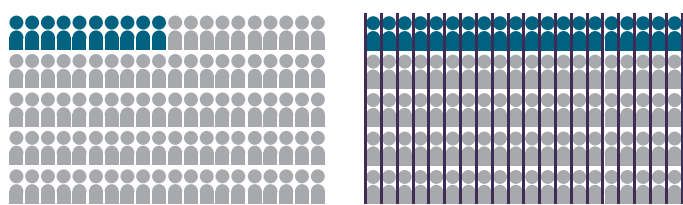


# 62%

of LGBTQ students experience discriminatory policies or practices at school.<sup>2</sup>

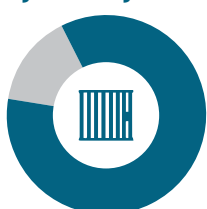


LGBTQ youth are often over-policed at school and are disproportionately represented in the criminal justice system.



LGBTQ youth make up 7-9% of youth nationwide yet **account for 20% of all youth in juvenile justice facilities.**<sup>3</sup>

Of LGBTQ and gender non-conforming youth in juvenile justice facilities,

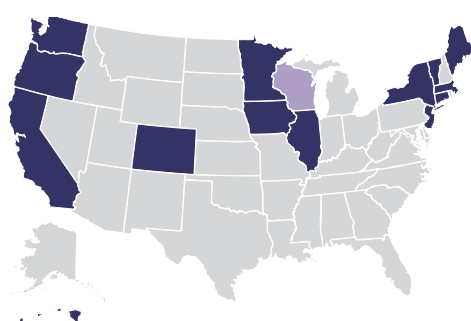


# 85%

are youth of color.<sup>4</sup>

On the state level, only 14 states have laws that explicitly protect students from discrimination in schools based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

One additional state has a law protecting students on the basis of their sexual orientation but not their gender identity, leaving transgender and gender nonconforming students particularly vulnerable to discrimination.<sup>5</sup>

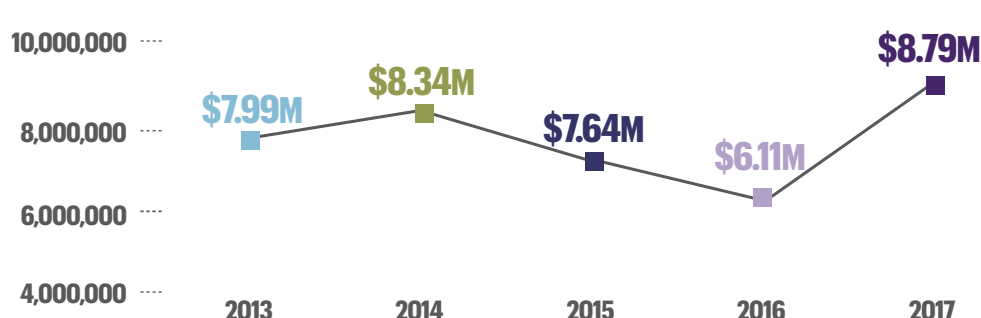


● LAWS PROTECT BOTH SEXUAL ORIENTATION & GENDER IDENTITY  
● LAWS PROTECT ONLY SEXUAL ORIENTATION

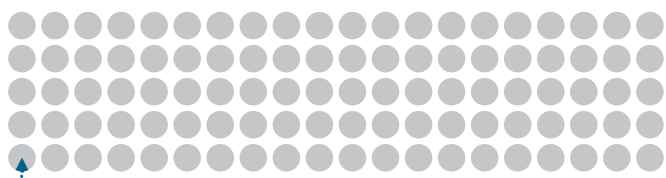
## THE FUNDING<sup>6</sup>

### FUNDING FOR LGBTQ EDUCATION & SAFE SCHOOLS IN THE U.S. (2013-2017)

Funding for LGBTQ education & safe schools has fluctuated over the past five years, never exceeding \$9 million in a given year.



As such, for every \$100 that foundations in the United States awarded for education, **only 15 cents were devoted funding for LGBTQ education and safe schools.**<sup>7</sup>



**\$0.15 / \$100.00**

FUNDING AT THE INTERSECTIONS: THE SCHOOL-TO-PRISON PIPELINE

# 0.003%

Between 2016-2017, funding for criminalization and criminal justice reform focusing on LGBTQ youth totaled \$3,975,171, just 0.003 percent of all philanthropic dollars. The majority of this funding was awarded to a handful of organizations working on the school-to-prison pipeline, including BreakOUT!, FIERCE, Providence Youth and Student Movement (PrYSM), and TGIJP.

### TOP FUNDERS FOR LGBTQ EDUCATION & SAFE SCHOOLS (2016-2017)\*



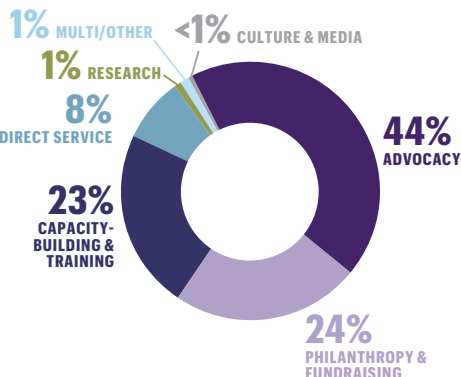
The top ten funders of LGBTQ education & safe schools accounted for nearly three-quarters of all funding.

Ford Foundation	\$2,000,000 (13%)	Arcus Foundation	\$1,065,295 (7%)
Point Foundation	\$1,569,082 (10%)	Greater Seattle Business Association	\$760,000 (5%)
Pride Foundation	\$1,545,415 (10%)	Robin Hood Foundation	\$517,000 (3%)
Wells Fargo	\$1,365,275 (9%)	California Wellness Foundation	\$400,000 (3%)
The California Endowment	\$1,242,918 (8%)	Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice	\$332,500 (2%)

\*This list includes funds awarded for the purpose of regranting.

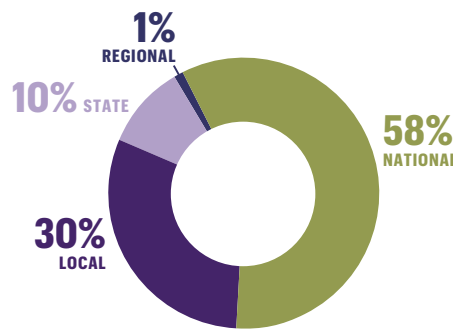
### FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR LGBTQ EDUCATION & SAFE SCHOOLS, BY STRATEGY FUNDING (2016-2017)

Advocacy received the largest share of funding for LGBTQ education and safe schools, followed by philanthropy and fundraising (largely for scholarships).



### FOUNDATION FUNDING FOR LGBTQ EDUCATION & SAFE SCHOOLS, BY GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS (2016-2017)

The majority of foundation funding for LGBTQ education and safe schools was for organizations or programs operating at the national level.



## THE OPPORTUNITIES



### FUND ACROSS SILOS FOR INCREASED IMPACT

Racial justice funders and those supporting boys and girls of color, criminal justice funders concerned about the school-to-prison pipeline, and health funders seeking to address the social determinants of health disparities have reason to be concerned with school climate for LGBTQ students. There is potential for mutual learning across silos as well as for the pooling and leveraging of resources across unlikely but natural partners.



### STRENGTHEN GSAS AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR YOUTH-LED ORGANIZING

GSAs are documented to have a positive effect on student outcomes and also play a key role in the pipeline of leadership development in LGBTQ communities. Other LGBTQ grassroots organizations driven and led by youth and young adults play similar essential roles in empowering young leaders and building movements.



### SUPPORT FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ADVOCACY

At the federal, state, and local levels, LGBTQ and allied organizations need resources to respond to anti-LGBTQ policies and to advance progressive policies that foster a more supportive school climate for LGBTQ youth. Funders should also be mindful of the need for Both rapid response funding and general for general support and capacity-building to develop strong organizations at all levels.



### SUPPORT STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS TO RAISE AWARENESS AROUND LGBTQ STUDENTS

Funders have an opportunity to foster a more positive narrative around LGBTQ students. These efforts may include collecting and sharing stories of LGBTQ students, especially trans students and LGBTQ students of color; building the communications capacity of LGBTQ education and youth organizations; and supporting research, messaging, and media campaigns to respond effectively to attacks on transgender students, students of color, and immigrant students.

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#### REFERENCES:

1. Kosciw, J. G., Greytak, E. A., Zongrone, A. D., Clark, C. M., & Truong, N. L. (2018). *The 2017 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth in our nation's schools*. New York: GLSEN.
2. Kosciw, J. G., Greytak, E. A., Zongrone, A. D., Clark, C. M., & Truong, N. L. (2018). *The 2017 National School Climate Survey: The experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth in our nation's schools*. New York: GLSEN.
3. *Unjust: LGBTQ Youth Incarcerated in the Juvenile Justice System* (2017). Movement Advancement Project.
4. *Unjust: LGBTQ Youth Incarcerated in the Juvenile Justice System* (2017). Movement Advancement Project.
5. Movement Advancement Project. "Equality Maps: Safe Schools Laws." [http://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/safe\\_school\\_laws](http://www.lgbtmap.org/equality-maps/safe_school_laws) (4.19.2019).
6. All funding data is provided by Funders for LGBTQ Issues. Visit [lgbtfunders.org/research/](http://lgbtfunders.org/research/) for more information.
7. This statement is based on foundation funding data from The Foundation Center for 2012, the most recent year for which data are available.

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