

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Trillium Launches Project OUTreach Initiative

Campaign will address the unique mental and physical health needs for LGBTQ youth

GREENVILLE, NC-Trillium Health Resources hosted a staff launch today to announce Project OUTreach. Through partnerships with the Family Acceptance Project (FAP) and North Carolina Families United, Trillium will work with agencies and providers to educate the community on the specific issues that affect youth who are lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (referred to as LGBTQ).

The staff training on October 29 shared statistics including how LGBTQ youth are three times more likely to attempt suicide than heterosexual youth, and 78% of LGBTQ youth were removed from foster placements due to hostility. Staff learned about resources available to assist communities to support the LGBTQ population.

October is LGBT History Month, which celebrates the achievements of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender icons. In addition, on October 11 the Human Rights Campaign supports National Coming Out Day each year to acknowledge the bravery and power in sharing their true selves.

Project OUTreach focuses on four goals:

- o Improve mental and physical health outcomes for LGBTQ youth in eastern North Carolina.
- o Help decrease rejection for LGBTQ youth
- Support the needs of LGBTQ youth in foster care
- o Increase awareness of the needs for LGBTQ youth

"One of Trillium's key accomplishments is to help reduce the stigma surrounding mental health conditions, substance use disorders, and developmental disabilities. Unfortunately, LGBTQ youth and adults experience many of these issues at a higher rate than the general public," shared Adrienne Beatty, project manager. "The Family Acceptance Project







and NC Families United will be powerful allies to help address these negative impacts and provide for a more hopeful future."

Trillium and NC Families United will host breakfasts with local agencies and organizations in Craven, New Hanover, Onslow, and Pitt counties this winter and spring. In addition, FAP will coordinate a two-day community awareness training next fall. This training will target community stakeholders, foster care providers, faith-based organizations, and providers. Interested parties can contact TrainingUnit@TrilliumNC.org.

To learn more, please visit <u>www.trilliumhealthresources.org/OUTreach</u>

ABOUT TRILLIUM HEALTH RESOURCES

Trillium Health Resources is a leading specialty care manager (LME/MCO) for individuals with substance use, mental illness and intellectual/developmental disabilities in 26 counties in eastern North Carolina. Trillium's mission is to transform the lives of people in need by providing them with ready access to quality care. We take a person-centered approach to health and wellbeing, coordinating care across multiple systems to achieve improved health outcomes, quality of care and efficient use of resources. Trillium is investing in innovation to meet the unique needs of the individuals and communities we serve, and remains focused on delivering the right services, in the right amount, at the right time. For more information, visit www.TrilliumHealthResources.org.

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