To: DCF/DMCPS Administrator DCF Area Administrators

> Child Placing Agency Directors Child Welfare Agency Directors

County Departments of Community Programs Directors

County Departments of Human Services Directors County Departments of Social Services Directors

Group Home Providers

Tribal Social Service/Indian Child Welfare Directors

Private Child Placing Agencies Residential Care Center Providers

Shelter Care Providers Tribal Chairpersons

From: Wendy Henderson
Division Administrator

Re: Issue Brief Released on LGTBO+ Youth

PURPOSE

The purpose of this memo is to inform child welfare and youth justice system partners of the release of an issue brief. The topic of this issue brief is LGBTQ+ Youth.

BACKGROUND

The Division of Safety and Permanence will periodically release issue briefs on topics relevant to child welfare and youth justice practice across the state. These briefs will include the following elements related to the specific topic area of the issue brief: background, links and summaries of notable research, quantitative and qualitative data specific to Wisconsin, and actionable steps readers can take to evaluate their own practices.

INFORMATION SUMMARY

The issue brief on LGBTQ+ youth include all of the elements described above as they relate to needed improvements in better serving this population. This includes background information on LGBTQ+ and a summary of current research to help guide collaborative and affirming practice and care. It also includes definitions and resources and identifies initial action steps that child welfare and youth justice agencies, service providers, care providers and their licensing agencies should take, in better serving this population. For more, please read the seven-page brief in its entirety.

CENTRAL OFFICE CONTACT: **Policy Coordinator**

Division of Safety and Permanence

DCFCWLR@wisconsin.gov

MEMO WEB SITE: https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cwportal/policy

ATTACHMENTS: <u>Issue Brief - Working With LGBTQ+ Youth and Families in Child Welfare</u>