

Project Goals & Ally Responsibilities

CSUN Positive Space Program's
ALLY PROJECT
<http://www.csun.edu/~psp/>

Project Goals & Ally Responsibilities

What are the goals of the Positive Space Program's Ally Project?

1. To provide an avenue for students, faculty, and staff to visibly demonstrate their support of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersexual, queer, or questioning (LGBTIQQ).
2. To establish a university-wide network of easily identifiable allies who can provide support, information, and assistance to LGBTIQQ persons within the university.
3. To provide LGBTIQQ students, faculty, and staff with comfortable access to sensitive and knowledgeable people for information and support.
4. To educate members of the university community about the needs and concerns of LGBTIQQ persons.
5. To foster an atmosphere on campus which supports the academic and professional success of LGBTIQQ persons, as well as their personal and social growth.
6. To advance the university's progress toward a campus climate free of discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identification.

What are the responsibilities of an Ally?

Allies include students, faculty, and staff who are heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, intersexual, and queer, and who want to show their support.

Allies serve as informal resource persons who can provide support to persons who are LGBTIQQ by respecting them, listening to their concerns, helping them access campus resources, and responding to anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersexual prejudice and discrimination.

By agreeing to publicly post an Ally sign and designate themselves as persons who are receptive and positive to discussing issues surrounding sexual orientation and gender identification, Allies have a responsibility to:

- Educate themselves with accurate information about sexual orientation and gender identification.
- Increase their awareness of and sensitivity to the needs and concerns of LGBTIQQ persons.
- Create a "Positive Space" where anyone, whether they are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, intersexual, or heterosexual, can feel comfortable discussing issues related to sexual orientation and/or gender identification without fear of judgment. "A Positive Space" is an environment committed to openness and mutual respect regardless of sexual orientation, gender identification, political perspective, or religious belief.
- Assist LGBTIQQ persons in accessing support services and information resources on campus and in the community.
- Assist heterosexual persons in understanding homosexuality, bisexuality, transgenderism, intersexuality and the impact of trans/bi/homophobia and heterosexism on the lives of LGBTIQQ persons.
- Respond to instances of discrimination and harassment based on sexual orientation and gender identification.
- Respect the privacy of persons who contact them in their role as an Ally.

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