



The University of Vermont
 Capital Project Request Form for
 Renovation / New Construction

1 Describe Project, Program and Identify Funding

LGBTQA Srv Student Ctr

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Building Name

Project Title

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Person to Contact

Department

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Need of Project:

LGBTQA Services are currently housed in a multi-use facility, which is staffed and managed primarily as a daytime office building. Resulting operational problems and limitations include:

- Space shortage – our five rooms totaling 835 sqft currently accommodate up to seven workstations, our print/copy/mailing area, reception, a computer lab, office and programming supplies storage, community, and meeting space. Each of the five small rooms has to serve between two and five separate functions.
- Space accessibility – community drop-in center located on second floor (no elevator);
- Safety – recent evaluation by Police Services indicate that location and layout of building provides inadequate security for extended hours of drop-in center and computer lab;
- Space incompatibility – students consistently report that the appearance and character of the facility limits their comfort, access, and use of the space;
- Space autonomy – LGBTQA Services has no freedom to change the appearance or overall character of the space;

Space layout – the five rooms currently in use are spread over two floors, leading to problems with communication and oversight

Description of Program and Scope Definition:

LGBTQA Services assists students, staff, faculty, and administration at the university in assessing and meeting the needs of all affiliates who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, and or transgender, who are questioning, and their allies. We provide education and training to students, staff, and faculty members on LGBTQA-related topics; foster and facilitate dynamic and vital LGBTQA communities within the university; assist administrators and service providers throughout the university to establish policies and practices that address the needs of LGBTQ affiliates, and further assist the university in retaining LGBTQ students, staff, and faculty by providing advocacy, information, and referral services to LGBTQA individuals. Current staffing consists of one full-time director, one full-time student services professional, one full-time administrative assistant, one half-time graduate assistant, up to two ¼-time graduate interns, and approximately 12 part-time student employees. See attached “Request for Detail of Space Needed” form for breakout of space needs.

Description of Proposed Funding:

The general fund allocation for LGBTQA Services \$10,016.00, covers only bare essentials for daily operations of the program. All programming funds are fundraised. Modest and infrequent requests have result in a small amount coming from alumni and the majority from other departments in the university. The computer lab, or cybercenter, is funded through a grant from the David Bohnett Foundation. Unfortunately there are few, if any other grant funds available to LGBTQ offices within universities. LGBTQA Services has stewarded a list of approximately 280 alumni throughout the past seven years and is prepared to work closely with Development and Alumni Relations to seek outside funding for such a project.

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