Unstably Housed LGBTQ Youth: The Impact of a Community-Based Collaboration

iTEAM is a six-agency collaboration:

- CODAC Behavioral Health Services
- Open Inn
- Our Family Services
- Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF)
- University of Arizona’s Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW)
- Wingspan: Eon Lounge Youth Center

The Eon drop-in center for LGBTQ youth, operated by Wingspan/SAAF, offers a convenient and safe “one-stop shop” for youth to access iTEAM's comprehensive services

- Our Family Services and Open Inn provide case management to the 60 youth per year enrolling in iTEAM and manage iTEAM's housing component.
- SAAF provides sexual health education, in the form of the CDC evidenced-based Street Smart program, aimed to reduce the levels of risk in participants’ sexual and substance use behaviors.
- SAAF also provides confidential HIV testing and counseling on-site at Eon.
- CODAC Behavioral Health Services offers on-site crisis counseling and the evidenced-based MET/CBT substance-abuse intervention group, named “Creating Change” by iTEAM participants.
- As the lead agency, SIROW coordinates project implementation among the six collaborators and oversees its evaluation and administration.

SIROW’s evaluators conduct many of their activities at the Eon Lounge.

iTEAM Project Goals

- Increase Housing Access and Stability
- Improve Mental Health Status
- Increase Linkages to Community Resources
- Reduce Substance Abuse and Sexual Risk Behaviors
- Improve Life Skills
- Conduct Comprehensive Evaluation with Innovative Assessments

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