

Sexual & Gender Minority Youth Resource Center (SMYRC)

Rules of the Space

Age Guidelines

SMYRC youth are defined as those ages 13-23. Guests over 24 may stay for 15 minutes on regular program nights if they are accompanying a youth on their first night.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

SMYRC is a drug- and alcohol-free space. No illegal drugs or paraphernalia will be possessed, dealt, glorified, offered, or exhibited while at SMYRC. No one is allowed to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at SMYRC. If you have been using outside of the space, sober up before coming in.

“One diva, one mic”

During workshops, check-ins, or programming, only one person speaks at a time. Don't interrupt others when they have the “mic.”

Smoking

There is no smoking at SMYRC or on the property. Cigarettes and tobacco are not to be seen in the SMYRC space. This includes, but is not limited to, asking for, selling, or trading cigarettes or tobacco.

Violence/Fighting

Absolutely no running, rough housing, verbal or physical confrontations, or threats toward anyone in the SMYRC space.

Confidentiality

What's said at SMYRC stays at SMYRC. That includes no “outing” of other youth.

No Stealing

No stealing.

Weapons

No illegal weapons or associated paraphernalia are allowed in the SMYRC space. This includes firearms, fireworks, explosives, or anything specifically designed to inflict harm.

Clean Up

If you make a mess, clean it up. All youth are to participate in clean-up time. Respecting the space means doing your dishes or wiping up your mess before you leave for the evening.

PDA

SMYRC is a safe place for us to show affection; however, please ask before you touch. If you feel uncomfortable, please approach a staff member or volunteer with your concerns. Do not touch genital or breast areas. Sexual activity is not allowed in the space. (But condoms, dental dams, and lube are available and free for use outside of the space. If you're going to play, play it safe!)

Self-Harm

We ask that all people respect their own bodies while at SMYRC. Anyone engaged in self-harm or self-harm ideation while at SMYRC will be referred to a counselor or staff member. Please ask staff if you would like someone to talk with.

Abuse Reporting

All staff and volunteers and some youth are mandatory abuse reporters. If youth disclose to them incidents of child abuse, illegal dating, intent to harm others, or other reportable incidents, they will make a report with the child abuse hotline.

Neighborhood Respect

No smoking, loitering, or loud activities in front of SMYRC, neighboring businesses, or on neighboring private property.

"Step up, step back"

If you are someone who likes to talk a lot, take a "step back" and let others share their opinions and stories. If you are someone who is usually quiet, "step up" and make your voice heard!

"Don't yuck my yum"

Respect other people's opinions, ideas, and preferences if they are different from your own. In other words, don't be hatin'!

"Save the drama for your mama (and if your mama don't want it, we have counseling)"

Leave "drama" outside of the space—if you are having a bad day and need to talk to someone, staff or counselors are available.

"Personalize, don't generalize"

Make your statements personal opinions and stories and don't over-generalize about groups of people or tell stories about other people without their consent. (Use "I" statements rather than "they.")