

Focus Group End of Year Report for 2023

Name of Focus Group: GLBTSA

Chair/Co-chairs: Jenifer McGuire and Ali Chrisler

Chair/Co-chairs email: jmcguire@umn.edu and chrisler@american.edu

1. What were your focus groups major activities or accomplishments this year?

We are increasing our visibility within the organization through paper and poster presentations at the upcoming NCFR conference. In collaboration with the Feminism and Family Science Section, we supported the satellite location at the University of Illinois-Urbana Champaign for the annual conference. We are working on developing policies that NCFR can implement when deciding on future conference locations to ensure that all members (especially those of the LGBTQIA+ community) are able to attend the conference safely.

2. What has your focus group done during the past year to further NCFR's inclusion and diversity initiatives?

Several focus groups members continue to hold leadership roles in other committees throughout NCFR.

3. Please list any concerns, questions, or suggestions.

As noted above, we continue to have concerns that NCFR is not abiding by its inclusion policies. This year, we have a group of members who cannot safely travel to the conference because of anti-LGBT policies that are currently implemented in Florida. Even though our membership was able to create a satellite location, separate is not equal. Much is lost for those who cannot attend the conference in Florida such as networking benefits--this cannot be replicated in a satellite or remote alternative. Therefore, we want to be included in the conversations when determining future locations to ensure all of our members can travel to and attend the annual conference location safely.
