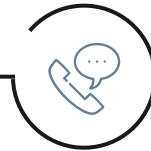


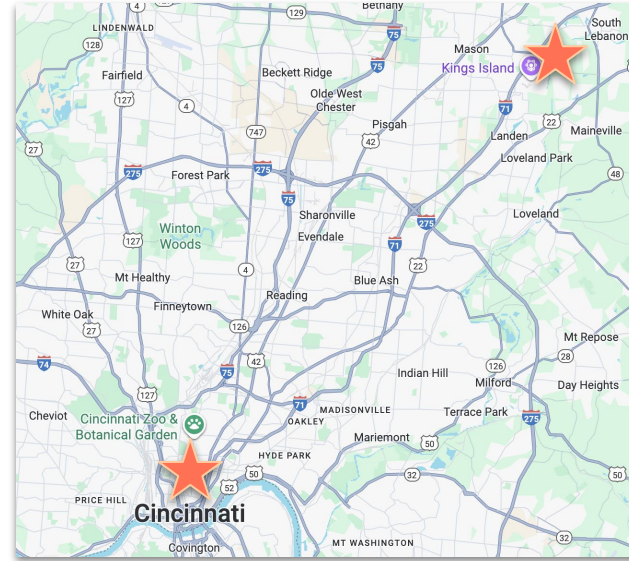
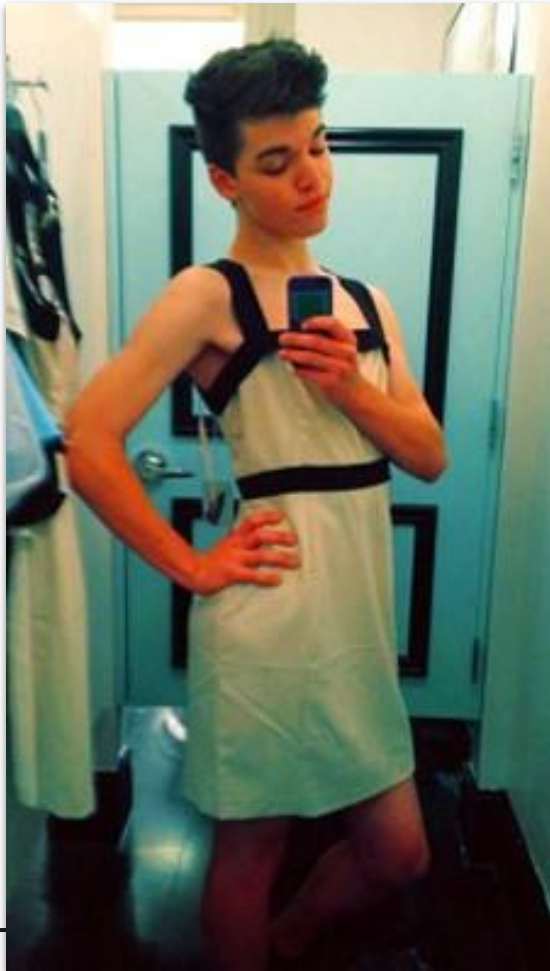
---

# Cincinnati Pride Hotline

Nikola and Jessie  
Learning Community #15

Trigger Warning: suicide, abuse





King's Mills

“My death needs to mean something”

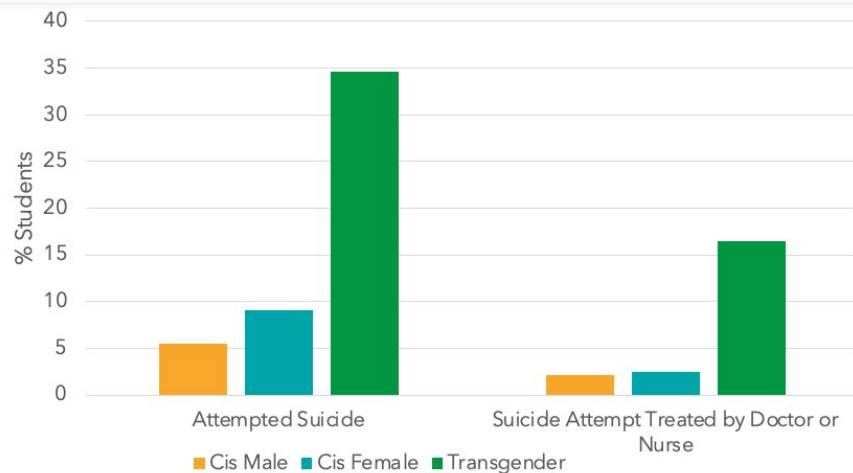
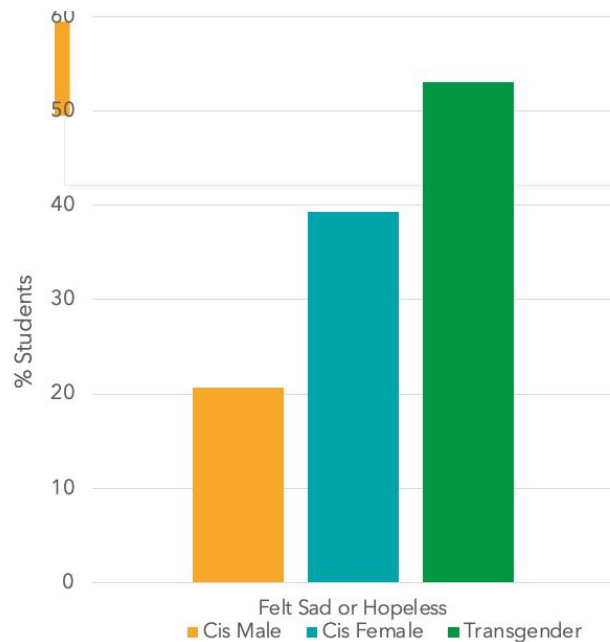
- Leelah Alcorn

# LGBTQ+ Mental Health

- LGBTQ+ young people are **more than 4X** more likely to attempt **suicide** than their peers
- The Trevor project estimates that for LGBTQ+ young people, there is at least one **suicide attempt** every **45 seconds**
- In Comprehensive Health Needs Assessment, **only 1/3** LGBTQ+ respondents reported **getting treatment**
- The minority stress theory attributes these disparities to **stigma, prejudice, and anticipation of discrimination**



# Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2017



# Loss of Resources at Federal Level

- **988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**
  - Specialized service for LGBTQ+ youth was ended in July 2025
- **\$1 billion cut from 2022 Bipartisan Safer Communities Act**
  - Funding used by school districts to hire mental health professionals, such as counselors and social workers
  - Funding lost in May 2025



# Loss of Resources at State Level

- **Ohio Senate 1 Bill and closure of LGBTQ+ Center at University of Cincinnati (June 2025)**
  - Banned state colleges from implementing DEI programs
  - Led to closures:
    - LGBTQ+ Center
    - Women's Center
    - African American Cultural and Resource Center
    - Ethnic Programs and Services
- **House Bill 68 enacted in 2024**
  - Banned gender-affirming care for minors, including puberty blockers, hormone therapy, and gender-affirming surgeries
  - Disproportionate impact of transgender youth in Ohio, including mental health



# Mental Health Impact

“It's been super exhausting lately. Some days, I'm just totally anxious and can barely get out of bed. It feels like there's a new anti-trans rule coming at us every single day, and I seriously need a break from all this.

I don't know how much more I can take”

UCLA Community Member



# What Can You Do?

- Launch a **local hotline** specifically for **LGBTQ+ residents** who need someone to turn to
- Offer immediate **crisis** support while also connecting people to affirming **community resources**
- Empower the **LGBTQ+ City Commission** (est March 2025) to guide and sustain this effort



# Impact of LGBTQ+ Specific Helpline

Provide a highly **accessible mental health resource**, tailored to the needs of LGBTQ+ individuals

Connect callers directly to local support groups, encouraging community-building and **social connection**

Partner with existing LGBTQ+ organizations in Cincinnati to maximize **longevity and feasibility** of this endeavor while strengthening the support these groups can provide

“My death needs to mean something”

- Leelah Alcorn