

## How You Can Help

- Make a contribution. The financial support of individuals, corporations and foundations allows us to enrich the programs and services we provide.
- Host a “GLBTQ Youth Friend-Raiser” to help raise awareness about the issues facing the GLBTQ youth we work with.
- Mentor a young person as he or she prepares for independent living.
- Provide employment opportunities for youth in our care. We partner with numerous small and large-sized businesses to provide short-term and part-time jobs and internships for youth.

To begin helping today, please call us at 718.895.2555, ext. 115.



## About SCO Family of Services

SCO Family of Services provides a diverse continuum of human care programs for children and families throughout New York City and Long Island. Each year, our programs reach more than 30,000 New Yorkers in need. Our core service areas include preventive services, foster care and adoption, youth development services, homelessness services, schools, school-based programs, mental health programs and services and homes for people with developmental disabilities.

### Contact Us

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**SCO**  Family of Services

Caring for People • Committed to Family • Connected to Community

**SCO**  Family of Services

## GLBTQ

Connecting Youth to  
Family and Community



## Who We Are

The GLBTQ program provides a safe home and caring support for youth in foster care who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or questioning.

In the 1990s, a group of GLBTQ youth in foster care and their advocates appeared before the New York City Administration for Children's Services to plead their case for safe housing. Because of their sexual orientation, many of these youth had been subjected to physical and emotional abuse in prior foster care placements.

Given SCO Family of Services' expertise in working with marginalized and underserved populations, and due to its long history of working with ACS, SCO was selected to provide residential services to the GLBTQ foster youth population. In May of 2001, SCO's new program accepted its first resident.



## The Program

We create a nurturing home-like environment that affirms differences in culture, ethnicity and sexual orientation. We help our residents find more stable and connected relationships with their families and within the broader community.

Our services include:

- Case management to help residents and their families overcome obstacles and connect them to needed services
- Individual, group and family therapy
- Substance abuse screenings and prevention counseling
- Access to medical services on site and referrals to specialists
- Training in independent living skills
- Assistance with job searches, resume building and interviewing skills

*“At Rodney Street  
I finally learned  
what it feels like to be free,  
to breathe in possibilities”*

D., a resident of the  
Rodney Street Group Home

## Our Residences

Our GLBTQ residential program is carefully designed to meet the unique needs of youth in our care. Our residences are located in Brooklyn and Queens and we serve youth ages 15 to 21 from all five boroughs.

### Rodney Street

This 12-bed home offers a structured home-like environment for male and female youth, ages 15 years and older. Rodney Street maintains a staff-to-client ratio of 1:4.

### 102nd Avenue

This 6-bed family-oriented residence provides a therapeutic setting for adolescents, ages 15 years and older. With a staff to client ratio of 1:6, this residence prepares youth to return to a permanent living situation either with their family, foster parents or independent living.

### Supervised Independent Living

This program prepares the older adolescent, ages 18-21, to become a self-sufficient adult. Residents live in an apartment and are responsible for the activities of daily living while they receive intensive independent living services. Residents must have stable employment and a high school diploma, GED or be enrolled in college or in a vocational training program.