



# Shiloh “The Gift”

The Kings County Court Diversion for  
LGBTQ youth and young adults

- The collaboration between SANDS' House, Inc. (**SHI**) and Gay Men of African Descent, Inc. (**GMAD**) creates services that are evidence-based, focused on sustainability, and designed to leverage each individual and family's strengths and resilience to develop solutions to problems that create barriers to their political and economic self-sufficiency and personal well-being.
- These “wrap around” services weave a tailored safety net for the most vulnerable of the racial/ethnic and sexual minorities.

## Sands House and GMAD - Collaboration

- **SANDS' House, Inc Mission:** Sands House, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide access to services and to promote mental and emotional healing for LGBT and SGL persons who are returning from incarceration as well as those who are currently serving time -- usually in secrecy and in hiding.

Our goals are:

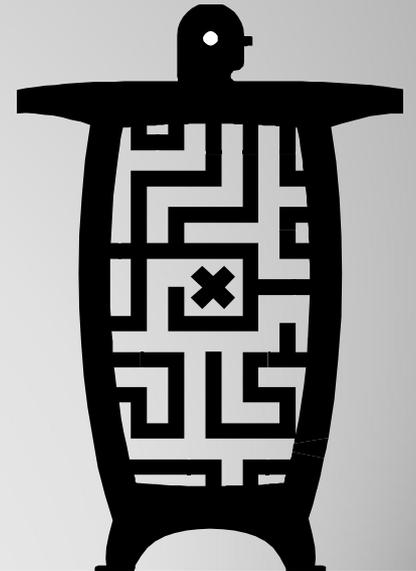
- ❑ To provide effective and affordable services tailored to meet the needs of LBGTQ persons who are incarcerated and those returning from incarceration.
- ❑ To engage clients in psychological, counseling and healing programs that affirm and encourage.
- ❑ To promote healing and self-sufficiency through education and counseling.

**SANDS' House Inc.**

- GMAD is, in its simplest form, a 27 year old group of people organized to accomplish the common goal of improving men's health.
- GMAD's mission is to empower gay men of African-descent through education, advocacy, health and wellness promotion and social support.
- In order to achieve its mission to generate a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not simply the absence of disease or infirmity, GMAD commits to a syndemic orientation combined with an adaptive conjoint methodology.

**GMAD**

- Shiloh is a diversion program that helps sexually self-identified LGBTQ youth ages 16-24 who have committed a misdemeanor, with tools to make positive changes in their lives.



**What is the SHILOH program?**

- Shiloh is a voluntary, confidential alternative to court proceedings for certain juveniles and adult offenders.
  - Cases are referred on an individual basis by local district attorneys.
- Shiloh holds offenders accountable for their unlawful behavior in a way that teaches responsible action and deters future involvement in delinquent or criminal activity.

**Shiloh defined**

- Resiliency Class
- Mental Health
- Case management
- Job Readiness
- Medical Services
- Internship
- Nutritional meal

**What services will SHILOH will provide?**

- Prosecutors offer eligible defendants the diversion option in court. Participants cited with substance abuse charges attend substance abuse counseling. Participants cited for shoplifting, disorderly conduct, theft, etc., attend adult responsibility classes. **Participants cited for specific animal code violations attend a humane education class.**
- In addition to collecting appropriate program fees and documents, SHI, tracks defendants' progress in counseling, takes appropriate action with those who fail to comply with program requirements, and prepares the documentation when defendants successfully complete the diversion program.

## How It Happens



- The client will meet with the Court advocate to do an initial assessment. The court advocate will escort the client to our offices.
- When the client into the office the receive a welcome gift of cosmetic, Journal book, Etc.

**In the court House**



- Client will meet with a Case Manager who will conduct a bio-Psychosocial.
- Client will work with a his/her Case Manager to complete a treatment plan.
- Client will have to sign a contact to state that they going to work and complete The SHILOH program.

**What do the intake process look like?**

- A contract may include:
  - community service;
  - a written essay or other creative project;
  - letters of apology;
  - restitution or participation in an appropriate life skills group.
  - A letter of apology to your victim
  - Restitution (money paid for loss) to your victim
  - Community service
  - Written or oral reports to the Diversion Board
  - Drug/alcohol assessment and follow-up
  - Education and counseling
  - Other suitable requirements established with the Diversion Board
  - Diversion fee

**What a contract may include**

- We are expecting the client to be in the program for no less than six months.
- Client will graduate when he/ she and the graduation team feel the participant has satisfied all relevant program requirements
- Weekly the program participant is required to attend two interventions delivered to a group and no less than one individual psychosocial therapy session with an appropriately credentialed mental health professional.

**What is the time length for the Program?**

- Clients are supported by an incentive-based economy to facilitate successful completion of the program.
- Incentives
  - Transportation Assistance
  - Nutrition
  - Gift cards
  - Internship
  - Trips

## Incentive Base Initiative

- Acknowledgement of your responsibility for violating the law and willingness to make amends.
- An interview with a Youth Services' staff member (parents of minors will be present).
- Payment of Diversion Fees.
- Attendance at a confidential hearing before a Diversion Board (a committee of 5-8 community members) to explain your behavior, supply information about yourself and learn if the board will accept your application. (All statements made by you while you are part of the Diversion Program are privileged and confidential and cannot be used against you later if your case is not dismissed.)
- Completion of a contract within a specified length of time as determined with the Diversion Board.

## Our Expectations of participants

- Once the juvenile or adult completes all conditions outlined by the contract, he or she is closed successfully from the program.
- Individuals who do not successfully complete their contracts are returned to court.

**What happens when it is over?**

- GMAD provides a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) for its wraparound or case management program that is designed to holistically diagnose a juvenile's problems and then provide intensive treatment to the juvenile and his or her family.
- The philosophical underpinning of the program is that information sharing and joint service planning among a coordinated team of professionals from social services, mental health, public health, probation, and the community would serve youths better than any of these agencies individually.
- The treatment planning process incorporates not only the specific client needs but also family, school, and other relevant aspects of the youth's life. The treatment plan is developed by concentrating on specific problems, possible solutions, strengths of the juvenile and the family, and goals to be met during the treatment phase.

**GMAD**

- Sands House provides complete re-entry services for the LGBTQ community.

**Sands House Inc.**

- After the client completes the main treatment they will still meet with the team (aftercare). The client will be monitored up to six months.
- Client will be offered to do a paid internship with the organization

**What do aftercare look like for the client?**

# of participant for the program	# Participant develop services plan	# participant participate in in-house and referral program	#client that complete the program /services plan	%	Participants are reintegrated in the community (base off 12 months after being release from prison)	Prison recidivism is reduce
#1300 Mandated	#100%	#100%	75%	75%Reduced substance abuse	#75	# 25%
				50% health reduction and risk		
				75%Attainment of housing		
				80% employment enhancement		
				85% Educational Enhancement		

**How we evaluate the effectiveness of the program?**

- SHILOH Program Director.
- MSW intern from Long Island University
- 2 case managers
- 1 court advocate.

## Key Positions