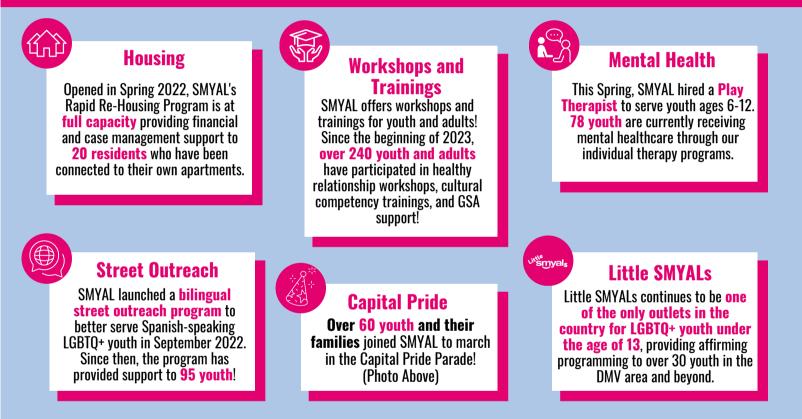
# **IMPACT REPORT ANUARY-JUNE 2023**

# SMYAL by the Numbers



## Housing

In February, SMYAL Executive Director Erin Whelan participated in a panel for Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day featuring high-level officials from the White House, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and D.C. Department of Health. After the panel, officials visited **SMYAL's demonstration transitional housing program which is a structural intervention to HIV/AIDS prevention and provides housing to 8 men-who-have sex-with-men.** 



## Youth Development & Community Engagement

#### SMYAL IS A PROUD MEMBER OF The 2023-2024 Kennedy Center Culture Caucus

In May, we hosted Glitz & Glamour, a dance party for queer and trans youth in partnership with the Kennedy Center's Culture Caucus and DC Black Pride. This was the first of four events that SMYAL will host at the Kennedy Center!





"Camp is at full capacity this year, welcoming over 40 campers and 12 junior counselors for a week of fun, games, songs, crafts, science, skits, LGBTQ+ history, friendships, and community. This year's theme was 'Marvelous Monsters and Gender Joy'- an invitation for youth to face the monsters of dysphoria head-on and build a creative, joyful identity of their own."

- Ty Kitchen, Little SMYALs Program Manager

This summer SMYAL teamed up with **Camp Free2Be** to host a week long day camp for transgender, nonbinary, and gender-expansive youth ages 6-14.

Camp Free2Be offers a safe, affirming space for the youngest youth in our community where they can be their full authentic selves.

Camp

Free2Be

## U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy visited SMYAL'S Youth Center

Dr. Murthy met with program participants and clinical staff to gain insights into the loneliness and isolation faced by LGBTQ+ youth. Youth spoke passionately about the wave of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation spreading across the country and pressed Dr. Murthy to take further action to advocate on their behalf.



## **Clinical Services**



## **Mosaic Support Group**

In the first half of 2023, **SMYAL launched a new support group for parents and caregivers of LGBTQ+ youth**! Mosaic is facilitated by SMYAL therapists and designed to destigmatize LGBTQ+ identity and provide caregivers with the tools to support their children.



## **School Based Group Therapy**

SMYAL's therapists and youth fellows are co-facilitating two separate 10-week groups that average **15 students** each at Duke Ellington High School with the goal of expanding to more schools in the future. Therapists provide psychoeducation; facilitate conversations around topics such as gender identity, sexuality, healthy relationships, coming out; and building community with other LGBTQ+ youth.

### Thank You Sponsors & Partners

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empowering LGBTQ youth

CareFirst Into the Kiwanis Club of Washington, D.C. for their support of SMYAL's Clinical Services