



OUTRIGHT

VERMONT

Testimony before the House Education Committee

Vermont Statehouse

February 16, 2023

Building a Vermont where all LGBTQ+ youth have hope, equity, and power

OUTRIGHT VERMONT

THEORY OF CHANGE



DISCOVERING SELF AND SUPPORTIVE PEER CONNECTIONS

Youth have:

- more resilience
- less suicidality & self-harm
- more information and resources
- identity validation
- leadership skills
- connections to peers and adults



STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

Families have:

- skills for empathy & active allyship
- resources to support queer & trans youth
- supportive relationships with youth
- a supportive community of family peers



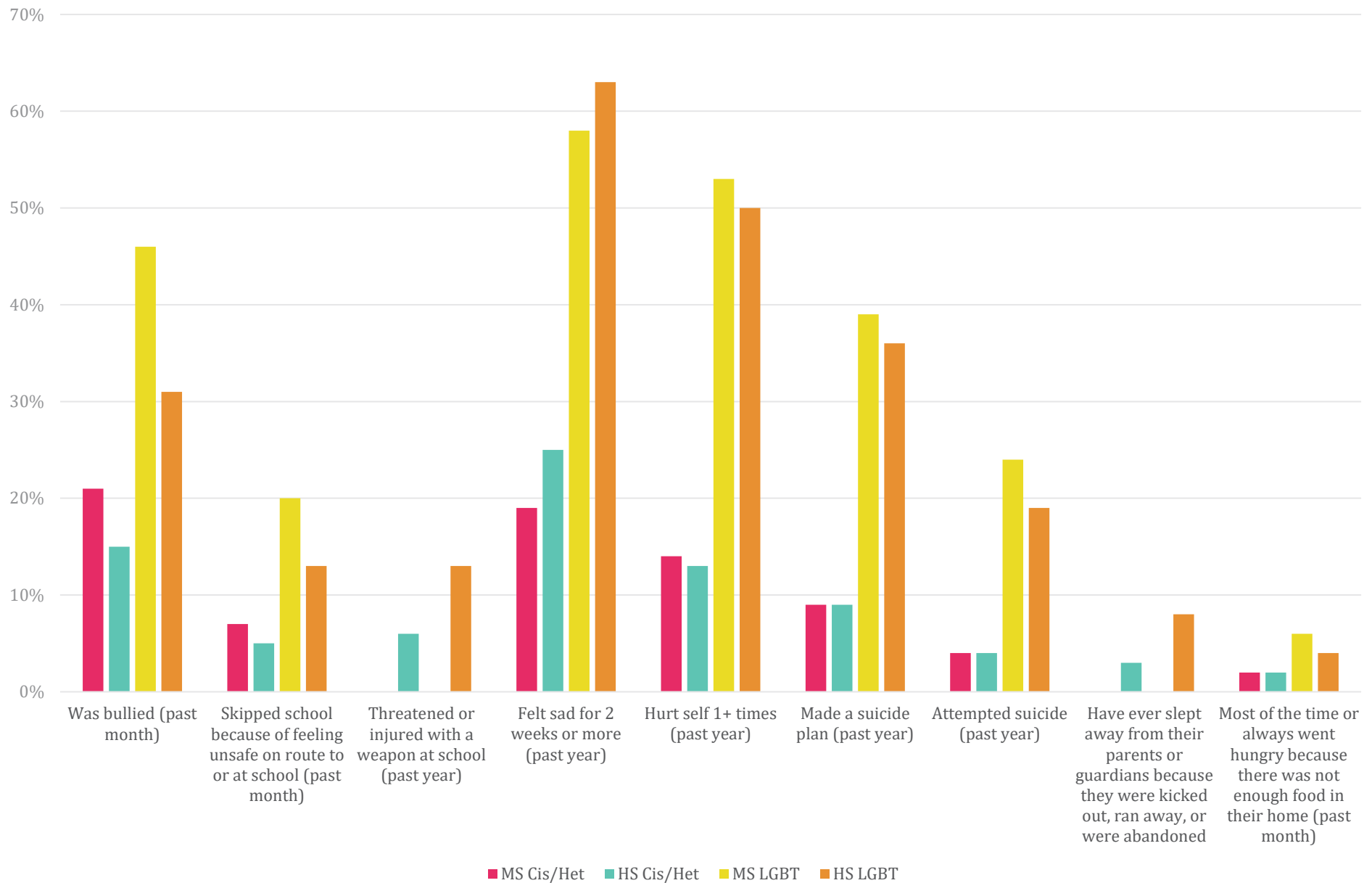
TRANSFORMING SCHOOLS, COMMUNITIES, AND SYSTEMS

Vermont has:

- safe places for queer & trans youth
- shifting gender & sexuality norms
- empathic, resourced, and active allies
- policies and practices that affirm queer & trans youth

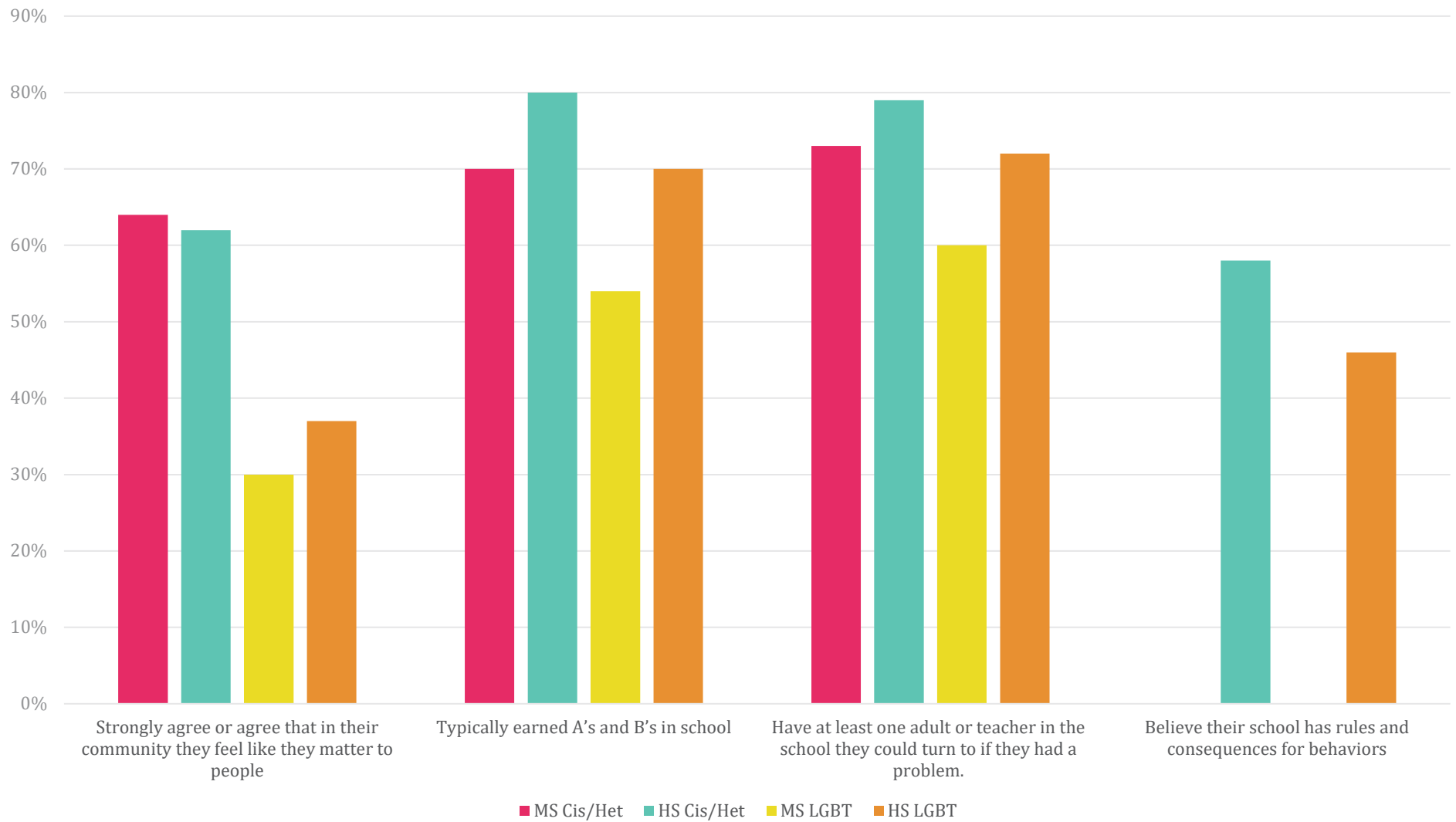
We accomplish this vision through a dynamic suite of programs, tailored to reach each goal. Success is made possible through robust operations, communications, and fund development.

Risk Factors for LGBT High School (HS) and Middle School (MS) Youth vs. Their Cisgender, Heterosexual Peers



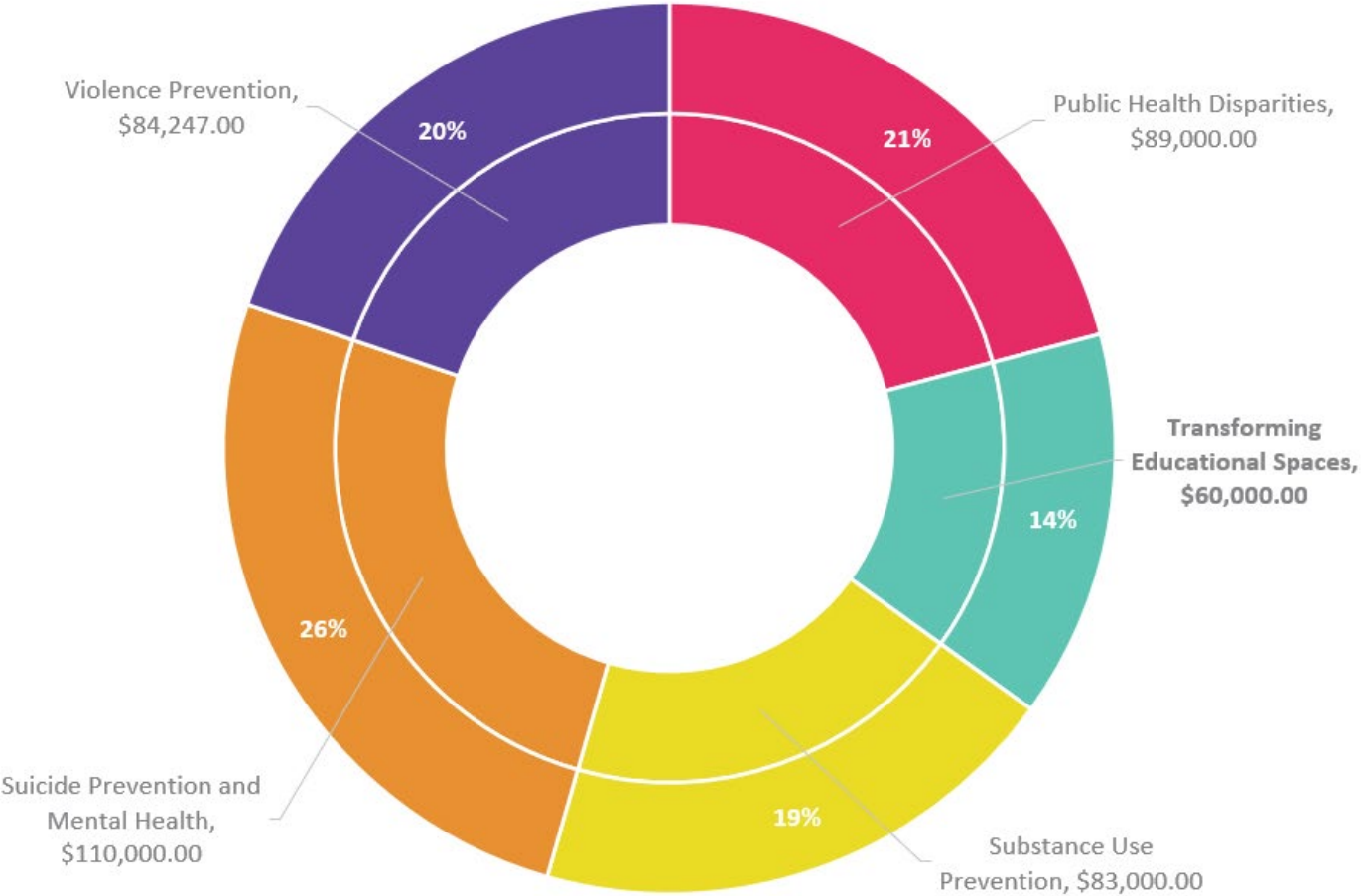
From the 2019 YRBS Data

Protective Factors for LGBT High School (HS) and Middle School (MS) Youth vs. Their Cisgender, Heterosexual Peers



From the 2019 YRBS Data

Vermont's State Spending on Outright's Work with LGBTQ+ Youth



In 2023, Vermont* will spend \$426,247 to fund Outright's work alongside LGBTQ+ youth. Of that, only \$60,000, or 14%, will go towards transforming our educational spaces across the state. 86% will be invested in mitigating the harm those youth experience on a daily basis.

*Of the \$426,247, the majority (74%) is grants awarded to the state by the federal government. \$110,000 (26%) comes from direct state dollars.