

## WELCOME

**We have made it to the end of another big year! A lot has happened, and exciting changes are underway for the year ahead of us.**

This newsletter addresses both, with updates and insights into what is happening with the SAIS Initiative, and reflections on the great work that has been happening in schools. The ACT Safe and Inclusive Schools Initiative Team extends our acknowledgment and thanks to ACT educators and school staff for the great work that has been done this year, across the region. We hope you have a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday period. We look forward to reconnecting and working with you in 2023!

*The SAIS ACT team*

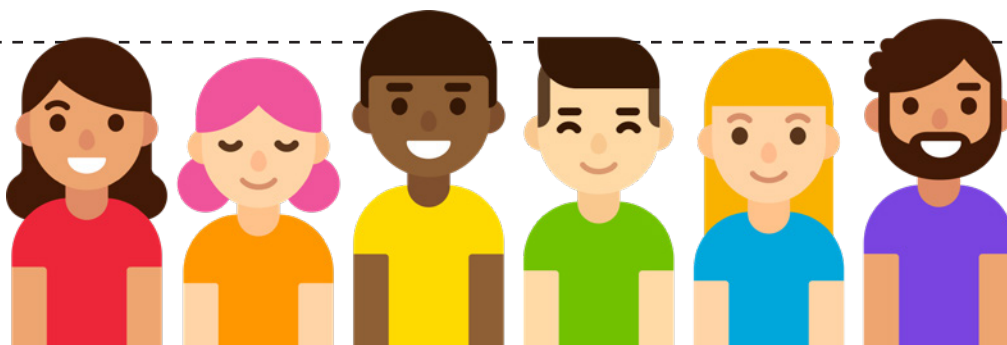
## SAIS CORE TRAINING 2022 OVERVIEW

We have made it to the end of another big year! A lot has happened, and exciting changes are underway for the year ahead of us. This newsletter 2022 has been another big year for our SAIS Core Training which reached over 150 TQI registered educators this year. This training was also delivered to a significant number of non-TQI registered school staff this year in whole school deliveries.

Training was delivered to schools from all sectors including ACT Government, Catholic, Anglican and Independent Schools. Both primary and secondary schools engaged with this training as well as colleges.

Following trends from 2020, our biggest uptake of trainings were private bookings delivered in schools for staff from that school, though there was also great uptake for the public cross-school sessions, especially in terms 2 and 4.

SAIS will continue to offer both public training sessions each term in 2023 alongside school bookings for internal training.



## SAIS CORE TRAINING UPDATES

After 5 years of delivering the popular TQI-accredited SAIS Core Training with updates and improvements some big changes are coming next year. The SAIS Core Training you know and love is returning as the restructured SAIS Introductory Training featuring new and improved content.

For those who have completed the SAIS Core (or Introductory) Training, or who are very familiar with the content, SAIS has accredited a new program - SAIS Extension Training. The extension training will be available in the new year.

Both workshops have been reworked to focus on more practical content, activities, and interactive learning. Featuring new case studies and the integration of revised SAIS resources, these programs reflect our commitment to feedback responsiveness and quality improvement.

## 2023 SAIS CORE TRAINING DATES

**THIS FREE THREE HOUR TQI-ACCREDITED TRAINING WORKS TO UNPACK AND EXAMINE THE EXPERIENCES OF AUSTRALIAN LGBTIQ+ STUDENTS, AND HOW TO BE MORE INCLUSIVE.**

Do you want to learn about how you can contribute to building safer and more inclusive schools for all students? The free SAIS Core Training is TQI-accredited and works to unpack and examine the experiences of Australian LGBTIQ+ students, and how to be more inclusive.

**TERM 1 : 21 MARCH 2023    TERM 2 : 13 JUNE 2023**

**INQUIRIES: SAISACT@SHFPACT.ORG.AU OR CALL 6247 3077**



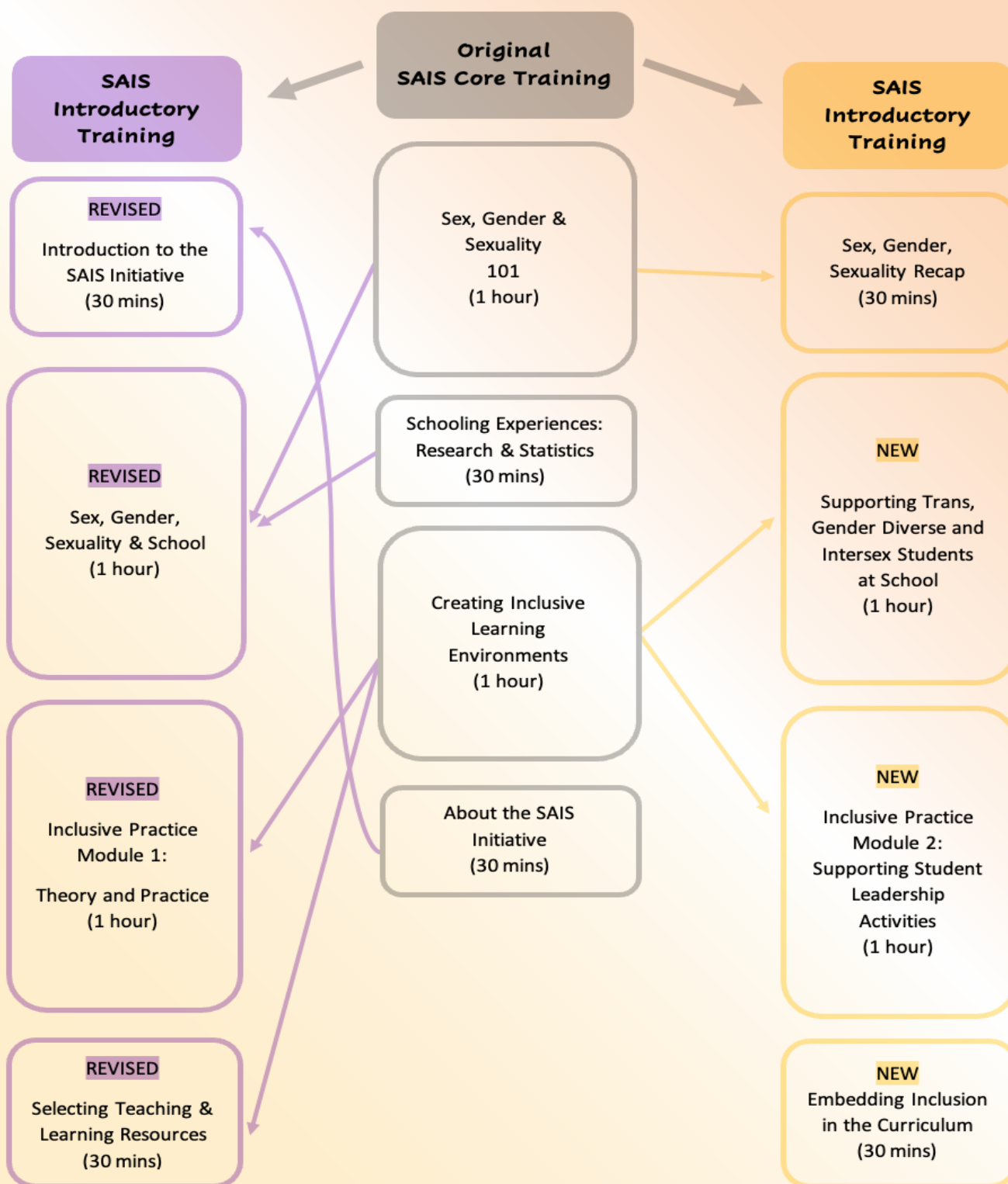
## A CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Would you like your school's event or student's work featured in our Newsletter? Please contact us at [saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au) if you have photos of an event your school has run or examples of students' art, short pieces of creative writing or other projects that you and your students wish to have featured. Please ensure that you have written consent from students prior to submitting their work, and that all student submissions are anonymous.

**SAIS PROJECT OFFICER** 02 6247 3077 • **GABRIEL FILPI** [GFilpi@shfpact.org.au](mailto:GFilpi@shfpact.org.au)

**RESOURCES SAISACT.INFO • EMAIL SAISACT@SHFPACT.ORG.AU • CALL 02 6247 3077**

ACT SAIS Initiative is supported by funding from the ACT Government. **SAIS Project Officer: Gabriel Filpi** [GFilpi@shfpact.org.au](mailto:GFilpi@shfpact.org.au)





# SAIS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

## SAIS INTRODUCTORY TRAINING

### INTRODUCTION TO THE ACT SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS INITIATIVE

Training participants will be guided through key features of the Initiative and how the Initiative can be engaged for support. Participants will be supported in developing confidence to communicate about the Initiative and its activities within their school and to the wider school community.

This module will help participants connect to the wider network of schools, services and support available when undertaking inclusion work around sex, gender and sexuality.

### SEX, GENDER, SEXUALITY AND SCHOOL

Participants will unpack the diversity of sex, gender, and sexuality and how this is present in school environments.

Supported with qualitative and quantitative Australia data, participants will navigate how this diversity is experienced by students and the impacts of prejudice and discrimination on the student experience.

### INCLUSIVE PRACTICE MODULE 1 IN THEORY AND PRACTICE

Training participants will be introduced to inclusive principles and practical strategies to create inclusive school environments such as the use of inclusive language, actively affirming diversity at school and responding to prejudice & discrimination.

Through case studies and guided, critical conversations participants will navigate real-world scenarios and situations, with a focus on best practice approaches to meet the needs of the school community.

### SELECTING TEACHING AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Participants will explore the needs and benefits of inclusive resources in teaching and learning environments.

Through the use of the newly updated and revised SAIS Resource Selection Tool, participants will be guided through approaches to identify and adapt teaching and learning resources for classroom application.

Using worked examples and the identification of where recommended resources can be found, this module offers a practical introduction to inclusive learning.



# SAIS HAPPENINGS NEWSLETTER

## SAIS EXTENSION TRAINING

### SEX, GENDER, SEXUALITY RECAP

Training participants will be guided through a quick refresher and orientation on the concepts of sex, gender and sexuality through a practical and interactive activity and clarifying discussion.

### SUPPORTING TGD + I STUDENTS AT SCHOOL

Utilising the SAIS Good Practice Guide – Supporting Students Affirming Gender at School and the SHFPACT-AGA joint resource Including Intersex – Responding to issues affecting the educational experiences of intersex students in Australia, participants will be guided through practical approaches to support TGD+I students at school and strategies to address specific barriers that impact trans, gender diverse and intersex students.

Through practical case studies drawn from commonly reported experiences, participants will address topics such as bathroom and gendered facility access, school camps and excursions, participation in sports and supporting students at school who do not have support at home.

### INCLUSIVE PRACTICE MODULE 2 – SUPPORTING STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES

With the use of the new SAIS Events Calendar and the updated and revised SAIS School-based Events and Activities Guide, participants will be guided through ways to support student leadership and participation in the school community through whole-of-school events and activities to raise awareness and foster inclusion.

With a focus on marking days of significance such as IDAHOBIT (International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia) and Wear It Purple Day, this module explores ways to signpost inclusion, support student voice and foster an inclusive school community.

### EMBEDDING INCLUSION IN THE CURRICULUM

Designed as an introduction to approaching inclusion in the curriculum, participants will be introduced to areas of the curriculum where inclusion can be actively incorporated across a range of topics.

With practical examples and tailored Primary and Secondary-School modules, this highly customisable section offers flexibility for a range of audiences.

Mapped to areas of the Australian Curriculum, participants are supported to identify ways in which diversity and inclusion can be incorporated into classroom learning.



## END-OF YEAR DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE



### INTERSEX AWARENESS DAY

The 26th of October was Intersex Awareness Day. This day came about as a time to highlight the human rights issues faced by intersex people around the world. Intersex Awareness Day has been celebrated since 2003 and commemorates one of the earliest moments in modern intersex activism.

On October 26th 1996, Intersex community, activists and advocates protested outside of the annual conference of the American Academy of Paediatrics in Boston. Then and now activists and advocates campaign for intersex people's right to bodily autonomy, medical rights and informed consent.



### INTERSEX DAY OF SOLIDARITY (INTERSEX REMEMBRANCE DAY)

Closely following Intersex Awareness Day, Intersex Day of solidarity is a day to mark the lives and contributions of intersex activists, individuals and advocates that came before and the intersex people who have lost their lives and been harmed by both historic and ongoing harmful practices and human rights abuses globally. The 8th of November was chosen as it also marks the birth of Herculine Barbin, a French 19th century intersex woman whose life and experiences were immortalised in her memoir providing unique insight into intersex history.

Herculine's story is powerful and speaks to the ongoing experiences faced by intersex people today, forming the basis of the Intersex Human Rights movement.



### TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

Transgender Awareness Week is a time of acknowledgement, visibility and celebration of transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people around the globe. It is also a week to raise awareness around the experiences and issues faced by transgender people across the world. This is a time for promoting inclusion, advocacy, activism and sharing stories and education. It is also a perfect opportunity to commit to anti-discrimination and addressing prejudice, bigotry and transphobia in society.

During this week it is important to let transgender, non-binary and gender diverse people in our community know that they are welcome, loved, supported, and valued.



### TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

At the end of Transgender Awareness Week, we mark Transgender Day of Remembrance.

This is a time to acknowledge, commemorate, and mourn the loss of transgender people who have lost their lives due to hatred, bigotry, transphobia, and violence.

It draws attention to the ongoing experiences of marginalisation and violence endured by transgender, non-binary, and gender diverse people around the world.

It is often marked by a vigil or memorial.



## CAPITAL OF EQUALITY: SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOK PACKS

AT SEXUAL HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING ACT (SHFPACT) WE ARE FINALLY COMING TO THE END OF OUR INCREDIBLE RAINBOW REPRESENTATION BOOK PROJECT. WHILE THIS IS NOT A PROJECT FROM THE SAFE AND INCLUSIVE SCHOOL'S INITIATIVE, WE SUPPORT THE WORK OF SHFPACT IN THIS AREA.

Thanks to a generous grant from the ACT Government's Capital of Equality Grants Round at the end of 2021, the past year has been spent building an incredible resource bank for ACT School libraries.

Consultation and collaboration facilitated incredible feedback, suggestions and input from ACT teacher-librarians, Melbourne-based LGBTIQ+ book store Hares and Hyenas and passionate community members.

The aim of this project was to identify and supply books that positively address, reflect and include stories, characters and topics related to diverse family structures, rainbow families, people who are same-sex attracted transgender, non-binary, gender diverse and intersex. Also featured are non-fiction texts about LGBTIQ+ history and historical figures, celebrities and role models, and texts that address diversity and inclusion. Intersectionality was a key consideration with intentional focus placed on texts that portray a range diversity from writers with lived experience.

These texts have been captured in recommended resource lists that catalogue titles recommended by community members, schools, and those identified by SHFPACT and Hares and Hyenas. These lists will be published and made available at the end of the year and promoted in early 2023.

In addition to this, a small subset of 10-14 titles were identified for each school level (Early Years, Primary, Secondary and College). These titles were purchased with grant funds at Hares and Hyenas and YOUTH&I (a small intersex youth publication). Over 400 books were purchased, becoming 40 book packs that are being distributed to ACT schools who applied.

A small project launch happened on Wednesday 14th December.

If you would like to enquire about the project, book lists or book packs you can do so by contacting: [training@shfpact.org.au](mailto:training@shfpact.org.au)





## YOUth&I Issue 3



## WEAR IT PURPLE DAY

### YOUTH&I

With no date yet announced, YOUth&I 3 is set to be released before the end of 2023.

Featuring work from over 20 young intersex creatives from around the world, YOUth&I is a one-of-a-kind intersex designed produced, and edited publication. YOUth&I 3 features works in English, Spanish, Shona, French and Portuguese (non-English pieces have also been translated into English) alongside a collection of digital and traditional artworks. The importance of a project like YOUth&I is best described in the following words from the website:



*YOUth&I seeks to create a space for young intersex people to share their stories in their own words and not be taken out of context or rewritten by endosex (non-intersex) people. A space for intersex voices to be heard in their own right. A chance to educate the people we live with and to connect with others including those who, even if they don't know the word intersex, might recognise some of these stories and experiences within themselves.*

*Creating safe spaces in community to share, hear, and hold each other is incredibly important. While the intersex community in Australia is growing, spaces solely for intersex youth have so far been difficult to create and sustain. YOUth&I provides a space for young intersex people in Australia and elsewhere to share, create, be visible, and be valued. It is one answer to the challenges of storytelling in a world that is only just beginning to listen and where sharing can be painful, unsupported, unsafe, and not always clear whether it leads to change. It is also one answer to the challenges of bringing together young intersex people and giving them the opportunity to express the creativity and joy in their lives.*

### WEAR IT PURPLE DAY SMALL GRANTS OVERVIEW

SAIS had another great response to our Wear It Purple Day small grants round in 2022. In total 12 schools received a small grant of \$200 to assist with running a student-led, staff-supported activity for Wear it Purple Day. Included, were 3 primary schools, 7 secondary schools and 2 colleges.

#### This year some of the events and activities included:

- Library book displays
- Pledge/inspiration quote walls
- Murals and art installations
- Collage and poster making
- Pin, ribbon, and badge making
- Purple food stalls, morning and afternoon teas, cupcake decorating, rainbow lunch boxes, canteen items and a community BBQ
- Accessory stations (nail polish, face paint, makeup, hair spray, nail art and glitter etc.)
- Purple fashion parades
- Photo booths/photo backdrop walls
- Presentations and documentary screenings
- Trivia and games
- Stalls selling pride merchandise
- School decorations and classroom door-decorating competitions
- A school disco and karaoke
- Gold coin fundraising

Contact SAIS at [saisact@shfpact.org.au](mailto:saisact@shfpact.org.au) for more information, tips and ideas when running school-based events for Wear it Purple Day, IDAHOBIT or another day of significance!



## IMAGE DESCRIPTIONS

A collage of photographs showing teachers and students celebrating Wear It Purple day wearing purple clothing, surrounded by rainbow decorations.

Top Row: Three photographs left to right: The left and right photographs show different views of a school hallway decorated with rainbow streamers hanging from the ceiling in a row. In both photos students are standing or seated in small groups, engaged in activities and conversation. Many are wearing various shades of purple to mark Wear It Purple Day.

The middle photograph is outside, showing a group of students and teachers lining up for the Purple Café. The teachers are all wearing purple. A student in the foreground is making a peace symbol with their hand. They have short dark hair and are wearing a dark vest over a white shirt.

Bottom Row: Three photographs left to right: The photo on the left shows 4 teachers enjoying food from the Purple Café. Three are seated and one is standing.

They are wearing various purple clothing and have several badges to mark the day. The middle image shows a creased rainbow pride flag hanging on a wall, while the right photo depicts a group of three students at a stall.

The two students on the left are standing and making “heavy metal” hand gestures while the third student is seated at the end of the table. The table has a dark purple tablecloth and a purple and rainbow box containing pronoun pins.





WEAR IT  
PURPLE DAY  
CANBERRA  
COLLEGE



#### IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

A photo of a crowded table or stall surrounded by students wearing various items of purple clothing some students are serving mini cupcakes and lollies. There are clusters of purple balloons and pride flags on the wall both the trans pride and rainbow pride flags are visible on the wall, alongside some Wear It Purple Day posters.

#### IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

A library book display on a two-toned purple tablecloth. Fourteen books are featured that showcase LGBT IQA+ characters and stories. Among the visible titles are "It Gets Better", "Almost Perfect", "Growing Up Queer in Australia", "The Family Law" and "Cameron Post". The table is decorated with a garland of purple flowers.



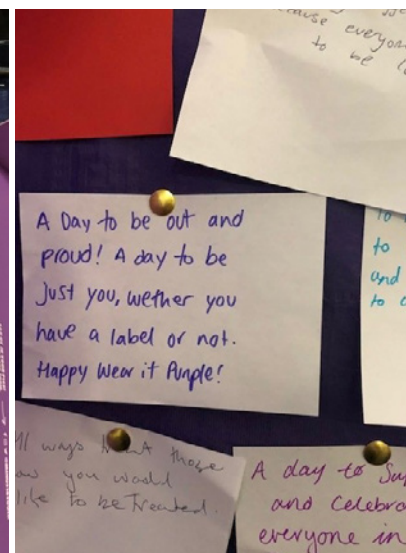
#### IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

: A photograph showing two female teachers wearing black shirts and purple pants standing in front of a purple "message wall" covered in handwritten notes and messages from staff and students. The word "HUMAN" is spelt out in capitals made from coloured cardboard at the top of the board. They are arranged in a rainbow - H is red, U is orange, M is yellow, A is green, and N is blue. A row of purple balloons frames the left of the photograph. The teacher on the left has long dark hair and a badge with a purple flower on her jumper. The other teacher is taller and has long blonde wavy hair with a purple paisley hairband her shirt has a large rainbow pride flag on it.



#### IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

A close-up photograph of a purple box containing assorted pronoun badges both large and small. The badges read "SHE HER" on a pink circle, "THEY THEM" on a green circle and "HE HIM" on a blue circle each badge has a collage of flowers in the background.



#### IMAGE DESCRIPTION:

A close up photograph of some of the hand-written messages. The top message reads "A day to be out and proud! A day to be just you, whether you have a label or not. Happy Wear it Purple!" The message below reads, "Always treat those how you would like to be treated". Two incomplete messages are cut off in the background.





**IMAGE DESCRIPTION:**

Top: A group of 6 teachers in various light purple and rainbow clothing sitting around a desk in a staff room. One teacher in the middle of the top photo, who is wearing a white blazer is absent in the bottom photograph.

Bottom: A Group of 12 teachers in various shades of purple clothing posed for a photo in a school hallway beneath hanging rainbow streamers. Middle Right: Four teachers posed for a photograph outside. They are wearing purple shirts and carrying rainbow lanyards.