



A Loving Community 2024 GLAA Questionnaire

The following questions are based on [A Loving Community: GLAA Policy Brief 2024](#). If you have questions about the issues raised in the questionnaire, please seek the brief for guidance and clarification.

Please give more than a simple "yes" or "no" response to our questions — though you should begin with a "yes" or "no." The depth and completeness of your answers play a major role in determining your final rating.

Your record is part of your rating. Please list any actions that you have taken that may help illustrate your record on behalf of LGBTQ people—particularly actions that relate to the topics in recent GLAA policy briefs. Feel free to link relevant documents such as letters to the editor, legislative testimony, campaign literature, etc. Assume that GLAA is unfamiliar with your record.

1. Fund Our Futures. Do you support addressing concentrated wealth in the District by raising revenue through taxing the most wealthy residents as the Just Recovery DC Coalition recommends in its Fair Tax proposal?

I would be open to looking at the data to determine the best approach to ensure that upper income residents across the District are paying their fair share of taxes. I don't believe it to be a good practice to just "tax" residents because of their individual successes. We must approach taxation from an equitable and reasonable standpoint.

2. Invest in harm reduction and overdose prevention services to save lives. Do you support funding the evidence-based and patient-centered approach to reducing overdose deaths and supporting healing from substance use disorder in the form of allocating \$15 million from the \$80 million Opioid Settlement Fund to fund two 24/7 harm reduction centers, that would include a safe drug consumption component, mobile outreach vehicles, and drug checking services?

I believe as a city we must do our absolute best to help safeguard the welfare of our residents. This approach must be based on actionable data and science.

- 3. Increasing the pipeline of licensed mental health care workers.** Do you support addressing the District's lack of mental health providers by reducing the barriers to becoming a licensed social worker through ending the exam requirement for people who

complete a Bachelor's or Master's degree in social work and funding programs such as the recently passed law creating a free Master of Social Work program?

I do not believe we should lower standards across any field; however, we should provide all reasonable and necessary supports to ensure more residents are interested in working in the mental health field. I support the free MSW program.

- 4. Fund crisis response and community-based behavioral/mental health services to prevent crises.** Do you support investing in unarmed models of crisis response with responders that are culturally competent and resourced sufficiently to respond in minutes?

Yes,

- 5. Budget sufficiently to fulfill non-discrimination laws.** Do you support continued funding for the Office of Human Rights (and oppose cuts to the agency's budget) to ensure the agency can staff up sufficiently to end its case backlog, complete discrimination cases in a timely manner, and effectively engage in community education and outreach?

Yes

- 6. Decriminalize Sex Work.** Do you support enacting legislation to decriminalize sex work for adults, including the selling and purchasing of sex and third party involvement not involving fraud, violence or coercion?

No; however, I would certainly be interested in having ongoing dialogue to ensure all DC residents have access to job readiness programs, work placement programs, etc.

- 7. Decriminalize Drug Use.** Do you support removing the criminal penalties for drug possession for personal use and increasing investments in health services?

I do believe we should make investments in health services to support persons that are addicted to drugs and want meaningful help/services.

- 8. Fully implement police and jail oversight and record sealing legislation.** Do you support the full \$2.6 million in funding necessary to implement the legislation passed to improve oversight of our jails and police and to overhaul our criminal record sealing process? Yes,

- 9. Socialize Our Housing. Do you support the D.C. Green New Deal for Housing that proposes to take a social housing approach to disrupt the failed system of the market-focused one?** I believe that housing is a human right. As councilmember, I would work holistically and collaboratively to develop innovative strategies and plans to create additional supply, support down payment assistance programs and amplify programs that help residents improve their credit rating.

*Please return your questionnaire responses in PDF format **by 11:59pm ET on Friday, April 19** on GLAA's [homepage](#). If you have trouble submitting your response through the page, you can email it to equal@glaa.org.*
