



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?
- 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?
- 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?

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

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.

2024 GLAA Questionnaire Response

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1. Fund Our Futures: Taxing Wealthy Residents Yes, I support addressing concentrated wealth in the District by taxing the most wealthy residents as recommended by the Just Recovery DC Coalition in its Fair Tax proposal. As a proponent of equitable economic policies, I believe that it's vital to ensure that wealthier individuals and entities contribute their fair share towards community development and social programs. This approach not only fosters fiscal equity but also supports sustainable funding for crucial public services.

2. Invest in Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention Services Yes, I support allocating \$15 million from the \$80 million Opioid Settlement Fund to fund two 24/7 harm reduction centers, which would include safe drug consumption components, mobile outreach vehicles, and drug checking services. Evidence-based and patient-centered approaches are essential to effectively reduce overdose deaths and support recovery from substance use disorders. This investment is critical to saving lives and promoting community health.

3. Increasing the Pipeline of Licensed Mental Health Care Workers Yes, I support reducing barriers for becoming a licensed social worker by ending the exam requirement for those who complete a Bachelor's or Master's degree in social work, and I also support funding programs like the free Master of Social Work program. Enhancing the availability of qualified mental health professionals is crucial to addressing the mental health crisis and ensuring that all residents have access to necessary care.

4. Fund Crisis Response and Community-Based Behavioral/Mental Health Services Yes, I support investing in unarmed models of crisis response with culturally competent responders who are sufficiently resourced to respond in minutes. This investment is key to preventing crises and providing effective, compassionate care in emergency situations, which can greatly reduce the need for police intervention in mental health crises.

5. Budget Sufficiently to Fulfill Non-Discrimination Laws Yes, I support continued funding for the Office of Human Rights and oppose any cuts to the agency's budget. It is essential that this agency is adequately staffed to end its case backlog, complete discrimination cases in a timely manner, and effectively engage in community education and outreach to uphold the rights of all residents.

6. Decriminalize Sex Work No, while I am committed to protecting the rights and safety of all individuals, including sex workers, I believe that more comprehensive community discussions and evaluations are necessary before we can move forward with decriminalizing sex work. It is crucial to develop strategies that ensure safety, prevent exploitation, and address the underlying socio-economic issues that lead individuals to sex work.

7. Decriminalize Drug Use No, I do not support the full decriminalization of drug possession for personal use at this time. However, I am in favor of reevaluating our approach to drug-related

offenses with a focus on health-centered solutions rather than punitive measures. I support increased investment in treatment and rehabilitation services, as well as the exploration of alternative legal frameworks that prioritize rehabilitation over incarceration for non-violent drug offenses.

8. Fully Implement Police and Jail Oversight and Record Sealing Legislation Yes, I 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. This funding is crucial for ensuring transparency, accountability, and fairness in our justice system.

9. Socialize Our Housing Yes, I 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. This initiative is vital for providing affordable, sustainable, and community-oriented housing solutions that are accessible to all residents.