

**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?

*Yes, I believe that equity is the foundation of policy. Taxation of the Wards wealthiest residents makes the most sense for a fair distribution.*

**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?

*Yes, I support allocating the funds necessary for a holistic approach to public safety. City budgets are moral documents that reflect where our priorities are as a government. Prioritizing rehabilitation, access to naran and other lifesaving measures are the minimum we can do to combat the opioid crisis. Additionally, as chair of ANC 8C, I lead the charge to pass a resolution to create a harm reduction center in Ward 8.*

- 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?

*Yes, I do support addressing the lack of mental health providers in the district. As a part of my platform for teachers, I believe in providing mental health days and more counselors for teachers in school. Of course, that cannot happen if there are not enough providers necessary or if the ones we have are overworked. Providing a pipeline into mental health providers is part of progress on multiple fronts, not only in education but for public safety responders, and economic mobility for those entering the field. . Making it as accessible as possible either through a pathway program or a free program will also be a necessary component in order to bring more people into the field. Furthermore, I organized residents to send 870 letters to council to approve Bill 25-0055 - Pathways to Behavioral Health Degrees Act of 2023. [Please click here to view.](#)*

- 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, I support bringing in more mental health providers as first responders as a mode of unarmed crisis response. There are many circumstances that do not require armed responses. DC used to have the orange hat program where community policing was the norm, and if elected I would advocate for a program similar to that, with unnamed neighborhood responders to de-escalate nonviolent situations such as noise complaints, ect.*

- 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, I support continued funding to ensure underwriters and staffers are fully funded, and able to do their job to their full capacity without being burnt out, and leading to a high-turnover rate at the department.*

**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?

*The answer is no, unfortunately, we must protect young girls who may be solicited into sex work. However, I do support the reduction of punishment for those found guilty to no more than six months.*

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

*Yes, I do. Decriminalizing drug use and possession is one way to reduce the number of people being swept into the criminal justice system (or deported) as a result of drug law violations.*

**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, I agree that oversight is needed to ensure accountability of our justice system, and ensure our jails are operating at a humane level. 2.6 million is a drop in the bucket.*

**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?

*Yes, I support a D.C. Green New Deal for Housing, as I believe that sustainability is the only way we can make it to a future. In Ward 8 specifically, there are many abandoned houses and apartments. So much so that there's no need to build new buildings, but we simply need to renovate the ones we currently have. That would also allow us to keep the green space that is already in DC.*

*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](mailto:equal@glaa.org).*