

4 reasons to sustain your GSA during the pandemic

Mutual support in hard times is a queer legacy.

Building community across physical distances has long been a well used skill amongst LGBTQI2S people. In these uncertain times we all find ourselves in, please find some comfort in remembering that LGBTQI2S people have a long history of showing great resourcefulness in order to support one another. The shared hardship of not being able to connect physically with one another is one that we have overcome time and time again. It is as important as ever now to draw from this legacy.



Now is the time to use existing communities of care.

Although not all things can or should simply carry on as if business is usual, we should take advantage of using communities of care that already exist. A GSA can be an valuable resource in the face of new individual and collective needs.



Added stressors are especially unbearable to those already struggling.

LGBTQI2S students may already have been dealing with additional emotional and psychological stressors compared to their straight and/or cisgender peers. With the added stress and loss of control we are facing, it is likely an especially hard time for LGBTQI2S students.



We cannot afford to lose an already limited number of safer spaces.

LGBTQI2S positive spaces can be difficult to find in the best of times. Social distancing requirements limits access to them even further. These spaces are vital for those who rely on them as one of the only environments where they can truly express their full selves. A GSA may be particularly important for any students who are now stuck in quarantine living situations that are not queer and trans affirming.



At the best of times, GSAs hold the possibility of offering some relief from isolation by providing a sense of belonging, community and shared experience. It is clear that LGBTQI2S students need their GSAs right now, perhaps more than ever before!