

New York prides itself on leading the country in support for LGBTQI people. But each and **every right and protection was hard won** over long campaigns.

As with all communities, **legal and lived equality are not equivalent**. These **"wins" affect the daily lives of New Yorkers differently** depending on personal and familial status, geographic location, race, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, and so on.

No movement for civil and social equality and equity has been left unchallenged and many of our opponents strive to turn back the clock. Equality New York's mission is to stop them.

New York's LGBTQI communities deserve an efficient and effective statewide voice to:

Consistently build good relationships with government and hold our elected officials accountable	Be a <b>watchdog</b> to ensure our rights continue to expand and stay protected
<b>Convene LGBTQI people</b> from diverse communities and locations to address issues and challenges with greater strength	<b>Impact elections</b> to ensure the greatest number of pro-LGBTQI politicians hold office throughout the state