

**Thank you to our nglccNY family for staying  
strong!**



**We are committed to  
elevating one another in  
times of success and  
times of strife.**

## **Dear nglccNY Community,**

On behalf of the Executive Committee at nglccNY, I am reaching out to let you know that our hearts are with you and yours during this time of monumental challenge and uncertainty. COVID-19 has created devastating losses for New York, particularly our most vulnerable communities. It has also adversely impacted our businesses and the monthly face-to-face interactions we once took for granted.

To say we miss our M3 mixers and events is a huge understatement. Getting the chance to see each of you in person, share a hug, handshake, or fist-bump was something team nglccNY looked forward to each month. From those of you I have been in touch with recently, it warms my heart to know that you feel the same way.

We are still in the thick of it and that is why I am checking in now. We want you to remember that you are not alone. nglccNY is still a place for us to gather, share, and connect. Our city, and our community, has proven time and again, that we have the resilience to band together and move through difficulties as a collective.

To help mitigate losses, we've been working closely with our parent organization, the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC), and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide resources for our members and Certified LGBT Business Enterprise® (LGBTBE) companies, and we are working diligently to provide additional resources for New York specifically. I know we are all being bombarded with online information, but we are determined to translate our special nglccNY culture to the digital space. That involves streamlining communications to provide the best tools available, and you can find a list of NGLCC and nglccNY resources [here](#).

I've said it a thousand times - and I will say it again - that there is no place quite like nglccNY for New York LGBTQ business leaders, business owners, and our allies. We are committed to gathering, connecting, and elevating one another in times of success and times of strife. That remains true now more than ever. We are working to bring you useful information that will help you navigate, learn, and adjust while we find our way to the other side of this.

Soon, we will provide webinars sourced by YOU, our nglccNY members. I encourage all who have valuable webinar ideas to submit their topics [here](#). I am also happy to announce that we will host our first virtual M3 on Wednesday, April 15. Keep an eye out for other upcoming online opportunities in the coming weeks.

No one understands the trials of being an entrepreneur like other entrepreneurs. Moments like this remind us of that entrepreneurial spirit. Growing and adapting is what we New Yorkers do best. This moment is challenging us all to do just that.

Many in our NY business community are using the time of slower day-to-day operations to focus on building their businesses for the comeback ahead. Do you need a new business plan or a capability statement to get new business? Now is the perfect time. Have you been putting off getting the company logo of your dreams or the killer website your business needs? Now is the perfect time. Have you thought about putting your life experience and skills to work to start the small business you never had time to build before? Now is the perfect time. And we at nglccNY are here to help.

None of us know what the new normal will look like. Maybe it will be greeting each other at M3s with elbow-bumps instead of an embrace. Just know, we are here and will continue to be a steadfast resource for our LGBTQ business family. As our NGLCC co-founders have recently said, "Our community is sustained by our resilience and commitment to helping one another through the good times, and the challenging ones. Let us commit ourselves to shop local, shop LGBT, give back what we can to our community organizations, and support all around us. We truly are in this together."

Your support, resilience, and strength are what make nglccNY what it is. You are the voice of the New York LGBTQ business community, and we have never been more grateful for you than we are today. We still have a long way to go, but together we will endure.

If you have any questions, concerns, or just need to connect, do not hesitate to reach out. Thank you, all. Stay well, and be safe!

Yours in solidarity,  
TJ Chernick



## nglccNY Webinars and NGLCC Webinar Wednesdays

### Helping your business thrive online

As we shift to a virtual business world during the COVID-19 pandemic, Team NGLCC is by your side and preparing opportunities to

continue to elevate you and your company.

We are thrilled to provide online learning opportunities for you to attend and share within your networks.

#### Upcoming Webinars:

Wednesday, April 15 | 2-3 PM EST

##### **Being a Consciously Inclusive Leader**

In this session, Dr. Steve Yacovelli will explore the three areas every leader should focus on in order to be more consciously inclusive. From THINK IN about your own unconscious biases, to SPEAK UP to create a more inclusive workplace, to ACT OUT in ways you can foster a feeling of belonging for everyone within your organization, you'll leave this session with actionable steps you can take to be a more inclusive leader and make the workplace—and the world—just a little bit better for us all.

[Register now!](#)

The M&A Alliance Virtual Fireside Discussion: Leading Through Crisis

Thursday, April 16 | 12-1 PM EST

Join nglccNY Certified LGBTBE® Kevin Claus, The M&A Alliance, and others for the webinar "Leading Through Crisis."

Topics will include best practices in leading during challenging time, maintaining and developing relationships with employees and customers remotely, and the importance of self-care.

[Register now!](#)

Thursday, April 16 | 3-5:15 PM EST

##### **Capital, Law, and Taxes: What to Know During the COVID Crisis**

Join us for this special online event providing resources focusing on capital, law and tax issues in the wake of the COVID-19 crisis with insight from nglccNY members and partners.

[Register now!](#)

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## Supporting Yourself and Others



## During COVID-19

### We are here to help!

We're currently facing down an unprecedented crisis. It can be quite easy to lose sight of one's goals and aspirations when the whole world seems to be turning upside down as a result of the spread of COVID-19. However, we cannot lose sight of the fact that the LGBT community has overcome significant challenges in the past. We have persevered through the power of community itself. We know how to take care of each other when times get tough, and this time is no different. [Read more](#) on NGLCC's blog!

## Businesses That are Fostering Hope

**Around the U.S., businesses are helping their communities during COVID-19**

### Republic Restoratives Distillery: From Spirits to Sanitizer in a Time of Need:

As the spread of coronavirus increases, bottles of hand sanitizer and other cleaning supplies have rapidly disappeared off the shelves of grocery stores and pharmacies in nearly every state. Thankfully, a local D.C. distillery has come up with an innovative solution to combat this problem.

[Read more](#)

### Million Mask Challenge: How a Certified LGBTBE® Owner is Saving Lives:

Change does not occur on its own. For progress to be made, a changemaker must step forward and take action. That is precisely what Certified LGBT Business Enterprise® owner Andrea Ruiz-Hays has done throughout her career, both in the environmental sustainability space and now even more so in an effort to save lives during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Read more](#)

LGBT-Owned Businesses are here to help your company in this difficult time.	Online Conference Tools 
Log into the NGLCC LGBT Business Enterprise Database at <a href="http://my.nglcc.org">my.nglcc.org</a> or contact <a href="mailto:info@nglcc.org">info@nglcc.org</a> for support.	 Virtual Solutions
We're all in this together.	Business Coaches 
 National LGBT Chamber of Commerce	 Website Design, and other services!

## Virtual New Member Breakfast

**Friday, May 1, 9:00 - 11:00 AM ET.**



Our next New Member Breakfast will be on May 1, 2020. The meeting details will be provided upon RSVP. If you're a new member you'll learn more about the nglccNY, the resources we have available to you, and how to leverage our tools and programs for your business. There will also be an opportunity to speak with other new members and

members of the nglccNY team.

This event is by invitation only. If you have any questions, or would like to RSVP, please email Phyllis Mehalakes, nglccNY Ambassador Chair, at [phyllis@nglccNY.org](mailto:phyllis@nglccNY.org).

[Learn more](#)



## April Virtual M3!

**Wednesday, April 22, 6:30 - 8:30 PM ET!**

Join us for our first ever Virtual M3: Members' Monthly Mixer! Don't miss this opportunity to forge connections with

members, corporate partners, and non-profit leaders. We take pride in our incredible business community and can't wait to bring it online for us to continue to connect.

Registration will close at 12:00PM on Tuesday, April 21st.

If you have any questions regarding your membership status or member login credentials, please email Director of nglccNY Thomas "TJ" Chernick at [Thomas@NGLCCNY.org](mailto:Thomas@NGLCCNY.org).

[Learn more](#)

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# Upcoming Events



## NEWS BLOG

- Webinar: Capital, Law, and Taxes: What to Know During the COVID Crisis
- The M&A Alliance: Virtual Fireside Discussion: Leading Through Crisis
- April 2020 Virtual M3!
- Virtual New Member Breakfast

[click to learn more and register](#)



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