

# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY



The LGBT Center of Cleveland is an integral part of the LGBTQ experience in Northeast Ohio and works every day to enrich the lives of the diverse LGBTQ community through advocacy, support, education, and celebration.

Queer youth initiatives, health & wellness programs, and community training programs are just some of the important services the LGBT Center provides to Greater Cleveland's LGBTQ Community.

Studio West and the West 117 Foundation are excited to collaborate with the Center on ways to build on the great work the Center is already doing.



Plexus is a strategic partner in the economic development of Northeast Ohio and serves as a point of connection for corporations, supporters, LGBTQ businesses and professionals.

With this mission in mind, Plexus is the perfect community partner for this LGBTQ Hub project. As part of this new ecosystem for the LGBT+ Community of Cleveland, we expect Plexus to play a critical role in providing business supportive services to LGBT+ owned and allied businesses to assist them with new business and training opportunities that will arise at this new epicenter.

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Councilman O'Malley's first act as a councilperson was to introduce Ordinance 1-16, which prohibits discrimination against LGBT workers and residents in education, housing, employment, and public accommodation. The ordinance is among the most comprehensive anti-discrimination laws in Ohio.



Councilman O'Malley's other legislative achievements include passing ordinances to increase transparency and accessibility within Lakewood city government, and to remove onerous regulations for small business owners. Councilman O'Malley has been incredibly supportive of these efforts to build a new Hub for the LGBTQ community in East Lakewood and Studio West is working with Councilman O'Malley to make sure the project directly addresses his priorities to make Lakewood safer, healthier, and more vibrant for his diverse constituency.



As the world's first community foundation, The Cleveland Foundation has played a critical role in Cleveland's community and economic development for over a century.

The Cleveland Foundation is currently considering a funding request from Plexus to develop an asset map for the LGBTQ community of Greater Cleveland, which will identify strengths and gaps in the current LGBTQ ecosystem and can greatly inform the priorities of Studio West and the West 117 Foundation for years to come.