

GSA Advisors

101

**Tips and tricks for
supporting your GSA**

from your friends at



OUTRIGHT
VERMONT

What's a GSA?

Gender and Sexuality Alliances (GSAs) are youth-led groups in schools that include LGBTQ+ and allied youth.



So what's the role of an advisor?

**Advisors can help a
new GSA form or keep
existing GSAs running
by providing structure
and adult support.**

**Flip to the next pages to
learn more about being a
new or current advisor!**

I'm a New Advisor!

Welcome! We're so excited to see you support a GSA in your school, whether it's also newly formed or you're just taking on the new role!

If your GSA is newly formed this year, your job is to create a structure (in dialogue with youth) in place for the GSA to run smoothly. Establish meeting times and locations with the students, and if possible, gain support from your administration for funding events/activities/meetings.

If you're taking on the role of advisor for an existing GSA, thank you for taking this on! Your role is to make sure the structure currently in place still works to keep the group running smoothly.

I'm a Current Advisor!

Amazing! Thank you for continuing to support the GSA in your school, and using your adult role to help foster community with LGBTQ+ youth!

Continue to work with your students to check-in about how the GSA is going. Is it welcoming for all? What has gone well? What direction do they want to take the GSA this year?

Build on the successes of years past, learn from the challenges, and reach out for support/advice.

So What's a GSA FOR?

GSA's are for LGBTQ+ youth! They often do different things depending on youth interest:

- **Social Connection**: Hold meetings for club members, host events in school or community, and/or attend Outright events.
- **Emotional Support**: Check-in with each other at meetings, support each other around challenges, and celebrate wins.
- **Social Change**: Work to make their school more liberated for queer and trans youth, partner with other social justice clubs/local orgs.

What supports are there for advisors?

Our partners at GSA Network releases an advisor handbook on a yearly basis that is a comprehensive guide to GSAs and the roles of advisors.

1:1 virtual meetings (or full GSA visits!) with Jayy, Outright's GSA Network Coordinator, to talk about specifics related to your GSA and its growth/development.

The Vermont GSA Advisors email listserv is a way to connect to other advisors, ask widely for advice & support, and get resource/event updates from Outright.

Outright's Youth Organizers are here to provide support to your GSA or with hosting community events, especially multi-GSA regional events!

**Flip to see a map of the
GSA Network that you're
a part of!**

Remember:

**You're part of the
movement to build
HOPE, EQUITY, and
POWER for LGBTQ+
youth across Vermont!**

