




**THREE RIVERS
BUSINESS ALLIANCE**

*The Pittsburgh/Greater Allegheny
LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce*

**Let's Get Business Together!
WVU Small, Diverse & Local Business
Vendor Fair - October 8, 2019**




Agenda

- What is Three Rivers Business Alliance (3RBA)?
 - What is the NGLCC and its LGBTBE certification?
 - What is the impact of LGBTBEs?
 - Why should you join or support 3RBA?
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What is 3RBA?

- 3RBA is a chamber of commerce focused on promoting, expanding and improving the economic interests and business opportunities of LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies.
 - 3RBA is a member-based, PA nonprofit corporation governed by a board of directors and officers.
 - 3RBA has tax exempt status under IRS Section 501(c)(6).
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What is 3RBA?

- 3RBA's geographical focus is the Pittsburgh/ Greater Allegheny region which includes:
 - Southwestern Pennsylvania;
 - Southeastern Ohio;
 - Northern West Virginia; and
 - Northwestern Maryland.
 - Launched in 2018, 3RBA has close to 60 individual members and the support of corporations such as UPMC, PNC, Highmark/AHN, TierPM, and several law firms.
 - 3RBA has at least 12 members who are certified as an LGBT Business Enterprise (LGBTBE®).
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What is 3RBA?

- 3RBA is one of three PA NGLCC affiliated chambers:
 - Keystone Business Alliance (Harrisburg)
 - Independence Business Alliance (Philadelphia)
 - 3RBA works to advance initiatives important to LGBTQ+ business owners and professionals, including federal and state non-discrimination legislation and participation of NGLCC-certified businesses in government and private supplier diversity programs.
 - 3RBA supports national campaigns such as the OpenToAll campaign (www.opentoall.com).
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What is 3RBA?

- In 2019, 3RBA launched *Three Rivers Business Alliance Foundation* as an IRC 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable foundation.
 - 3RBA Foundation seeks to:
 - Provide professional and business development education and programming for LGBTQ+ business professionals, entrepreneurs and small business owners and their allies;
 - Fund scholarships and grants to deserving LGBTQ+ residents so that they may develop skills and become more successful;
 - Fund studies and reports on the impact of LGBTQ+ businesses in the Pittsburgh/Greater Allegheny region; and
 - Engage in activities that foster diversity, inclusion and growth.
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What is NGLCC?

- The National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) is the largest not-for-profit advocacy organization dedicated to expanding economic opportunities and advancement for LGBT people.
 - NGLCC is the exclusive certification body for LGBT-owned business enterprises (LGBTBEs) and currently represents a membership of over 1,000 LGBTBEs.
 - Over 1/3 of Fortune 500 companies recognize the NGLCC certification.
 - NGLCC acts as the voice for an estimated 1.4 million LGBTQ+ business owners and entrepreneurs globally.
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What is the Impact of LGBTBEs?

The Washington Post

On Small Business

**There's green in being gay:
LGBT businesses contribute
\$1.7 trillion to the U.S.
economy**



THE ADVOCATE


COMMENTARY ▶

The LGBT Economy Is America's Future





Why Join or Support 3RBA?

- Networking opportunities
 - Access to NGLCC resources and events, including the annual IBL Conference
 - NGLCC LGBTBE certification fee waiver
 - Different fees/discounts on meetings and member-only events
 - Learn about and advocate on key issues affecting LGBTQ+ and other diverse businesses
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Special Thanks!

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