

Recovery deserves Pride year-round.

A funding partnership for year-round LGBTQ+ recovery
resources and the GSM+ Conference Experience

SAFE

FUN

CONNECTED

OUR MISSION:
365 JOY-FILLED SOBER
DAYS A YEAR

Sobriety needs more than abstinence

Gay & Sober creates the belonging that helps LGBTQ+ people build joyful lives in recovery.



Logan

Sober in '98
3 GSM+
Conferences

Mark

Sober in '21
4 GSM+
Conferences

Robbie

Sober in '18
5 GSM+
Conferences

Mitch

Sober in '24
2 GSM+
Conferences

SAFE SPACE

Affirming places to gather online and in person—especially for people who feel isolated.

RECOVERY RESOURCES

Meetings, educational programming, health and wellness, and practical recovery tools.

JOY + CONNECTION

Sober social experiences that prove Pride, travel, friendship and celebration still belong to everyone.

Gay & Sober has a proven track record of addressing the feelings of loneliness, boredom, and self-pity that are experienced in early and long-term recovery from alcohol and harmful substances.

Why does the LGBTQ+ community need the extra attention and assistance?

There are some very scary, very addictive and lethal new drugs and high alcohol content products around. The statistics and death rates are very scary as well.

Why #1 Studies show that up to 33% of LGBTQ people admit to struggling with alcohol or harmful substances. The stats are even higher in the transgender community.

Why #2 Nightlife-centric culture. Major community milestones, including pride festivals and dating are usually heavily sponsored by and anchored in alcohol consumption environments.

Why #3 Crystal meth use and chem-sex among gay identified men have been on the rise since 2009. This was only exacerbated by the pandemic. There is also a related rise in HIV infection rates. The stigma and lack of treatment resources have added to the problem.

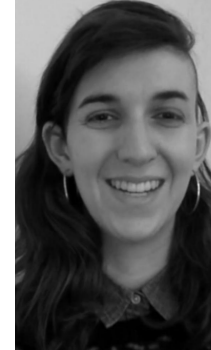


TJ
Sober since 1998

Nine-time GSM+
Conference
participant

Caroline
Sober since 2013

Two-time GSM+
Conference
participant



A volunteer-built platform with global reach

Gay & Sober has grown from a 2009 Facebook community into year-round programming and destination wellness and recovery events around the world.

2009

The community began **online**

100+

Sober volunteers across
10 countries

365

Days of **free** online
recovery resources

The annual GSM+ conference and gathering draws hundreds from around the world and is supported entirely by unpaid volunteers.

The event lacked critical resources. The need is still there.

2026

Due to federal cuts, the annual conference needed to be scaled back.

2027

The rescheduled conference is already at 50% capacity.

Reliable contributed revenue can protect the event, expand access and keep year-round services free.



Visibility is not the same as belonging

Mainstream Pride often centers around alcohol and drugs. General recovery spaces may not address LGBTQ+ identity, intimacy, stigma or isolation.

PRIDE WITHOUT ALCOHOL OR DRUGS

A celebratory space where sobriety is central—not an accommodation or after-thought.

COMMUNITY BEYOND CITIES

Online access and destination gatherings for people without strong local support.



“One of the most joyous ways to cap off Pride Weekend.”

OUT

OUT
Magazine

RECOVERY WITHOUT HIDING

Programming built around LGBTQ+ lives and multiple paths to recovery.

JOY AS A RECOVERY TOOL

Friendship, movement, entertainment and shared experiences reinforce a life worth protecting.

Four days turn recovery into lived experience

GSM+ combines serious recovery work with the social connection and celebration people often fear they must lose in order to get and stay sober.

“It has to be fun if it’s expected to last!”

Tam
Sober since 2015

Six-time GSM+
Conference
participant



RECOVERY

12 step and non-12 step recovery meetings; wellness workshops; mental-health and resilience programming and keynote speakers

WELLNESS

Meditation, yoga, social outings at cultural institutions, group runs and practical tools for sustainable recovery

BELONGING

Mentoring, fellowship, memorable parties, entertainment, marching at NYC Pride and the Dance on the River cruise

June 24–27, 2027 • New York City

A resilient future needs three kinds of support

Ticket revenue alone should not carry a year-round mission or the full risk of a major New York event.



Thomas
Sober since 2023

Three-time GSM+
Conference
participant

01

COMMUNITY GIVING

Members, alumni, allies and recurring donors protect independence and demonstrate commitment.

02

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

LGBTQ+ health, behavioral health, recovery, HIV prevention, social connection and access.



03

CORPORATE PARTNERS

Recovery services, wellness, hospitality, travel, coffee, water, tea and alcohol-free lifestyle brands.



Funding opens the doors wider

Every gift can be tied to a concrete piece of access, continuity or participant experience.

01

Conference production

Meeting space, venues, audio and visual, insurance, production, safety, accessibility, speaker and workshop fees and logistics

02

Scholarships

Registration and travel access for newcomers and people with financial hardship

03

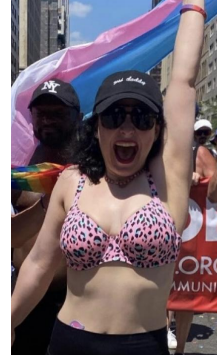
Year-round resources

Online meetings, directories, education, 24/7 chat support, outreach and community programming

04

Next-generation growth

Free online recovery-focused e-learning, digital recovery-focused storytelling, younger volunteer leadership and partnerships that foster diversity and broaden participation



Stephanie

Sober since 2023

Two-time GSM+ Conference participant

Corporate partners can fund access and earn authentic visibility

Gay & Sober accepts mission-aligned, LGBTQ-affirming sponsors—and does not accept donations or collaborations with alcohol beverage companies. More info at gayandsober.org/sponsorship



Yusuf
Sober since 2023

Two-time GSM+
Conference
participant

GOLD

\$2,500

Recognition • 2 social posts • 2 registrations • 1 scholarship

PLATINUM

\$5,000

Logo + podium recognition • outreach table • 4 posts • 4 registrations • 2 scholarships

DIAMOND

\$10,000

Sponsored session • speech • referrals • 8 posts • 10 registrations • 3 scholarships

EVENT

\$25,000

Major presentation + Pride visibility • 15 posts • 20 registrations • 5 scholarships

Best prospects: treatment and recovery organizations, alcohol-free beverage brands, water/coffee/tea, wellness, travel, hospitality and LGBTQ+ consumer brands.

The foundation case extends beyond the conference

The event is the visible centerpiece; the fundable public benefit is a year-round continuum of recovery, connection and access.

DREAM ALIGNMENT PARTNERSHIPS AND NY SUPPORT



Office of Addiction
Services and Supports



CURRENT ALIGNMENT PARTNERSHIPS

- LGBTQ+ behavioral health and recovery (sponsorship)



- Social isolation and community connection (promotion)



- HIV prevention and health equity (sponsorship)



EVIDENCE TO DOCUMENT

- **Free digital resources available year-round**

A sample of what's available at gayandsober.org

Downloadable recovery literature

Worksheets for 12-Step work

Online Global Meeting Finder

Virtual meeting list

- **Affirming recovery spaces across fellowships**

The Dance Cruise on NYC Pride Sunday is open to all recovery fellowships, draws 600 celebrants and consistently sells-out

- **Scholarship access for newcomers**

Anyone can sponsor a GSM+ Conference participant via the website. On average, 50 participants are sponsored yearly.

- **Measurable participation, retention and reach**

Branches in London and Amsterdam, Dollywood retreat, 50% return more than once, growth is up 20%

The community can become the dependable base

A recurring-giving campaign can turn gratitude and belonging into predictable support between conferences.



Mario
Sober since 2009

Eight-time GSM+
Conference
participant

WITHOUT PATRONS LIKE YOU, THERE WOULD BE NO 'US.'

\$25/mo

ThreeSixFive Level
Keeps year-round
resources available

\$50–\$100

Friendship Level
Patron

\$400

Newcomer Level
sponsors a newcomer

\$1,000+

Samaritan Level
major-gift pathway

Suggested campaign: Founding Circle • monthly gifts • alumni challenge • named newcomer scholarship fund

GAY & SOBER™

A sober life should not become a smaller life.

Help Gay & Sober protect year-round recovery resources and bring the GSM+ community together during New York Pride in 2027.

Thank you!

fundraising@gayandsober.org

gayandsober.org



Gay & Sober Inc. • New York 501(c)(3) • EIN 81-3543092

CAMPAIGN GOAL

\$650,000

Rollover costs from 2026: **\$85,000.00**

Event Production 2027: **\$252,157.00**

Contribution to current GSM+ international events to grow their reach and network **\$30,000.00**

Funding a sustainable Scholarship Fund for financially-challenged and newly sober participants **\$100,000**

Website upgrades (focus on downloadable, free learning, courses and documents) **\$50-70,000**

Micro-learning subscriptions to offer free (e-learning videos ex: meditation in sobriety, sex w/o drugs) **\$25,000 p/y**

Mobile app version of web services **\$20,000**

Currently total 582,157.00

Full, final budget is being prepared and finalized by Gay & Sober™ Board of Directors, available Oct 1, 2026.