



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Sean M. Ryan

Senator Sean Ryan Secures \$15,000 For GLYS Western New York

SEAN M. RYAN June 27, 2022

| ISSUE: **NYS SENATOR SEAN RYAN, NYS SENATE DISTRICT 60, LGBTQ YOUTH, PRIDE MONTH, LGBTQ**



SENATOR SEAN RYAN SECURES \$15,000 FOR GLYS WESTERN NEW YORK

Funding Will Help Support Programming for Local LGBTQ+ Youth

BUFFALO – Today, June 27, 2022, New York State Senator Sean Ryan visited the North Park Branch Library to announce he has secured \$15,000 in state funding for GLYS WNY to support the organization's programming.

GLYS offers a safe and positive environment for LGBTQ+ youth in Western New York to learn more about themselves through peer interaction and educational experiences. They take a holistic approach to empowering their members, providing advocacy and a myriad of support services including health and wellness resources, events and activities, and leadership development.

GLYS operates a weekly drop-in center at the North Park Branch Library that is focused on peer support and mentoring. It provides a welcoming learning environment where young people can build their self-advocacy and leadership skills.

Senator Sean Ryan said, “As we continue to celebrate Pride Month, it is my honor to help support the important work GLYS does here in Western New York. Growing up can be especially difficult for members of the LGBTQ+ community. With GLYS by their side, many young people in the Buffalo area are getting support that is crucial to their growth – support that they might not get otherwise.”

Jack Kavanaugh, Executive Director of GLYS WNY, said, “GLYS is incredibly thankful that Senator Ryan was able to secure funding from New York State for our programs. We work every day to ensure that LGBTQ+ youth have access to safe and affirming spaces and relationships; this financial support will allow us to continue serving countless youth in our community. Beyond that, it is so meaningful for the youth to see community leaders like Senator Ryan stand up for them and say ‘I see you, I care about you, and you are valued.’”

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