For Immediate Release: January 7, 2021
From: Steve Harrington, Executive Director

To our NAGLY family, and especially our LGBTQ+ youth:
What we witnessed, January 6, 2021, on the grounds of our nation's Capitol was disturbing, disgusting, and frightening on so many levels.

First and foremost, we want to let our youth know that NAGLY is here, and will continue to be here, fighting for you, making sure your safety, mental and physical health, opportunities, and resources are a priority. That should never be in doubt.

Second, the disparity between yesterday's response to a violent, illegal attack on our nation's most important institution and the peaceful Black Lives Matter protest on June 2nd, 2020, prove without a doubt the systemic racism existing in our country and the people charged with protecting its citizenry.

This cannot continue.

We must raise our voices. Loud, strong, and consistent. This is core to the civic duty we have as members of society. This comes in several forms:

- call your state and federal elected officials; for contact information, https://www.usa.gov/elected-officials
- speak out on social media
- do not let hate speech, macro- or micro-aggression go unchallenged
- NAGLY has lawn signs available for display in windows or yards, and are now offering them FREE; stop by Pride Place or call ahead to schedule contact-less pick-up.

We are stronger and better than what was on display at the Capitol, but only if we act together. Sitting on the sidelines is no longer an option.