ACT as a resource to connect business professionals
EXPAND the economic interests of LGBT and Allied businesses
PROVIDE educational programs and services to build skills and increase capacity
SUPPORT workplace equality issues

As part of our 10th anniversary in 2016, we completed a **STRATEGIC PLAN** that resulted in several areas of focus:

1. **CREATE** more visibility and understanding of Plexus
2. **DEVELOP** awareness and increase participation in the business development programs, education sessions, membership and outreach services offered by Plexus
3. **STRENGTHEN** and build board function and capacity of Plexus Chamber of Commerce and Plexus Education Foundation
4. **BUILD** operational capacity to support our growing organization

Plexus gratefully acknowledges the support of The Cleveland Foundation in funding our strategic planning process.
THE PLEXUS EDUCATION FOUNDATION was founded in December 2008 as a 501(c)3 organization. The mission of the Foundation is to improve the workplace environment for LGBT individuals through education, research, development, and advocacy.
## IMPACT

### BY THE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistic</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>759</td>
<td>Attendees at Plexus events in 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33,000</td>
<td>Jobs created by LGBT-certified businesses nationwide</td>
<td>NGLCC report: America’s LGBT Economy 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Affiliate chambers of the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce across the U.S.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 million</td>
<td>LGBT-owned businesses in the United States</td>
<td>Small Business Majority 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>79%</td>
<td>Of small business owners need assistance to create fully inclusive HR policies</td>
<td>Small Business Majority 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1. NGLCC report: America’s LGBT Economy 2016
2. Small Business Majority 2015
PLEXUS MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS SPEED NETWORKING

12
PLEXUS SPONSORS RECEIVED 100% ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN CORPORATE EQUALITY INDEX

29
STATES LIKE OHIO WITHOUT DISCRIMINATION PROTETIONS FOR LGBT PEOPLE

100%
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF PLEXUS

48
PLEXUS MEMBERS

12%
INCREASE IN PLEXUS MEMBERS WITH LGBT BUSINESS CERTIFICATION IN 2016

WE NEED YOUR VOICE

Plexus is committed to advancing economic equality, standing up for diverse communities and helping create welcoming workplaces. NOW MORE THAN EVER — we need your help and your voice to show that we as a business community are united in this work.

BECOME A MEMBER Join today. This is the best way to ensure that our organization stays strong and has the influence to represent the LGBTQ business community in Northeast Ohio.

ATTEND PLEXUS EVENTS Plexus works to bring LGBTQ and allied business owners, professionals, and civic organizations together to build business relationships. This network keeps our community connected and prosperous.

SPEAK UP Speak up for diversity and inclusion at work. Develop or join an ERG, tell HR how you value diversity and inclusion, or help your employer understand the importance of inclusion of LGBTQ in policies and marketing.

CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AND VOTE Let local, state and federal officials know that you want to live and work in communities that celebrate diversity and economic opportunity. Change policies and make sure LGBTQ people are protected from discrimination. VOTE in every election.

STAY INFORMED Sign up for the Plexus newsletter. Like us on facebook.com/plexuslgbt and follow us at twitter.com/thinkplexus. Share and retweet our posts to broaden our reach.

CERTIFIED LGBT BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (LGBT-BE)

A business that is 51%
owned, operated, and managed by LGBT individuals and certified by NGLCC. LGBT-owned businesses visit mynglcc.org or contact president@thinkplexus.org for more information.
COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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BRONZE SPONSORS

SPONSORS

CHAMPION MEMBERS

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Special thanks to NANCY WASYLISHYN DESIGN for contributing the concept and design of this annual report and to CONSOLIDATED SOLUTIONS for donating the printing. Photographs courtesy of RAY LAVIO.

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