

Re-Opening Galano

Based on the latest information as of May 28, 2020
Plan Subject to change

Galano's Mission has not changed

The Galano Club, Inc. supports the Greater Atlanta LGBTQ+ and friends' recovery community by providing a safe and welcoming meeting place for 12-Step fellowships.

In unprecedented times, we must change how we operate to accomplish our mission, especially around safety.

As Galano is run by a group of volunteers, we must ask individuals & groups to help us accomplish our mission, now more than ever.

What We Will Consider Before Opening

State & City Executive Orders

- Sets Rules for being open. Galano is a non-profit organization but will follow closely what churches do.

Public Health Data

- Near universal belief that cases are decreasing.
- Check Georgia Dept of Public Health and NYT COVID-project for Georgia data.

Groups

- Will groups return to physical meetings with new additional house rules and new meeting requirements?

Cleaning crew & Supplies

- Need to procure at least one month of needed cleaning supplies with consistent future availability
- Cleaners availability requires 2 week notice

Subject to change

GALANO Phased Reopen Strategy

Phase 1

Phase 2

Phase 3

Social Guidance

Across all phases please:

- Cover your face
- Wash Hands
- Social Distance
- Be vigilant for symptoms
- Stay home if you're sick

Gathering Size

- Gatherings allowed greater than 10 people
- Social distancing of 6'
- Social Distancing rules relaxed
- TBD based on trends
- No restrictions

Galano Strategy

- Clubhouse partially open – Room 1 only
- Revised House rules
- New Group Requirements
- New Schedule
- Renovated Spaces
- Clubhouse partially open – Rooms TBD
- Revised House rules
- New Group Requirements
- New Schedule
- Clubhouse fully open
- All Rooms open
- Return to old Schedule

Subject to change

Phase 1: Building Changes

1. Add door at base of stairs (Completed)
2. Lock all doors for Rooms 2,3,4,5 & room under stairs (Completed)
3. Remove Lobby furniture & excess chairs to locked room (Completed)
4. Remove all Exterior furniture, benches, picnic tables, etc. (Completed)
5. Empty Vending Machines (Completed)
6. Remove all Coffee Pots (Completed)
7. Remove some furniture in Room 1 (Completed)
8. Limit the number of chairs in Room 1 to current restricted level (TBD)
9. Add Hand sanitizer in Room 1 (Completed)
10. Purchase touch free soap & hand sanitizer dispensers (currently not available)
11. Chair cleaning supplies (secured)
12. Room 1 taped off to mark chair locations (Under way)
13. Turn ceiling fans to off; remove remote (Completed)
14. Close Smoking Area
15. Signage (Under way)
16. New security system installed. Old fobs no longer work (Under way)

Phase 1: Additional House Rules

For the safety of all who enter the Galano Building & Parking Lot:

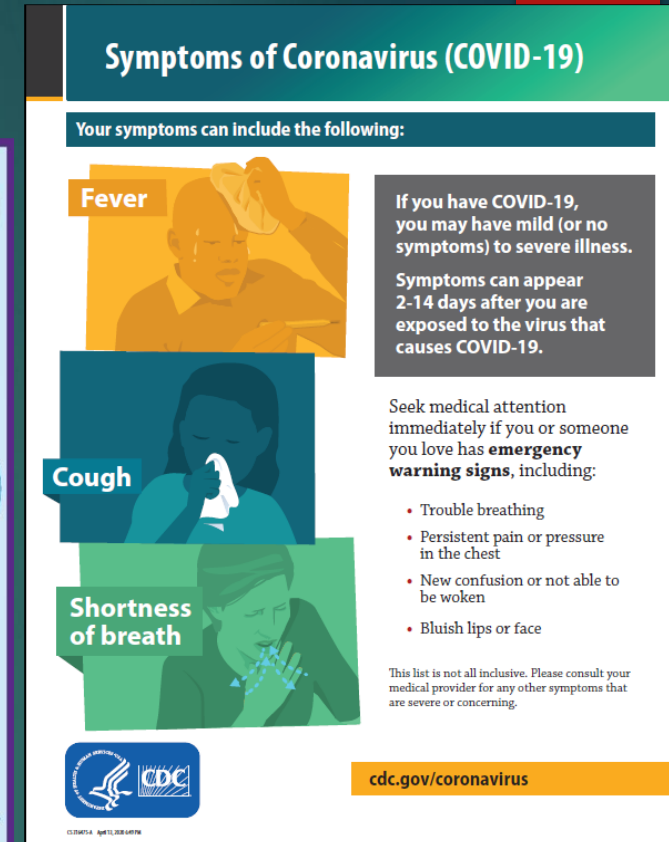
1. Group Meetings only, no sponsee meetings for now
2. Masks required for all that enter and stay in building that covers nose & mouth
3. Social Distancing is a requirement for entry
4. Property is available only 15 minutes before & after a meeting
5. Minimum of 30 minutes in between meetings to allow clubhouse & parking lot to clear out
6. No gathering/loitering in the building or parking lot
7. Smoking area will be closed, smoking in cars only
8. Maximum occupancy will be determined by city and state executive orders. Room One's maximum capacity is 29 with 6' social distancing
9. No Coffee can be made on site, but please bring you own
10. No Food allowed for sharing
11. Potential revised hours of operation

Phase 1: Signage



Other signs :

- Max capacity
- Room Closure signs
- Clean your chair
- New House Rules
- New Smoking Policy



Phase 1: Individual Safety requirements for entry

Entry into Galano is a personal choice. Should individuals decide to enter our building, several requirements are necessary to provide a safe environment for all.

1. No symptoms of COVID-19. Includes fever, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell.
2. Must wear a self-provided mask that covers both nose and mouth to enter and stay in building
3. Must be willing to social distance of 6 feet whenever possible
4. Must be willing to clean their chair before & after each meeting
5. If smoker, please smoke in car.



Phase 1: What Groups need to know

As the group's landlord, Galano has adopted new group requirements for the safety of all who may enter the building. These will need to be agreed to prior to returning to physical meetings at the clubhouse.

1. Additional House rules
2. New individual requirements for entry
3. Agree to help enforce new house rules, especially wearing of masks, social distancing, chair cleaning & occupancy policies
4. Willingness to adjust physical meeting times
5. Willingness to change rooms (Room 1 only in Phase 1)
6. Agree that if new house rules are violated, the group may lose its ability to meet at Galano

Phase 1: New Meeting Schedule

1. Galano will be creating a new temporary physical meeting schedule that:
 - Limits one meeting in the club at a time (Room 1 only)
 - Each group can request One-hour time slots with a 15 minute grace period before and after each meeting
 - Minimum time between meeting increased to 30 minutes
 - Will be based on group requests for days & times (Seek top 3 meeting time requests for Groups willing to abide by conditions set by Board.)
2. Possible change in hours of operation
3. Groups that have not continued to support us during closure, will be considered during Phase 2

With Success in Phase 1, and expansion of the number of people allowed in one place, we can move to Phase 2 and expand availability of meeting times & rooms

Phase 1: What Groups should consider

As the group's landlord, Galano does not tell groups how to operate their meetings, however we do have suggestions for groups to consider including:

1. Have a group conscience and discuss the Galano reopen plan, individual requirements and additional house rules.
2. If group decides to return for physical meetings, send in requests for days & times by June 10th , if possible. Once new schedule is completed, groups will be informed prior to a reopen date. Send requests to Scheduling@Galano.org
3. Consider adding to welcome script the New individual requirements & additional House rules
4. Consider forgoing physical baskets, readings, scripts, chip, etc. Virtual options are available and are suggested.
5. Consider discontinuing the use of literature cabinets until Phase 3
6. Continuing virtual meetings with physical meetings until Phase 3

Conclusion

With a new modified space, a new schedule and new standards, we believe we can provide a safe and welcoming space for groups to physically meet during this truly unfortunate and unprecedented time. All of us working together will keep us safe. We hope you agree!

FAQ's

Q. Why is Galano still closed?

A. While other clubs have remained open, we continue to remain closed. Many have asked why. The simple answer is safety. Other clubs have full-time on-site management to enforce the safety measures required to be open, but Galano is run solely by volunteers. Until some of those required safety measures are relaxed, we will remain closed.

Q. When will Galano open for physical meetings?

A. The timing is unknown as to when the Galano Club will open for meetings. All information will be posted on Galano.org as it develops, but it will not be before the previously released date of June 15th. Groups will need to decide by June 10th if/when they are going to return prior to opening.

Q. What is Galano's plan when it does reopen?

A. Galano has adopted a 3 phased plan. While Phase 1 date is unknown, the clubhouse will be operating with only Room 1 (the largest one) and a new schedule for all meetings.

Q. How is Galano going to keep me safe when I return to the clubhouse?

A. As a landlord, Galano will do it's best to set protocols in motion to keep folks stay safe. However, it will be up to you as the meeting goer to follow the new protocols and protect not only yourself but other meeting attendees. It is a personal choice whether to enter Galano or not.

FAQ's

Q. Will virtual meetings continue?

A. That question should be directed to your particular group conscience, as it is the responsibility of groups to determine how they function including virtual meetings.

Q. Will Galano continue to have a webpage for virtual meetings?

A. As a landlord, Galano posted links to virtual meetings for groups that had meetings in the clubhouse prior to the COVID-19 closure as a courtesy. Those groups who shared their information with us were listed. When we enter Phase 1 re-opening, Galano's intention is to list virtual meetings in addition to physical meetings for groups that continue to support Galano with the use of E-basket.

Q. My Group doesn't want to return to physical meetings yet. Why should we continue to use E-basket?

A. While Galano has been closed, we continue to have expenses related to the upkeep of the building. The Board takes very seriously its mission to provide a safe, welcoming place for LGBTQ+ people and friends to attend 12-Step-based meetings. E-basket provides a means for groups to continue to support Groups & Galano during this difficult time. If a group doesn't use E-basket in order to keep 100% of donations, the connection to Galano is severed just the same as if a group doesn't have any donations for three consecutive months which is our standard for determining a group is defunct and opening up that group's space and timeslot to other groups.

FAQ's

Q. Will Galano provide hybrid meetings where virtual and in-person meetings happen at the same time?

A. As the landlord for 12-Step groups meeting in Galano, the Board has no role in how a group conducts its own meetings. Beyond set house rules, Groups are free to run their meetings as they see fit in accordance with the Steps and Traditions of their respective fellowships. It will be a matter for each Group's Conscience to determine how many physical, virtual, or hybrid meetings that group wants to have. The mechanics of a hybrid meeting will generally not involve Galano unless the physical building needs an alteration of some kind to allow a hybrid meeting to happen. As a landlord, the Board has no opinion on matters of personal anonymity as it relates to group meetings.

Q. I see that you state the maximum capacity for a meeting in Room 1 is 29. What are we supposed to do with the 30th person who wants to come our meeting?

A. As a landlord run solely by volunteers, Galano can only set the standards for safe meetings. It will be up to each Group to enforce the standards. The question of what to do about the 30th meeting goer seeking relief through a meeting is a matter for your group's conscience. Likewise, it will be a personal choice whether a meeting attendee is comfortable with attending an over-crowded meeting where social distancing cannot occur. It will also be important in such an event to rigorously adhere to other safety measures to keep yourself safe if overcrowding occurs.

FAQ's

Q. How often is the clubhouse cleaned?

A. Prior to shutdown, 3 days per week; once reopened in Phase 1 we are increasing to 5 days per week.

Q. Is Galano going out of business?

A. While group donations are down 60%, Galano plans to be here when we get to the new normal. Galano has cut expenses where it could during the shutdown, however expenses are going to increase when we reopen. Our reserves, along with donations from E-basket, have kept Galano going through this time. Donations are always welcome. Should you wish to donate to Galano, text Galano to 44321.