



**TRANS  
COLLABORATIONS**  
Accountable Research & Resources

## Camp BOLD 2021



Starting in 2018 Trans Collaborations has been honored to facilitate an annual camp for transgender and gender-diverse children ages 5 to 13. This year's camp, held September 3rd through the 5th, hosted twice as many families as that first year. We are all so excited to see this passion project grow! The enthusiasm of the families and staff were evident despite the masks and other COVID precautions. Here are a few personal stories from those that attended camp this year. See page two for how you can help continue to make Camp BOLD a success!

### First Year Volunteer

Going into Camp BOLD, I had no idea what to expect. I had been a participant and volunteer at several summer camps before, but not for several years. The first night of camp however, I knew I was in the right place. All the campers were excited to be there- asking about the pool, gym, and arts and crafts room. The other volunteers were ready to hit the ground running, providing as much fun as possible for our first night together. And the parents seemed just as happy to meet up with friends old and new. The next day, campers were up bright and early, ready for all the activities we had planned for them. A family photo frame, capture the flag, a nature walk, tie die socks, paddle boats, and fishing. There was something for every camper. The parents took this morning to get to know each other while volunteers organized each activity. That evening, we had our second campfire with s'mores and skits put on by some of the campers. (Shout out to the campers who made me s'mores!) And before I knew it, we were on our last day of camp and we were saying goodbye. Camp was an incredible experience, and I can't wait to go back next year!

### Camp Director

One of my favorite experiences about camp is seeing how the returning youth and families grow and change over time, it is awesome for me to see families growing together and supporting one another year after year. This was really noticeable now that there has been two full years between camps.

I also just really enjoy watching how the different leaders interact with kids and how their interests and expertise make a comprehensive team of role models for kiddos.

### Camp BOLD Family

One kid said "Camp Bold has amazing friends and fun activities!"

Another kid said recently when we were putting the Camp Bold family picture up on the bookcase in our living room that it's one of our most prized possessions.

## How You Can Help!

Trans Collaborations has been able to cover the cost of camp for families thanks to the Unitarian Church of Lincoln, the Trans Justice Foundation, and Private Donations. Being able to bring this experience of community to these families has truly been priceless. You can help be a part of making sure Camp BOLD not only continues but continues to grow!



\$1,000 will sponsor a family of 4

\$250 will sponsor one camper

\$100 will sponsor food & drink for a camper for the entire weekend

\$50 will sponsor a two hour camp fire

\$25 will sponsor staffing & supplies for an arts & crafts activity for one camper

★Donating is easy!★

Simply visit [go.unl.edu/transcollaborations](https://go.unl.edu/transcollaborations) and look for the Donate button!

## Meet Our Newest Graduate Student



Niko Vehabovic  
They/Them

Niko graduated from the University at Buffalo in 2019 with their B.A. in Psychology and from Teachers College, Columbia University in 2021 with their M.A. in Clinical Psychology and an Advanced Certificate in Sexuality, Women, and Gender Studies. They are interested in studying gender euphoria, resilience, and protective factors to evaluate their impacts on mental health and wellbeing with TGD individuals. They are currently pursuing their Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Trans Collaborations is a community-based partnership between transgender and gender diverse people (TGD) and academic researchers. Trans Collaborations began in 2014 out of a desire to improve health care services for TGD people in the Central Great Plains. It works to establish a network of researchers and communities focused on creating accountable research and resources for TGD communities in resource-limited areas.

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