



#### **One Heartland FY24 Legacy Grant**

PROJECT #1

Project #1 Title

**One Heartland Camp** 

#### Project #1 Start Date

07/28/2023

#### Project #1 End Date

06/30/2024

#### Grantee – One Heartland Inc.

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#### Project #1 Overview/Description

One Heartland's mission is to improve the lives of children, youth, and families facing significant health challenges or social isolation. We envision a world where everyone feels appreciated, celebrated, and free of stigma and discrimination. We want a community where individuals can learn and grow so that they may lead healthier and more productive lives. We meet these goals through our summer camp programs. We provide youth (ages 7-17) camps to three distinct marginalized groups: HIV/AIDS+ youth, LGBTQ+ youth, and LGBTQ+ families. Our programs provide a safe and accepting place for youth to enjoy summer camp activities while building community with peers and adults with similar identities. Aside from being fun, camp builds self-confidence, life skills, friendships, and memories.

#### FY24 Minnesota Based Scholarship Recipients

- True Colors 2023- 24 recipients (\$24,595)
- True Colors Family Camp 2023 28 recipients (\$6,050)
- True Colors June 2024 15 recipients (\$13,350)

#### Total Scholarship Recipients – 67 campers

#### Total Funds Received - \$33,995



#### **Actual Measured Outcomes**

#### **Camp True Colors**

Final Outcome: Successfully delivered 5 unique one- to two-week sessions of Camp True Colors, each attended by 39 Minnesota based LGBTQ+ youth aged 11-17, with two sessions specifically dedicated to transgender and gender-expansive youth. The Legacy grant facilitated financial aid, ensuring broad accessibility to campers.

Impact: Provided a safe and inclusive environment where LGBTQ+ youth could celebrate their identities and build essential life skills.

#### LGBTQ+ Family Camp

Final Outcome: Successfully ran a weekend LGBTQ+ family camp session, attended by 28 Minnesota based individuals, with active participation from families who identify with the queer community. The Legacy grant played a key role in providing financial aid, ensuring that families could fully engage in the camp experience.

Impact: Strengthened family bonds and provided a supportive environment for LGBTQ+ families to connect and share experiences.

#### **Recruitment and Staff Diversity**

Final Outcome: Effectively recruited and promoted One Heartland's programs, successfully hiring and retaining a diverse and inclusive staff that reflects the communities served.

Impact: Enhanced the delivery of culturally competent programming, fostering an environment of understanding and respect across all camp sessions.

#### **Recreation Opportunities**

Final Outcome: Offered a diverse range of outdoor recreational activities, ensuring that all campers had the opportunity to explore nature, learn new skills, and engage in physical activity.

Impact: Promoted physical health, environmental appreciation, and personal growth through active participation in various recreational activities.

#### **Educational Activities**

Final Outcome: Conducted impactful educational sessions on topics such as healthy relationships, leadership, self-advocacy, self-care, and coping skills, with all campers actively participating in at least one educational session relevant to their camp's focus.

Impact: Empowered campers with knowledge and skills essential for personal development and well-being, tailored to their unique needs and circumstances.

#### **Community-Building Activities**

Final Outcome: Developed and facilitated structured community-building activities, with campers participating in 3 small group activities daily and additional large group or camp-wide events. These activities fostered deep connections, support networks, and a strong sense of community.

Impact: Cultivated lasting friendships and support systems, with many campers maintaining connections and returning to camp year after year, contributing to a thriving, connected community beyond the camp experience.

#### **Evaluation of Project**

Goal: Provide a judgment-free, welcoming space where youth can fully express and celebrate their identity without fear of rejection.

Measurement: Campers are given surveys at the end of every camp session. One of the questions on the survey is, "Did camp provide a judgment-free, welcoming space where you can fully express and celebrate your identity without fear of rejection?" The response is on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest mark.

Measurement: Camper and parent focus groups, we facilitate a group to discuss ways to improve our accessibility to all campers each year. Particularly focusing on providing a safe camp experience for youth with mental and physical health limitations.

Goal: Create opportunities for youth to gain life skills, build confidence, and access necessary resources so they can succeed in life.

Measurement: Campers are given pre- and post-surveys about their skills and interests. At the beginning of camp, youth are asked about what they want to learn, such as art, climbing, fishing, etc. and at the end of camp they are asked if they learned a new skill and if they have built confidence during their time at camp.

Goal: Facilitate connections and friendships between youth in similar circumstances, so they can develop a lifelong support network.

Measurement: Campers are given a survey at the end of camp that asks if they made friends at camp and if they will stay in contact with those friends. The survey also asks if they are a returning camper and if they have stayed in contact with friends from previous years.

Measurement: The number of campers who return year after year.

Goal: Provide educational opportunities around healthy relationships, mental health, LGBTQ+ issues, HIV/AIDS prevention and community resources.

Measurement: Campers are given surveys at the end of every camp session. One of the questions on the survey is, "Did camp provide educational opportunities around healthy relationships, mental health, LGBTQ+ issues, HIV/AIDS prevention and community resources." Campers are then asked to rank on a scale from 1-5 with 5 being the highest.

Goal: Campers will have an increased sense of belonging and connections by creating relationships with trusted adults.

Measurement: Campers are given a survey at the end of camp that asks if they made connections with trusted adults at camp and if they felt listened to and supported by adult staff. The survey also asks if they are older campers if they would be interested in returning as a leader in training and being placed on our Junior Counselor track, which is a pathway to becoming an adult counselor.

Measurement: Focus groups and meet ups that occur after camp to gain camper insight on how to make camp better. Our efforts focus on centering our campers experience to improve the quality of camp.

Measurement: The number of camp staff that reflect the target population of camp.

Measurement: Exit interviews with summer camp staff asking about their connection to campers and the overall camp experience.

Goal: Campers will have an increased sense of understanding and connection to nature and will develop a sense of care for and appreciation for the environment.

Measurement: Campers are given a survey at the end of camp that asks, "if camp helped provide an increased sense of understanding and connection to nature."





### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF CAMP?

- The Pope
- Bracelets & friends
- Dinner
- People! (x3)
- The dry salad
- Hanging out with my cohort
- My cabin!
- Skills
- Queer people
- Meeting people that are like me in more ways than just being trans
- Everything and everyone <3
- Laughing with friends
- Accent and sloth?
- Activities with friends
- Counselors
- Meeting trans kids my age, being able to be myself, people are fun,
- The conversations
- Rest hour & performing arts
- All the nice people
- Archery (x2)
- Staff being supportive
- Hanging out with campers
- Gay people
- Actually leading karaoke?
- Time with my cabin
- Talking gays
- Buddy Holly
- Aren
- When my kids made me cry
- Fish ear acorn and bandaid flowers + hanging out with everyone
- Drama
- My counselors
- Toasters

- All trans cabin
- Making friends and being able to wear earbuds without being judged
- Friends and camp
- The atmosphere that camp created
- Humans
- Getting gendered correctly
- New people
- Friends (x5)
- Sad eggs
- Some of the kids
- Laughing
- Slaying the day away
- Lucy
- Ultimate frisbee (x2)
- Swimming
- Park
- Community
- Marriage
- Juicy community
- Cupid shuffle
- Rock climbing (x3)
- Being out of state, having my rights respected
- Meeting Sevyn
- Meeting some very swag
   people
- Meeting new friends
- Friendly people
- Seeing my campers grow + my support system
- Breakfast
- My counselors & meeting new people
- New pronouns







## WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF CAMP?



# WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE THING FROM THIS WEEK/CAMP IN GENERAL?

<ul> <li>Everyone here was gay</li> <li>#ForReal</li> <li>Braiding hair</li> <li>Being able to be comfortable being being who I am, also people</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Good friends &amp; choice time</li> <li>Choice time</li> <li>Archery</li> <li>The wonderful people in</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>The wonderful people (staff &amp; campers)</li> <li>Singing Hamilton with my cabin</li> </ul>	<ul><li>my cabin</li><li>Queer prom (magical)</li></ul>
The lake + art room + my cohort	Stanky leg
The people	<ul> <li>^ I second stank leg</li> </ul>
Art room	<ul> <li>Meeting everyone</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Food + making new friends</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The family I created</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Hamilton sing-a-long</li> </ul>	Archery & hanging out with
<ul> <li>People using my correct name &amp; pronouns</li> </ul>	cool peeps
<ul> <li>My cabin &amp; giving Rory a god complex</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Being with my cabin</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Friends and skills</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Activities with people</li> </ul>



## WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU LEARNED THAT YOU WANT TO TAKE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY?

hat's something you learned, ">pusp=+uop I hat's something you want to take "How to be a battar back to your community?" Listener R the opport in so. Visulany yev can do ang thing it you have the confidence my hame (like singing) abines a lowasta med xx AND I HAT AS POC AS POC HAT AS POC HAT AS POC HAT BAJ ISN'T BAJ ISN'T BAJ ISN'T BAJ MINDS C LSCOL MET I'm bi AND HANK anyone Says -Shadow Sanders Queen history . Be yourself no matter what ton to hove there are how to talk with a southern accent 11 The work man sustanibility "t file" dancing for your t accommedations yellou . ace " Skill Issue I'm genderqueer. Depression car run samenning Activist is 21 NO2P The gay ness CHILDBEN ARE SO K KAS BRUSS MUCH WORSE THAN ! 0 A THOUGHT con be a b Still enjoy - ふく I learned Pare Cours 1 lourned to make yean

### WHAT ARE YOU MOST PROUD OF FROM THIS WEEK?

<ul> <li>Seeing old friends and knowing their names</li> <li>Stanky leg</li> <li>Griddy</li> <li>Social skills</li> <li>I finished my book twice</li> <li>I'm in love with an emo girl</li> <li>Making new people and making friends</li> <li>Making people laugh</li> <li>I climbed to the top of the rock wall</li> <li>My lovely campers/kids</li> <li>Finding gay friends</li> <li>Being gay</li> <li>Meeting back up with old campers and making new friends</li> <li>Actually talking to people</li> <li>Making friends</li> <li>That people used the correct name</li> <li>I had a good time</li> <li>Meeting new friends</li> <li>Making it 24 hours without crying</li> <li>Watching my friend fart into a fan</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Making friends and other homesick kids (also I learned how to Griddy)</li> <li>Meeting a lot of new people</li> <li>Giving Rory salt and pepper</li> <li>Finding a friend near me</li> <li>Salt</li> <li>My mom</li> <li>Being gay</li> <li>I have friends now</li> <li>I made so many friends</li> <li>Peppa &amp; salt</li> <li>Meeting &amp; talking to people</li> <li>Being able to support other counselors</li> <li>Actually talking to people</li> <li>Meeting new people</li> <li>Me</li> <li>Being gay</li> <li>Making friends</li> <li>Talking to people</li> <li>Making it to the top of the rock wall</li> <li>Being gay</li> <li>Going away from home</li> <li>I said my preferred pronouns is just they/them!</li> </ul>
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## Thank you!