



# Policy on Research Involving Youth & Adults in the Camp Lilac Community

Camp Lilac acknowledges and respects the need for continued research to understand the unique problems faced by transgender and gender diverse (TGD) youth, as well as to work toward developing optimum support for this community. For the protection of all parties, and to hold paramount our mission of creating a safe, welcoming, and confidential space for TGD youth, requests for involving our community in research projects must be thoroughly reviewed (and when applicable, developed) according to the following guidelines.

## Background Knowledge & Affiliations of Prospective Researchers

Primary investigators and graduate students will have a strong knowledge base regarding working with the TGD community, and a demonstrated history of support for the TGD community in their academic/professional work, evidenced by one or more of the following:

- membership in the TGD community,
- membership in relevant professional or community organizations,
- previous related publications or presentations,
- public commentary or public-facing professional work of a similar nature.

## Intended Research Outcomes

Intended research outcomes must include forwarding the cause or enhancing the lives of TGD people, ideally with an emphasis on TGD youth. Any disruption to participant's lives (e.g., time contribution, emotional labor, etc) must be in service of creating a worthwhile positive effect on the lives of TGD youth, as determined by the Camp Lilac leadership team. Projects should have sufficient methodological rigor where publishable results are anticipated, and ideally plan to publish in an accessible/open access format.

## Review Process

All prospective researchers should contact [info@camplilac.org](mailto:info@camplilac.org) with an overview of their project and request for Camp Lilac's involvement. They must additionally submit answers to the following questions prior to consideration. Note that not all questions will apply to all proposals. Please answer to the best of your ability, and note if you believe a question does not apply, and why.

- What is the specific objective of the study and its intended impact on future trans lives?
- What is the target study population? Describe geographic scope, languages, and intersectional inclusion.

- Who is/are the principal investigator/s, and what is/are the sponsoring institution/s or organization/s?
- How are trans scholars/researchers included in leadership of this research work?
- Who is funding the study? Describe any conflicts of interest.
- Describe approval of this study by an Institutional Review Board (IRB) or equivalent authority and how TGD scholars are represented in the IRB or the oversight process.
- Describe ethical practices in this research that are specific to the needs of TGD subjects.
- Is there a cost or travel requirement, or is there compensation for participants?
- Is participation in this research required for access to non-experimental affirming medical care?
- How will the results of this research be accessible to TGD communities through open access journals or channels?

From the *Transgender Research Informed Consent (TRICON) Disclosure Policy* (Winters, D'orsay, Sirenu, & Con, 2022).

## Requests to Promote Surveys or Focus Groups

Camp Lilac is open to requests for the promotion of surveys and focus groups during our off-season (September - June). The target population should be related to the Camp Lilac demographic in multiple ways (TGD, youth, interested in outdoor education, etc). Studies and focus groups can be shared in the following ways, at the discretion of Camp Lilac staff: via our community Discord server, as an item in an e-newsletter, and on social media.

## Requests for the Perspectives of Camp Lilac Leadership

Camp Lilac leadership is willing to share their knowledge, expertise, and experiences for research purposes and consulting. Interviews or discussions for the purpose of research with intended outcomes outlined above will be conducted free of charge. When possible and appropriate according to study design, we request a final review of how Camp Lilac's perspectives are presented prior to publication, in order to correct errors or misrepresentation.

For organizations seeking to use the information specifically for development of their own programs, or in a training capacity, this would be considered consulting. Consulting is available at a rate of \$75/hour, following a free 30 minute meeting to answer initial questions and discuss the scope of a project. Camp Lilac staff will assist in making this determination.

## Requests to Conduct Research On-Site

Projects seeking to conduct research at an ongoing Camp Lilac session must seek approval *and* be developed in close collaboration with Camp Lilac leadership, to ensure strict confidentiality standards (exceeding the minimum requirements of conventional ethical and institutional guidance) are met. Additionally, projects must pose minimal disruption to the overall operations and individual camper experience (i.e., must not inhibit attendance at preferred activities, limit social opportunities, etc.). Requests to conduct research on-site must be

proposed no later than January each year. A determination will be made by the Senior Leadership team by March 1st of the same year.

### Projects Initiated by Camp Lilac

Camp Lilac reserves the right to conduct research for the purposes of tracking program outcomes, collecting feedback, informing development of future programming, and other purposes aligned with Camp Lilac's mission and vision. All research projects conducted by Camp Lilac staff will be held to the same standards as those of external researchers, and will explicitly seek to better understand and/or better serve the TGD youth population.