

# HOBÉ HERALD

THE ANNUAL CAMP HOBÉ NEWSLETTER: FEBRUARY 2021



## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR!

Happy 2021! As we start the new year, I wanted to take a moment and recognize that 2020 was a difficult year, and presented us all with many challenges. My staff and I learned so much from 2020, and we'll take those lessons into the future so we can better serve our camper families. We learned that Camp Hobé is more than a place . . . and it is more than our programs. At its heart, Camp Hobé is a community, and the connections we make with one another create our Hobé family. Being together in-person is always our favorite way to connect, although we were unable to gather in person for most of 2020. Living through 2020 challenged Camp Hobé in new ways almost daily. We had to make many tough decisions last year, beginning with moving all our programs to be physically-distanced or virtual. Learning to run programs virtually was both crazy and rewarding! In our almost 40-year history, we never anticipated holding camp virtually. We are grateful that technology provided a way for us to connect with our camp family, and we look forward to being together in person.

Our 2020 virtual programs were an exciting trip as our Camp Hobé Pirates roamed the Virtual High Seas! Our virtual summer camps served 168 kids and teens in 2020, offering interactive and group activities over 2½ weeks in June. Twenty kids registered for Day Camp / Hobé Juniors, 78 for Kids Week, and 70 for Teen Week. Fifteen percent were new campers this year, and 85% had participated in Camp Hobé at least once before. Thirty percent were patients and 70% were siblings. Of our patients, 100% had a diagnosis of cancer. Approximately 87% of our campers live in Utah, and the rest in Wyoming, Idaho, and as far away as North Carolina. No fees were charged for our virtual programs.

In addition to the virtual camp programs, we offered 5 free activities to our families. In February, 27 families watched an exciting night of hockey with the Utah Grizzlies. We offered 2 family BBQ nights, providing free takeout dinners for our families to enjoy in the safety of their homes. Thanks to the generosity of our partners at the local American Cancer Society, many families participated in the September Virtual Big Dig program, which included at-home building kits and other fun things. Then, in November, our Utah-based campers and their families wore their Halloween best while they picked up yummy commercially-baked cookies and special gifts from the Aflac Childhood Cancer Foundation and the Sadie Keller Foundation. Overall, our family programs served more than 1,200 individuals in 2020.

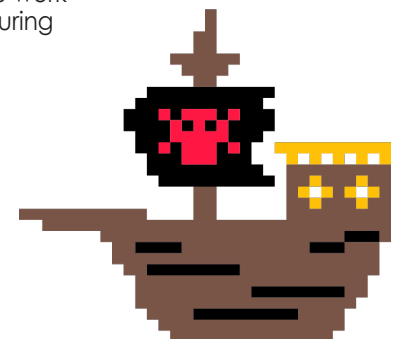
Our primary focus is always on serving our families. We are still working out what our programs will look like in 2021. It is possible they'll be a mix of virtual and in-person (likely with social distancing). As of now, in-person summer camp dates are as follows: Day Camp / Hobé Juniors (4-7 years), Friday 6/11 and Saturday 6/12; Kids Week (7-11 years), Monday 6/14 to Friday 6/18; and Teen Week (12-19 years), Monday 6/21 to Friday 6/25. For the purposes of registration, we will base registration decisions on the camper's age while we are in session. Patients with cancer (and similarly-treated disorders) and their families may participate in our programs during treatment, and for 3 consecutive camp seasons after their final chemotherapy, radiation, or immunosuppressive therapy. Note: Because of COVID-19, a 1-year extension has been granted to families whose last year of eligibility was 2020.

Last, but not least, I'm very excited to welcome a new year-round staff member. Ashley Clinger joined our organization in January 2021, as our first-ever Deputy Director. The Deputy Director will be directly responsible for overseeing and implementing all Camp Hobé programs, supervising our seasonal paid staff. This will allow me to shift my focus as Executive Director to long-term organizational planning and growth. I'm very excited to work with Ashley during this transition and in future years, as we expand our program offerings both during the summer and throughout the year. Learn more about Ashley later in this newsletter.

We truly enjoy offering these psychosocial support programs to our campers and their families. Thank you so much for all you do to make it possible – whether your family participates in our programs, volunteers or gives. We could not do it without you. For a list of recent sponsors and supporters, please visit our sponsorship page at <https://camphobekids.org/home/help-us-out/our-sponsors/>.

I look forward to seeing you, either at our programs or in the virtual world. Happy 2021!

**Christina Beckwith (aka Wapiti Mama), Executive Director**



**ROAMING THE VIRTUAL SEAS**

Camp Hobé provides psychosocial support for kids with cancer (and similarly-treated disorders) and their families, through summer camps and family outings. Our mission is to create an atmosphere that enhances self-esteem, fosters independence and friendships, and creates a feeling of belonging.



## DAY CAMP / HOBÉ JUNIOR!

What an adventure 2020 has been for everyone! We are glad that we still had the chance to spend some time with our favorite Hobé Family this summer. And, boy oh boy, did we have a swashbuckling adventure on the virtual seas. . . We started by flying our Jolly Rogers high in our houses, put on our best pirate gear, and created the best little treasure boxes we could for our mateys near and far. We had a blast delivering these boxes to our little pirates. We absolutely LOVED kicking off our camp season by seeing our Hobé friends in person (and from afar).

Once we all had our treasures ready, we started off on our journey to prepare to become Pirates. We had the chance to create our own hats, flags, boats, and parrots (and even a few temporary tattoos!) to really get into character. We read a few fun books about pirates in our best pirate accents and went on a few treasure hunts. We learned a few new pirate chanteys (songs) and even had a chance to relax on the deck with some Pirate Yoga! We loved the chance to still see our Pet Therapy buddies. Best of all, we got to meet many campers' own pet buddies, one of the advantages of seeing our little Mateys over Zoom this year.

We want to thank all those parents and older siblings that helped our younger campers with computer issues, getting the correct items ready, and even singing camp songs with us! We loved being invited into your homes. Hopefully, it was a bit of a break from the crazy life we've lived in 2020. Thanks to all our volunteers this year who really stepped up to create an awesome virtual camp. We can't wait for what next year will bring, and we hope to see you all back at Camp Wapiti in 2021!

**Laura James**  
(aka Cold Boot Bess)  
Day Camp / Hobé  
Juniors Program  
Director



## KIDS WEEK!



Ahoy Mateys! A Hobé pirate's life for me! Roaming the virtual high seas this summer was a blast! Each Camp Hobé pirate was able to experience the magic of camp from their home.

We had a bounty of fun on the virtual high seas. We crafted ships, sank enemy pirate ships, looked for treasure, learned about parrots (and other winged birds) from Tracy Aviary, experimented with the Mad Science group, did yo-ho yoga on our virtual pirate deck,

sang ourselves silly with old favorites (they are still stuck in my head), and learned some new songs along the way that will be staples at camp for years to come, watched magic be performed before our eyes, walked the plank, loot-n-brag, and many more fun activities to bide our time will sailing across the ocean. We had a hearty meal from our favorite restaurant, R&R BBQ. Connecting as a family virtually has filled our mental-wellbeing wells to carry us forward until we meet as a camp family next year.

I have learned this past year that "when you cannot do what you have always done, then you only do what matters most". And what matters most to me is Camp Hobé! Not being able to meet in person has expanded our vision on how we can better serve our camp family in the future. Camp Hobé is one of the most powerful, magical, and important parts of the year. And all the camp pirates this year proved that they are some of the strongest, most compassionate, joy-filled pirates I have ever met.

I am also grateful for our camp volunteer staff who are so incredibly caring, hard-working, and willing to roll with the changes. Camp would not have been as successful without each and everyone of them. My heart-felt thanks goes out to every one of you.

Thank you for allowing camp to come into your homes and being a part of your lives. Onward and upward!

**Eric Willison (aka Captain Grape Boy)**  
Kids Week Program Director



## TEEN WEEK!

I'm here to say THANK YOU!! We pulled off our first-ever Virtual Teen Camp this year, and I think we are ALL Zoom experts now! With a little help from our extended pirate family, we were able to deliver ALL the booty to our campers to help them prepare for camp, and our Activity Leaders (aka my crew) went the extra nautical mile to bring the magic of Camp Hobé into our campers' homes! Tony and Byron proceeded to continue their (friendly) rivalry by trying to outdo themselves on every activity! Tony kicked things off with High-Seas Improv, followed by Byron's Screamer Scavenger Hunt Relay! Next it was Byron's Playdough Pictionary vs. Tony's Escape room!! And you know who won?? WE DID! Because every single activity was amazing! Speaking of amazing, Holly and Lexi pulled off their usual "hands-on" entertainment with some amazing crafts. Macrame "fish nets," clay pirate handi-crafts and sand art mandalas. And amongst all of this creativity and artistry, they led us through the most magical Hobé Forever, complete with Pirate medallions and plantable "seed hearts." Taking this moment to recognize and reflect on people we miss, or even the difficult time, was much needed. Thank you both!

Speaking of creativity and artistry, Juston and Kaitlyn brought out our inner entertainers! Name that Tune stumped us all, Pirates Feud brought out the mind collective, Complete the Lyrics and Ultimate Pirate Cahoot had us in stitches, and TikTok creation pulled out ALL our talents!

To ensure we weren't missing any memories, Pirate Queen Ashley not only documented all the (virtual) action, but she also taught us a photo workshop! And once we were all nice and cozy in front of our computers, Rusty made sure we got our blood pumping with our daily calisthenics, yoga, and a tight competition of paper airplane ship attack! And how can we forget Elliott's "who wants to be a pirate millionaire," and Allison's Pirate Bingo! And to complete an amazing camp, Mont the Magician graciously taught us SOOOOO many magic tricks!

I know it's difficult to not be together in-person. However, seeing all our campers' faces, even if virtually, reminded us the community, love and acceptance we have at Camp Hobé. I'm excited for the opportunity to see everyone next year, either in-person OR virtually! Love,

**Nicole Bailey (aka Princess Patch-Eye Plankmaster)**  
Teen Week Program Director





# HELP HOBÉ

You can help Camp Hobé year-round in many ways, including shopping programs and workplace giving. Visit [camphobekids.org/home/help-us-out/](http://camphobekids.org/home/help-us-out/) to learn more!

**Shopping programs:** Participation is completely free for you. The more you shop, the more you help us keep program costs low for our families.

- Amazon Smile ([smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)): sign in with your regular Amazon account information, then choose Camp Hobé as your charity.
- CARS ([careasy.org/nonprofit/camp-hobe](http://careasy.org/nonprofit/camp-hobe)): Donate your clunker! Complete the online form, or call 855-500-7443. They'll pick up your old car (running or not), take it away, sell it, and then Camp Hobé gets money.
- Nextdoor Sell for Good ([help.nextdoor.com/s/article/About-Sell-for-Good](http://help.nextdoor.com/s/article/About-Sell-for-Good)): Sell stuff, then donate all / part of the proceeds to Camp Hobé.
- Smith's Inspiring Donations ([smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-inspiring-donations](http://smithsfoodanddrug.com/i/community/smiths-inspiring-donations)): log in to your existing frequent shopper account, then choose Camp Hobé as your charity. The donations add up when you buy groceries, gas, or other items at Smith's / Kroger. Organization #TN890

**Workplace giving:** We are a proud member of several workplace campaigns, which allow you to designate funds to us. Only \$10 a week adds up to more than \$500 a year!

- Combined Federal Campaign (CFC, [cfcgiving.opm.gov](http://cfcgiving.opm.gov)): Includes federal employees in Utah ([mountainstatescfc.givecfc.org/](http://mountainstatescfc.givecfc.org/)), from agencies such as IRS, FBI, Hill Air Force Base, and many other government services. CFC #50666
- Creating Healthier Communities (formerly Community Health Charities; [chcimpact.org](http://chcimpact.org)): Includes employees of local school districts, city/county governments, Kennecott / Rio Tinto, Deseret Mutual Benefits Administration, Bard Access Systems, and other local companies.
- Utah State Employees Charitable Fund ([usecf.utah.gov/about/charities](http://usecf.utah.gov/about/charities)): Includes anyone who works for the State of Utah, such as the State Parks, Driver License Division, and many other useful offices!

You may be able to give from other campaigns like Community Shares / Utah and United Way. While we are not a member of these campaigns, you may be able to designate contributions directly to us. When you ask your work's campaign director, just tell them Camp Hobé is a 501c3 nonprofit charity, EIN 57-1149391.

**Thanks for all you do to support our campers and their families!**



# DEPUTY DIRECTOR!

**Introducing Our Deputy Director – Ashley Clinger**



Hi! I am so humbled and excited for this opportunity to serve our wonderful community. I have been volunteering with Camp

Hobé since 2009. Who knew that seeing a flyer for camp volunteers would change my life!?! Since my first activity 11 years ago, I knew that Camp Hobé was a special place full of exceptional people. The connection and distinct bond that only this camp can create has brought me back year after year!

As your Deputy Director, I am dedicated to help provide a positive experience not only for the campers and their families, but for the volunteers and staff as well. I have a bachelor's degree in Family, Consumer and Human Development from Utah State University. With my education and experience, I look forward to bringing a new perspective, building an uplifting environment, and working hard for Camp Hobé.

Thank you!

**Ashley Clinger**  
Camp Hobé Deputy Director



# CAMP HOBÉ COUNSELOR-IN-TRAINING PROGRAM!

**Calling All Teens!** - Camp Hobé Counselor-in-Training (CIT) Program

Here at Camp Hobé, our Counselor-in-Training (CIT) program gives teenagers the chance to help give kids with cancer time each summer WITHOUT thinking about hospitals or treatments. A time of kids just being kids. The CIT program offers opportunities for improving leadership skills and personal growth through teamwork. Makayla Wright, a previous Camp Hobé camper, now volunteers as a CIT. When asked about the program she stated "the CIT program has taught me many things, I learned how to work with those from a different background than me and how to manage others. It also taught me to have fun and that I, too, can forget about the rough days and all the other things in my life for a minute." The CIT program at Camp Hobé provides a community of inclusivity by fostering an environment that celebrates diversity. It provides an opportunity to have a meaningful impact on children's lives while learning leadership and teamwork skills. You'll love every second of being in the program and once you've done it, you'll want to come back every year.

**Emma Fisher (aka Fish) - Director, CIT Program**





## JOIN OUR TEAM!

### Join our summer camp team!

Volunteers make Camp Hobé summer camp happen! They plan and run activities, supervise campers during camp, publicize our events, and help raise funds. We are now accepting applications for the 2021 season. All volunteers must apply, be interviewed, complete staff training before camp, and be onsite for the full session, as well as meet other criteria. For more info, visit

<https://camphobekids.org/home/volunteer/>



## 2021 CAMP DATES!

### VOLUNTEERS / STAFF

**Day Camp / Hobé Juniors:**  
Thursday 6/10 to Saturday 6/12

**Kids Week:**  
Sunday 6/13 to Friday 6/18

**Teen Week:**  
Sunday 6/20 to Friday 6/25

### CAMPERS

**Day Camp / Hobé Juniors (ages 4-6 years):**

Friday 6/11 and Saturday 6/12  
Day Camp for 4-6 years, and  
Hobé Juniors (1-night overnight) for 6+ years.

**Kids Week (ages 7-11 years):**  
Monday 6/14 to Friday 6/18

**Teen Week (ages 12-19 years):**  
Monday 6/21 to Friday 6/25

### VIRTUAL SUMMER CAMP SESSIONS

free of charge to all eligible campers  
June 2021, exact dates TBD



## 2021 PROGRAM DATES!

Family outings: **free of charge** to all eligible families.

**Family Rugby Night:** Saturday 4/24, evening

**Family BBQ Night:** June, exact date TBD

**ACS Big Dig Construction vs. Cancer:** tentative date  
Friday 8/27, evening

To see all important Camp Hobé dates, visit our event calendar here:  
<https://camphobekids.org/home/camp-hobe/camp-dates/>

Psychosocial support programs for kids with cancer (& similarly-treated disorders) and their families

[HTTPS://CAMPHOBEKIDS.ORG](https://CAMPHOBEKIDS.ORG)

Camp Hobé, Inc.  
P.O. Box 520755  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84152-0755  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

