



BIOGRAPHY

Gavin Arneson (*he/him*)
Hero, Episode "Gavin"

Gavin, 23, grew up between the cornfields of Nebraska and the mountains of Colorado, and he currently lives in New York City. His story gives an inside view of being young and experiencing poverty, being gay and the awkward journey to accepting it in a religious household, and growing up with parents who have struggles of their own. His experience with a sick father who could not afford medical care inspired a drive to deliver healthcare to those who need it most and compelled him to become a nurse. During college, he interned in the House of Representatives with his hometown Congresswoman, researching factors contributing to the rising cost of prescription medications and contributing to the introduction of legislation to lower the cost of insulin. As a new nurse, he volunteered to administer some of the first vaccines against the coronavirus, and he has been on the frontlines caring for patients hospitalized with COVID-19. His education has given him the tools to effect these changes in the world, and he knows the power of an education; he is working to endow a scholarship fund to send other young people to college. He hopes his story of resilience and hope offer others a sense of relief in knowing they are not alone. These days, he is working on a book about his experience growing up and a podcast about young adulthood, running in Central Park, cooking delicious food, and very much still growing up.