

What a long, strange trip it's been.

It was late August 2017. I was making bubble tea at Rochester Pride, def covered in milk and absolutely wearing too much polyester, when I was canvassed to join the coalition to pass comprehensive transgender non-discrimination laws in New Hampshire.

I had only been out as Palana full time for five months, maybe about one year into HRT, but had been following articles about the failed attempt to legislate gender identity non-discrim earlier in the year. I said I'd love to get involved. I didn't know the first thing about how our state's legislature worked (*or honestly, even like, who my neighbors were*) **but I was suddenly organizing** phone banks, panel events, fielding interviews, and other acts of visibility.

I was just one of hundreds of folks turning up the volume on the trans experience as part of the Freedom New Hampshire coalition - but when the bill passed and ACLU-NH secured a grant to continue this important work - **it was rather suddenly my actual job**, as their first ever Trans Justice Organizer.

And y'all. What a trip.

So to all of the volunteers who either took action testifying at the statehouse, contacting yr representatives, or pressuring political candidates to commit to bold, civil liberties-forward platforms. And to the hundreds of folks who have attended the Advocacy Academy on Gender Identity or one of our other digital learning series. To the THOUSANDS who wrote postcards to Governor Sununu in support of non-binary state ID. To all of our star volunteers that led phone banks, postcard parties, and visibilities. To those who pressured school boards to adopt trans student policies - **THAT WAS ALL YOU!**

And it's imperative as ever that we continue this work, especially now. This includes fighting off blatantly discriminatory anti-trans athletics legislation, working toward accessible identification for all gender identities, and working to further protect trans students.

Although this is my last transmission as Trans Justice Organizer, **the ACLU-NH is committed to continuing advancing Trans Justice in the Granite State**, so stay tuned for more updates soon, including a [rescheduled Trans Justice Convening](#)!

I am forever grateful to everyone I've met and worked with over these past two years here in New Hampshire. If you'd like to stay in touch w/ me after I leave, *plz respond to this e-mail directly and I send can you my personal email*. You can also [follow me on Twitter](#).

Love. Love. Love. <3

Palana

she / her

Trans Justice Organizer

ACLU-NH