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Rise-NY



2022 Annual Report

Our Mission

Rise's mission is to assist families who experience or are threatened with domestic violence and to increase the community's awareness of this pervasive problem.

Our Work

We provide comprehensive domestic violence services, including: shelter, hotline, advocacy, group and individual counseling, and community education.

Our Impact in 2022



2,791 calls to our 24-hour hotline were answered by trained staff

This is an average of over 7 calls a day, with many callers seeking shelter services.



11,579 healthy meals were fed to residents in our shelter program

In the Summer, meal ingredients often come from our garden.



4,213 safe shelter nights were provided to **159** adults and children

The shelter has 7 private bedrooms and bathrooms and has been operational since 1979.



1,613 people were reached through our 31 trainings, talks and tablings

We educate the community as well as professionals about domestic violence and our services.



17,792 advocacy services were provided to **1,964** survivors

Advocacy services are provided at Broome County Family Court, Child Protective Services, and two local police departments.



336 individual and group counseling sessions were completed

Counseling services focus on setting goals and boundaries, self care, and the affects of trauma on the brain.

A note from our Board President



Kristopher Bryson

As I reflect on this past year, both victories and hardships alike, I have never been more grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this organization. These past few years have presented us each with additional challenges no one could have predicted and our staff has risen to surpass the needs of the moment every single time.

This past year life has slowly started looking more like the pre-pandemic normal, allowing us to ease back some COVID restrictions. A lack of safe and affordable housing in our community has exacerbated the struggle faced by many of the people we serve and we have been proud to have the opportunity to respond to the need by offering shelter to more people for longer and even providing assistance to mitigate some of the more prohibitive upfront housing costs.

We are also fortunate not to be the only organization in the area working to support our community. Continued cooperation is key to maintaining and expanding our services and as such we regularly reach out to organizations we can partner with.

The work Rise does in our community is tireless. Especially in recent years with new challenges, I could not be more proud of our staff for their dedication, their professionalism, and their heart. Every hotline call taken, every counseling session facilitated, every safe night's sleep provided changes the lives of our clients. These changes ripple out into our community, bending the arc of history just that much more towards justice.

Board of Directors

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Nicole Barren

Safe Housing

Broome County has had a housing crisis for many years, which has been exacerbated by the COVID pandemic. According to the Broome County Safe Housing Task Force, there are only 17 affordable housing units for every 100 extremely low income renter households, the second lowest availability rate in New York State. This deficit represents a significant barrier for victims, some of whom would rather return to an abusive partner than face homelessness.

Most victims also have experienced financial abuse and/or the loss of income due to abuse, and lack the financial means to cover a security deposit, first month of rent and furniture and supplies needed to establish a household. Other victims may be able to remain in existing stable housing if provided with extra safety measures like a security system. With funds from both the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Family Violence Prevention Services American Rescue Plan, Rise was able to directly support survivors with housing-related needs. From the start of the program on July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021, Rise was able to assist 25 families with costs including security deposits, rent, utilities, security upgrades, and household items. In 2022, we assisted 32 families with housing costs, comprised of 32 adults and 53 children.

One such family we assisted was Kalia's. Kalia was referred to our shelter by the police after experiencing abuse from her boyfriend. While staying in shelter, Kalia worked with a Rise advocate who provided accompaniment during her court hearings as well as safety planning since her abuser was in attendance. Kalia was eventually granted a full stay away order of protection from her abuser. She located a quiet apartment that she was excited about and Rise paid her security deposit and three months of rent from our housing grant. Kalia moved into the apartment and was looking forward to having her daughter be able to visit, and eventually live with her again.



Parking Lot Art

For United Way's Day of Caring, our volunteers from Binghamton University repainted our parking lot lines and created a beautiful piece of art. It faces the public sidewalk and reads "The sun will always Rise", a reminder to survivors, or anyone facing adversity in the community, that the future is bright.



Rising to New Heights

Our 2022 staff retreat took the form of staff completing a low and high ropes course. The low elements focused on team work, while the high elements encouraged staff to explore their limits.

Other staff activities that year included a picnic and book exchange, mental health days spent painting pottery or crafting with coworkers, and Fall and holiday parties.



Bettering our Exterior

Home Depot Store #1252 in Johnson City donated labor and supplies to elevate the landscaping at our administrative building. They put in mulch, planted flowers, pruned bushes, and installed solar lights on our ramp. The improvements to the outside really helped beautify our lovely old administrative building, constructed in the early 1900s.

In 2021, Broome County reported 946 victims of domestic violence in which charges were filed. This included 113 aggravated assaults, 687 simple assaults and 77 violations of a protective order. However, nearly half of all domestic violence goes unreported.

Collaborations

In October, Rise tabled at and spoke before the Binghamton Philharmonic Orchestra's production of Rod Serling's "Walking Distance" to a crowd of approximately 600 people. The term "Twilight Zone" is borrowed from astronomy- that time when we hover between light and darkness. Rise's services can bring light to, and alter the course of people's lives, and we appreciated the opportunity to educate the community about our comprehensive services.



Both the New York Skin and Vein Center and Binghamton City Councilwoman Sophia Resciniti held separate supply drives for us. In kind donations from the community are critical to our work.

Rise participated in the YWCA's Week Without Violence, including a candlelight vigil and a flag raising ceremony at City Hall.

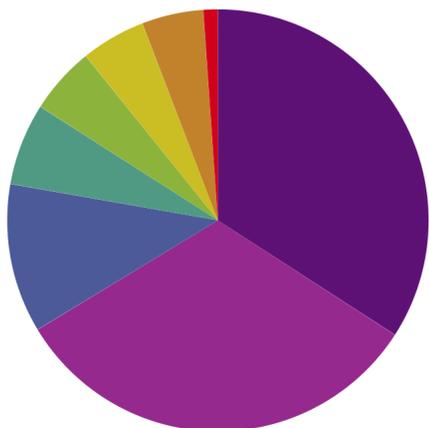
Rise tabled and gave a talk at INAS's Neurodiversity Conference. People with disabilities experience higher rates of domestic violence, so it's important to reach this population.

One of Rise's police advocates served on the panel for a presentation on the criminal justice process, which was targeted to professionals by Broome County's Family Violence Prevention Council.

2022 Financials

Based on a pre-audit cash basis

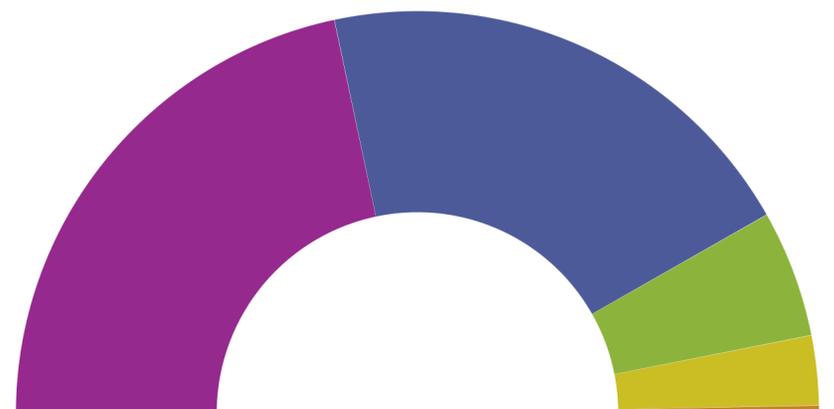
Revenue: \$1,380,292



- State Grants (34.13%)
- Residential Program Per Diem (32.2%)
- PPP Loan Forgiveness and Interest (11.43%)
- Non-Residential Contract (6.28%)
- Federal Grants (5.16%) Local Grants (4.95%)
- Individuals and Organizations (4.72%)
- Foundations (1.12%)

New funding sources in 2022 included Family Violence Prevention Services COVID-19 funding and the American Rescue Plan.

Expenses



- Advocacy Program (43.38%)
- Shelter Program (40.2%)
- Administrative (10.23%)
- Counseling Program (5.58%)
- Community Education (0.58%)
- Advertising/Fundraising (0.04%)

Significant expenses in 2022 included direct assistance to survivors for safe housing, repairs to the insulation and duct work in the shelter's attic, and cost of living increases for our hardworking staff.

We appreciate all of our donors who make it possible for us to continue providing essential services. **Thank you so much!**