RISE
Against Suicide

ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022
TABLE OF CONTENTS

1  Letter from the Executive Director
2  Why We Rise
3  Our Program
4  Community Engagement & Fundraising
5  RISE Staff and Board Members
6  Annual Financial Statement
7  Acknowledgements
As I write this, we are all staggering under the weight of another young person in our community who lost their life to suicide. The mental health crisis young people are facing grows and sometimes feels unstoppable. Yet, the heft of these feelings doesn’t slow us down. Rise Against Suicide is steadfast in its commitment to helping the un/underinsured youth in our community struggling with suicidal ideation get the help they need.

Our 2021/2022 fiscal year was a period of exponential growth. We experienced a 134% increase in referrals and a 152% increase in funded therapy sessions. We had 333 referrals this year and funded 2,703 life-saving therapy sessions. RISE has consistently met the demand of the growing mental health crisis the youth in our community are contending with. We have never had to turn away a child needing mental health services and have maintained a roster of dedicated and qualified therapists. The changes we made due to the COVID-19 pandemic that allow for parents, family members, community members, and youth to make referrals have remained in place, allowing us to further break financial and social barriers to mental health access.

Rise Against Suicide also saw tremendous growth in other ways. We were able to hire two full-time staff members to help ensure that the organization can continue to meet the needs of the youth in our community. Hiring a Business and Operations Manager has allowed us to implement a more robust referral management system to serve our youth more efficiently and stay in contact with our roster of therapists. Our Development Coordinator has increased awareness and funding, paving the way for more funded therapy sessions and referrals. Additionally, a very generous individual donated beautiful office space for us to move into, which we have made into a comfortable area for our staff and community.

Despite what sometimes feels insurmountable, our community has remained resilient and full of hope. We have come together in beautiful ways to uplift and empower the young people in our community, giving Rise Against Suicide the ability to grow and reach more youth than ever, offering more hope and healing.

We carry your hope with us into 2022/2023. Each child we help reminds us of the immense need we strive to meet and the incredible capacity of our collective community. With new partnerships on the horizon and our phenomenal volunteers and donors, we can continue providing hope for the youth in our community.

Onward with hope,

Jenna Clinchard
Executive Director

“Our human compassion binds us the one to the other – not in pity or patronizingly, but as human beings who have learnt how to turn our common suffering into hope for the future.”
– Nelson Mandela
Our Story

In 2002, four students in one Colorado school lost their lives to suicide in a nine-month period. The community, reeling from the deaths of four young people, banded together to create a fund that would directly support young people struggling at the school. In 2009, Second Wind Fund of Boulder County was founded to respond to the continued crisis facing young people in Boulder County.

In 2020, our name changed to Rise Against Suicide to better reflect our mission and what we strive to do every day. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, our mission is to remove the financial and social barriers to mental health treatment for young people at risk of suicide. Since 2009, Rise Against Suicide has funded approximately 8,157 therapy sessions for young people at risk of suicide who otherwise would not have access to mental health care.

Our Mission

Rise Against Suicide helps youth at risk of suicide by removing the financial and social barriers to treatment, enabling them to find hope and healing.
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Rise Against Suicide is deeply committed to prioritizing and engaging diverse perspectives. We are an inclusive and equitable 501(c)(3) organization. We are dedicated to deconstructing the frameworks of oppression, within our organization and outside of it. Rise Against Suicide is loyal to the work of learning, re-learning, and continuing our education on matters of diversity, equity and inclusion.

From the children we work with to our board members, we will engage all with dignity and respect towards race, religion, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetic, disability, age, or veteran status. We are also committed to compliance with all fair employment practices regarding citizenship and immigration status.

How We Rise

Listen
We hear you and care about you.

Connect
We find you the best mental health therapist for you or your child. You are never alone.

Offer Hope
Youth feel more hopeful after therapy than when they started.
Losing a young person to suicide is unimaginably devastating. As one mother described the experience at the funeral for her young son, who died by suicide, "I looked around at all these young people, at their beautiful faces, and I thought, 'not one more.'"

Rise Against Suicide is committed to not one more. Not one more young person should feel alone and hopeless and as if there are no resources for them. Not one more child should face insurmountable barriers to getting the care they need.

According to the 2022 State of Mental Health in America, over 60% of youth with major depression do not get treatment, and of those who do receive treatment, only 12% receive consistent care. In Colorado, 39.3% of youth who experienced a major depressive episode did not receive treatment in 2018–2019. Despite these statistics, mental health coverage can be a substantial barrier to youth getting the help they need.

Most health insurance plans offer limited or no coverage for mental health counseling; thus, many households will have to pay a percentage out of pocket. Furthermore, if the parent is uninsured or does not have mental health coverage as a part of their plan, the cost will be even higher. This factor has significant implications for youth at risk of suicide. Thus, while many programs will connect youth to therapists, the cost barrier is still substantial enough to dissuade them and their parents or guardians from seeking lifesaving care.

There is a critical need for programs like Rise Against Suicide that provide easy access to free mental health services for suicidal youth up to age 19. Rise Against Suicide helps eliminate some of the significant barriers preventing teens in crisis from obtaining critical mental health care.
RISE connects suicidal youth in our community with Colorado state-licensed therapists.

- A Qualified Referral Source (school counselor, community interventionist, etc.) submits the online RISE referral form.
- The QRS reaches out to RISE therapists selected by the youth/youth's family to find the best match to support the youth at risk of suicide.
- An available RISE therapist reaches out to the family to schedule the first session within 24 hours of accepting the referral.
- The youth has access to at least 8 sessions with the RISE therapist.
- RISE therapists bill RISE directly.
- RISE programming staff is available to support the QRSs, therapists, and families every step of the way.

Rise Against Suicide contracts Colorado state-licensed therapists to provide therapy sessions to youth referred to RISE and deemed to be at risk of suicide.

Rise Against Suicide acts solely as a facilitator to connect youth at risk of suicide with therapists when the families or youth agree to pursue services.

RISE covers the cost of therapy sessions for youth who qualify for our services.

The family never sees a bill.

**WHO QUALIFIES**

Rise Against Suicide serves youth who:

- Are at risk of suicide.
- Are 19 years old or younger.
- Are uninsured.
- Are underinsured.
- Cannot access therapy services for several months despite having insurance.
- Live in Boulder, Longmont, and surrounding areas, and/or attend St. Vrain Valley or Boulder Valley schools.

**DIRECT REFERRALS**

Anyone can reach out to us if they are concerned about youth being suicidal.

- Families, siblings, or youth themselves* can reach out to RISE program staff by phone or email.
- A RISE Therapist performs a short risk assessment to evaluate the suicidal risk of the youth of concern.
- RISE staff supports the family in finding a RISE therapist.

Families can be connected to a therapist within 48–72 hours of RISE receiving a referral.

An initial therapy session can be scheduled within 1 week of the therapist connecting with the family.

We strive to ensure that at-risk youth can access the help they need quickly.

*Colorado State Law dictates that youth 12 years of age or older can consent to their own mental health therapy.
Rise Against Suicide primarily reaches youth at risk of suicide through the Boulder Valley and St. Vrain Valley School Districts. We are continuously growing the ways we reach youth in need of support, including building partnerships with community organizations that regularly interact with our children and can make referrals when they recognize the risks and warning signs of suicide.

**Thank you to all of our partners!**

Boulder Community Health  
Boulder County School District Clinica  
Colorado Spirit Program  
CORE Program – City of Longmont  
Hope Coalition

Longmont Youth Center –  
City of Longmont  
NAMI  
OASIS – Boulder County  
Out Boulder  
Saint Vrain Valley School District

**Partner Testimonial**

RISE provides a reliable and much needed service to our community. Their ability to promptly connect youth to services is especially beneficial right now as COVID has severely impacted our youth. We routinely refer to RISE as a result of calls-for-service involving young people struggling with suicidality.

Recently, our co-response team, CORE, was called for an actively suicidal teen who was taking steps to end their life. The exceptional officers on our team established safety with this young person which allowed our clinician to assess clinical concerns. In talking with the teen, it was evident that they were feeling lost and fearful about their recent suicidal behaviors.

They were emotional and vulnerable about what had gotten them to this point in life. They wanted help and didn’t know how to ask for it or where to go.

The family was responsive and agreed to talk collectively and with the support of our CORE team we were able to avoid hospitalization of this youth.

This was made possible because of the strength of our relationship with RISE, the confidence we have in their providers, and their promptness in connecting youth to providers. This young person was connected and seen by a mental health specialist within a week.
RISE serves youth of different ages, genders, and racial identities throughout Boulder, Longmont, and surrounding areas.

RISE strives to connect with therapists who can support youth from all different backgrounds.

**School Levels of RISE Referrals in FY22**

- 43% of RISE referrals are in High School

**Racial Demographics of RISE Referrals in FY22**

- 52% of RISE referrals identify as being Hispanic and/or BIPOC

13.3 average age of youth referred to RISE

76% of RISE referrals are at least 12 years old

58% of RISE referrals identify as female
RISE more than doubled the number of funded therapy sessions!

RISE served twice as many youth at risk of suicide compared to previous years.

RISE received referrals from 64 schools across Boulder Valley and St. Vrain Valley School Districts.

RISE funded 2,703 therapy sessions for youth at risk of suicide in Boulder, Broomfield, Erie, Frederick, Lafayette, Longmont, Louisville, Lyons, Mead, Nederland, Niwot, Northglenn, Superior, and Westminster.

Almost 30% of referrals were received after major school breaks.

RISE Youth Referrals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RISE Funded Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>FY19</th>
<th>FY20</th>
<th>FY21</th>
<th>FY22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Count</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I will never forget the feelings that hit me when I got the call from my son’s high school guidance counselor. She was calling to tell me that a couple of my son’s friends had told her that my son had been talking about wanting to die and killing himself. Shock, terror, confusion, grief -- I had no idea what to do next...

Our health insurance provided few mental health benefits, and we could not afford counseling. The guidance counselor gave me information about RISE Against Suicide and the resources they provide.

With my first phone call to RISE, I felt supported by a community and connected to resources. RISE helped me pay for the counseling and mental health support my son needed, giving my son and our family access to the resources we needed during one of the hardest times in our lives.

Kathy has been helping me since last year. Kathy has been wonderful. She’s the bright fireflies that guide me through the darkest nights. She truly is a blessing. Not only do I feel heard and supported, we have a nice bond and I know she listens because she tends to remember small details that I usually forget about.

She has helped me become a better and stable version of myself.

We have talked about multiple things and she is able to provide valuable and helpful advice for each situation. Kathy has been able to help me handle my depression, anxiety, fear, anger in healthier ways. She has helped me to articulate my feelings better. Kathy has also taught me a lot and even provides wonderful poems, advice, words and stories. I was also brought to the realization that some problems I have go a little deeper than the surface. I just want to let you know how grateful I am for Kathy. She’s been a walking angel in my life.

I received all the help I need in order to become the best version of myself and I have Kathy to thank for that. I also want to thank the wonderful program that helps people like me receive help from lovely people like Kathy. Thank you so much.
As a local nonprofit, engaging with our community is at the core of who we are. The support we receive from hometown businesses, giving clubs, and organizations is vital to helping us serve our mission. There are so many ways to get involved, from fundraising to increasing awareness about who we are and what we do, we love the collaborative efforts to support our youth!

RISE is committed to establishing authentic and lasting relationships with all of our community partners, and we are profoundly grateful for them.

Here are some RISE events from this year.

For the last 2 years, Meadors Master’s has hosted a golf tournament auction to raise funds for RISE. This year they raised $20,000!

Acme Fine Goods hosted an extremely successful raffle fundraiser for RISE, raising $4,500!

Ozo Coffee donated a percentage of proceeds to RISE from all of their shops on Colorado Gives Day!

Louisville Underground and DOLLS (Dad’s of Louisville/Lafayette) hosted a fantastic Beastie Boys Concert to benefit RISE, raising $5,000!
Our Holiday Star Program is a unique way for organizations and businesses to make a significant impact without investing financially. RISE is a community-centered nonprofit that respects and sees the vitality in every local organization and business. Each year RISE asks local businesses to help us connect our community to our struggling youth.

We provide each location with a tree and star ornaments OR a star mobile. Each star represents a young person in our community who is in need of mental health care. Patrons of businesses participating in the Holiday Star Program can choose a star and donate towards funding therapy sessions for uninsured and underinsured youth at risk of suicide.

Thanks to our supportive community, we were able to raise a record amount during our 2021 Holiday Star Program Fundraiser.
The EMERGE 5K 2022 Was Our Most Successful Fundraising Event To Date!

Our Emerge 5K is our biggest annual fundraiser, and the funds we raise ensure that we can continue to provide services of targeted therapy related to suicide in our community. This year was a staggering success, and our incredible community helped us raise over $120,000!

With more than 600 participants, this year’s Emerge also supported another crucial part of RISE’s mission: to break social barriers. We believe that breaking the stigma of conversations around mental health and suicide is necessary for at-risk youth and their families to have the courage to seek help. Awareness about resources like RISE supports us in creating a community that is as strong and resilient as our youth. Our participants, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters were integral in the fantastic success of the Emerge 5K 2022! Thank you!
We are so grateful to our generous sponsors who supported our annual Emerge 5K and Holiday Star Program events this year!

**Emerge 5K**

1st Bank  
8z Real Estate – Brad Klein  
8z Real Estate: Peggy Wood  
Asset Living  
Avista Adventist  
Bellco  
Centennial Peaks Hospital  
Colies Closet  
Colorado Trust  
Cross Fit Lodo  
CycleHops  
Dairy Queen  
Dennis and Debra Paul  
Denver Barbell  
Wong Orthodontics  
Duda  
Flatirons Subaru  
Founders First CP  
High Plains Bank  
Hope Coalition  
IGNITE  
Jeff Brown & Family  
Larson Financial  
Laura and Andy Lee  
Longmont United Hospital  
Mental Health Partners  
Monkton Guitars  
Mountain View Capital  
Newmark Merrill Mountain States  
Ouch Waxing  
Premier Members Credit Union  
Remax – Chris Ermold  
ReMax – Gina Lesch  
Reylenn Properties LLC  
Rocky Mtn Health Plans  
Snyder Electric  
Sunflower Bank  
Stapp Toyota  
Stateless  
Taddiken  
Terry Lee  
Todd and Virginia Dutkin  
TIKKUN Foundation  
Tom Gallop  
UC Health  
Wild Heritage Gardens  
WK Real Estate

**Holiday Star**

Flatirons Subaru  
Margarets Hope Fund  
Stapp Interstate Toyota  
Sunflower Bank

**Community**

ACME Fine Goods  
BV Builders  
D.O.L.L.S.  
EverEve  
Joanna Mandell  
Jill Nelson, Spire Financial  
Meador’s Masters  
Ozo Coffee  
Vintrey  

Thank you!
As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, the incredible generosity of our donors enables RISE to serve our mission throughout the year. In 2021-2022, our community came together in extraordinary ways to fund more therapy sessions for a record number of referrals. Each and every one of our donors and volunteers is a vital part of fulfilling our mission to provide hope and healing to the youth who would not otherwise have access to care.
Our Staff and Board

Carol McEvoy (she/her)- Business & Operations Manager

Carol joined RISE in March 2022 to support RISE's mission by helping to make the behind-the-scenes work run smoothly and efficiently. She loves to run, hike, and travel to new places with her partner when she’s not digging into data or organizing information.

Kaleigh Radebaugh (she/her)- Development Coordinator

Kaleigh joined the RISE team in September 2021. As the Development Coordinator, she is passionate about building authentic and meaningful relationships with all of RISE's supporters. She loves writing poetry, baking, backpacking, and hiking.

2021 - 2022 Rise Against Suicide Board of Directors

MEMBER
Amy Paterra, 2018
Kristen Keller, 2016
Mary Campbell, 2015
Crystal Salvador-Zapote, 2021
Gary Borgese, 2014
Robert Kilcullen, 2017
Jenna Clinchard, 2019
Andi Jason, 2019
Mark Braman, 2020
Jonathan Schoenberg, 2020
Susan J Davis, 2021
Jenna Howerton, 2021
Peter Burns, 2022

POSITION
President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer/CFO
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
RISE believes that youth suicide can be prevented through timely, equitable access to mental health services. To meet the growing need of youth in our community to have access to mental health resources, RISE has made great efforts to increase our financial position to provide continued support to our youth and to never have to turn away a family.

![RISE FY22 Revenue Report](image1)

- **33%** increase in Total Assets from FY21
- **64%** increase in expenses directed to programming
- **33%** of revenue came from events and fundraising

**OUR Financial Statement**

- **Retained Earnings:** $159,507
- **Current Assets:** $455,431
- **Total Liabilities:** $26,141
- **Unrestricted:** $262,427
- **Restricted:** $192,000
- **Total Equity and Liabilities:** $480,568
- **Total Assets:** $480,568
- **Administrative Fees:** $25,138
- **Programming:** $262,427
- **Fundraising:** $192,000

43% of our revenue came from individual contributions!
Our sponsors, grantors, and individual donors are a vital part of our community. Each one has had an incredible impact on the youth in our community, and for that we are deeply grateful.

WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF OUR PROGRAM
TOGETHER
WE CAN RISE AGAINST SUICIDE

Join us in support of breaking barriers to mental health access for youth
@ riseagainstsuicide.org/donate

Find Us On Social Media

Facebook: bit.ly/RiseAgainstSuicide
Instagram: bit.ly/RISEInsta
LinkedIn: bit.ly/RISELinkdin
Twitter: @RiseAgainstCO

CONTACT US
603 S Public Rd
PO Box 846
Lafayette CO 80026
720-212-7527
rise@riseagainstsuicide.org