

# 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

RISEABOVEVIOLENCE.ORG



*Rise Above*  
VIOLENCE

# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

Dear Friends,

2023 was especially exciting. We launched an inaugural fundraiser that was a HUGE hit - Runway for Rise. It was beyond amazing to see these fashion designs and the talent our teams had. Truly incredible!

Our advocates were busy once again being hope-lifters, justice-makers, safe-shelterers, and awareness builders. We strive for self-determination and allow our clients to lead the way - we're there to lessen their barriers and create a healing path.

For 2024, we will be creating what we hope will be a dynamic, bold strategic plan. Most excitingly, it will greatly involve you, our community, our donors and our clients to provide insights and guidance as we decide our next steps towards our vision of ending domestic and sexual violence in Pagosa Springs.

With my upmost gratitude,



**CARMEN HUBBS**

Executive Director

## DID YOU KNOW?

When you donate to Rise every dollar stays right here in Archuleta County.

## IN 2023 YOUR GIFT PROVIDED:

- Safety Planning
- On-scene Crisis Support
- Medical Accompaniment
- 24/7 Hotline
- Advocacy
- Emotional Support
- Legal Advocacy
- Protection Order Support
- Court Accompaniment
- Housing Support

**Make a 1 time or recurring monthly donation** that supports the continued needs of victims in our community.

**To Donate**

**Scan here**



# Client Services

**351 victims  
Served in 2023**

- 2,694 client interactions
- 7,372 services provided
- 812 Hotline Calls Answered

**37% increase  
in services provided  
from 2022**

# IMPACT STORY



A woman who had been in a physically and emotionally abusive relationship for years contacted Rise after an altercation led to her and their young child barricading themselves in a room to escape the violence. When it was safe enough to leave the house, the mother and child fled to a family member's home but the abuser continued to harass and threaten them. Also, a new discovery, he had been continuously monitoring mom in their home through hidden cameras. While safety planning with Rise advocates, the victim discovered her abuser was also tracking her phone and car. Rise was able to refer a local mechanic to have the tracker removed. Advocates then assisted to safeguard her phone and obtain a protection order. However, law enforcement deemed the abuser "un-servable" with the order, as he would not leave his house or would hide when law enforcement would arrive. Thus, mother was unable to reenter her home or get any of her and the child's belongings. Not to be swayed, mom and child stayed in a Rise SafeHome, a safe transitional housing unit for 3 weeks allowing time to figure out her next steps. Mom is now enrolled in Rise's long-term housing program, safe from her abuser and working toward permanent separation with her abuser.

## We Need You!

--- Hotline Volunteers --- Event Volunteers ---

In 2023, volunteers provided more than 2500 hours in advocacy, awareness and fundraising!

To learn more about becoming a volunteer reach out to [Jennifer@riseaboveviolence.org](mailto:Jennifer@riseaboveviolence.org)

# Client Services:

## Legal Program

- Pro Bono/Low Bono support
- Case consults & Full Case Representation
- Other Fees and services

248 Victims received  
Court Advocacy

### Civil Legal Advocacy

- provided 653 times

### Criminal Justice Support & Advocacy

- provided 306 times

### Civil & Criminal Court Accompaniment

- provided 89 times

### Protection Order Assistance

- provided 118 times

## Housing Program

- Emergency & Long-Term Housing Support
  - Transitional Housing Program
  - Rental & Utility assistance

60 Victims received  
Housing Support

### Emergency Housing Assistance

- 27 victims

### Long-term Housing Program

- 21 victims

In 2023, Rise Above Violence secured a short-term lease on a studio apartment to be used for transitional housing. In 4 months, the studio had already provided 91 nights of safety.

# IMPACT STORY

AJ was nervous and excited to start a new job and wanting to make good impressions and good working relationships. Unfortunately, one of AJ's coworkers had other ideas. Grooming is a common tactic used by sexual assault perpetrators. They lure their victims in with excessive friendliness, overly welcoming and accommodating. But how is one to know the difference between being nice and being groomed? Sometimes you don't know a person's intentions until they make them known. AJ found out when her co-worker offered her a ride home, sexually assaulting her once they arrived. Reporting to law enforcement and then with the help of an advocate getting an order of protection, AJ did all the right things. Advocates worked with her employer to arrange different scheduling to ensure she could keep her job. While the employer accommodated, violations continued to occur. Unfortunately, her short tenure didn't take precedence over his seniority, ultimately ending her employment. While not the success story we'd hoped for, this co-worker is now on watch and known to be a potential risk to his co-workers and liability to his employer. We hope this 'outing' will encourage the owner to closely watch and monitor with new young workers coming in. Once held accountable, this has the potential of deterring future violent acts. AJ created this possible safety net for future women who interact with this individual. Today, AJ feels empowered knowing she stood up to a perpetrator. She is not one to be taken advantage of - ever.

# Community Outreach

Rise presented a trauma-informed workshop to educate the community on best practices to responding and supporting friends, family or colleagues after violence.



11 local businesses and organizations participated in Denim Day 2023.

**86**  
community members  
and professionals  
were trained



April is  
Sexual  
Assault  
Awareness  
Month

October is  
Domestic  
Violence  
Awareness  
Month

# Youth Violence Prevention

2022-2023 School Year  
5th - 12th Grade

**587 Youth Served**

**162 Sessions Provided**

## Intervention

- Children of adult clients can receive support from our youth advocates who have special understanding of the effects of domestic violence
- Safety planning & support for youth experiencing teen dating violence

## Violence Prevention Programming

- Healthy Relationships
- Internet Safety
- Anti-Bullying
- Respect
- Self-Esteem



In May, the Youth Rise Group organized a Mental Health Awareness Walk which had 75 participants from ages 5-50 years old. The students coordinated the event, took great pride in organizing it and were very happy with their success.



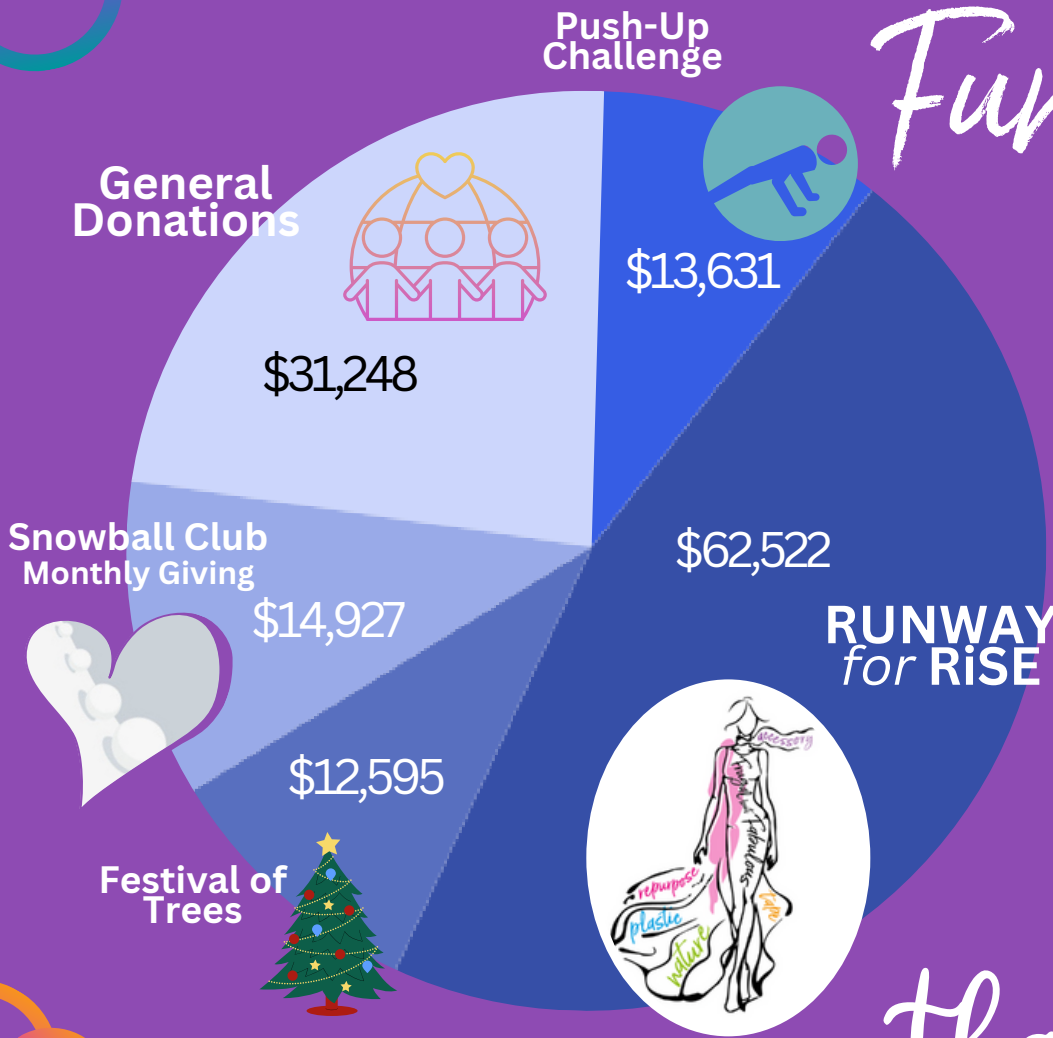
# Fundraising

## \$135,287

Raised to support victims when they need it most

These funds pay for items grants do not cover: food, hygiene products, car repair, childcare etc... Things that help to stabilize victims and prevent possible homelessness and increase safety for victims

# thank you



## Save the Date



# RUNWAY for RiSE

2nd Annual RUNWAY for RiSE Fashion Gala  
Fall 2024

