

the blue bench

Ending sexual assault
through prevention & care

www.thebluebench.org

ANNUAL REPORT FY 2024

The Blue Bench is a community of survivors, allies, and advocates working to prevent sexual violence and build a safe and supportive metro Denver.

We work collaboratively to provide accessible, survivor-centered support services and empowering education.

NEW LEADERSHIP



Introducing The Blue Bench Executive Director Rebecca Tiell-Krekeler, MSW.

We are honored to share some exciting news with you.

After a comprehensive national search, The Blue Bench Board of Directors is pleased to announce that we have appointed Rebecca Tiell-Krekeler, MSW, as our new Executive Director.

Becca has been a steadfast leader in our organization for more than eight years, most recently serving as Co-Director of Client Services.

Her work has always reflected an unshakable commitment to trauma-informed, survivor-centered advocacy, the heart of everything we do at The Blue Bench.

“I am honored to step into this role and continue building on the powerful work The Blue Bench has led for over 40 years,” said Becca. “We remain committed to ending sexual violence through evidence-based education and providing trauma-informed, accessible support for every survivor in our community.”

Throughout her time with us, Becca has guided our programs and teams through significant challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and devastating federal funding cuts to victim services. These moments tested our field, yet Becca consistently showed up with compassion, courage, and vision. She ensured survivors continued to receive the support they deserve and that our staff felt grounded in mission and care.

Her career spans over a decade of service to survivors, including roles at the Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking, CU-Denver’s Center on Domestic Violence, and as an affiliate faculty member in the Department of Social Work at Metropolitan State University of Denver, where she helps shape the next generation of advocates.

Becca’s lived leadership through change, deep understanding of our community’s needs, and fierce dedication to survivor justice make her uniquely prepared to lead The Blue Bench into our next chapter. Under her guidance, we remain committed to building a world where sexual violence is no longer tolerated and survivors are met with care, dignity, and unwavering support.

Outside of work, Becca enjoys reading, soaking up the Colorado sunshine with her four kids, and spending time with her spouse, family, and friends.

Please join us in celebrating this exciting milestone and in welcoming Becca into her new role.



FAREWELL

A Heartfelt Thank You to Michelle Wiley.

On behalf of the board, staff, and community of The Blue Bench, we extend our deepest gratitude to Michelle Wiley for her remarkable service as Interim Executive Director.

Michelle stepped into this role during a critical time and brought with her a rare and powerful combination of empathy, strategic vision, and operational excellence.

She led with deep understanding and compassion—centering survivors in every decision—while also maintaining a clear, thoughtful focus on the long-term needs of the organization.

A tireless and intentional leader, Michelle balanced putting survivors first with strengthening the systems that support them. Her strong financial acumen, big-picture thinking, and commitment to doing the hard work positioned The Blue Bench for continued stability and growth.

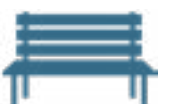
Most of all, Michelle showed us what it means to lead with both heart and clarity. She created space for people to be seen and heard, while always moving the mission forward.

The Blue Bench will forever benefit from Michelle’s time here. Her leadership has left a lasting imprint, and we are profoundly grateful.

Thank you, Michelle!



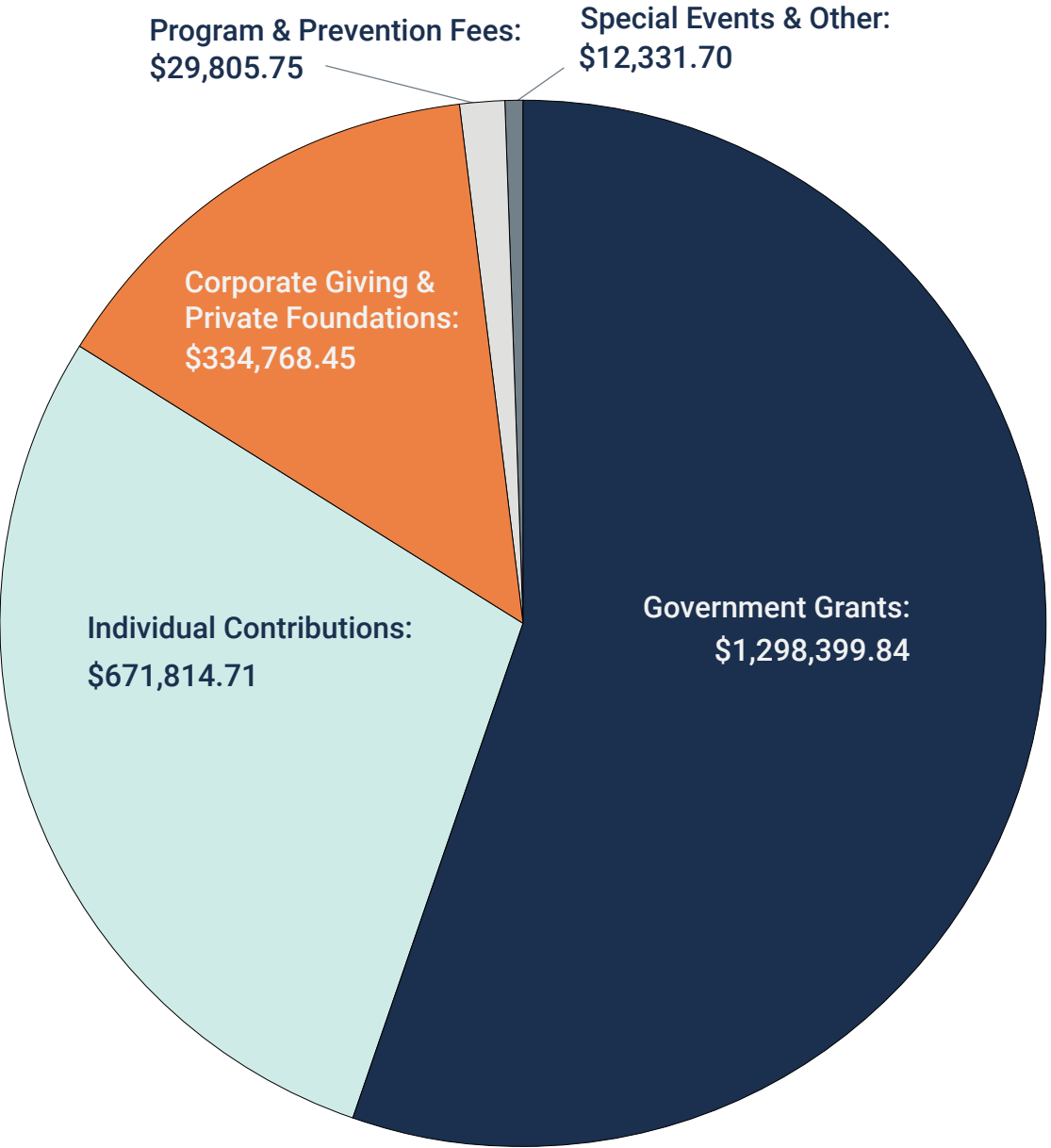
Michelle Wiley, Interim Executive Director, and Noa Shapira, Featured Speaker at our RISE Together Gala at Town Hall Collaborative.



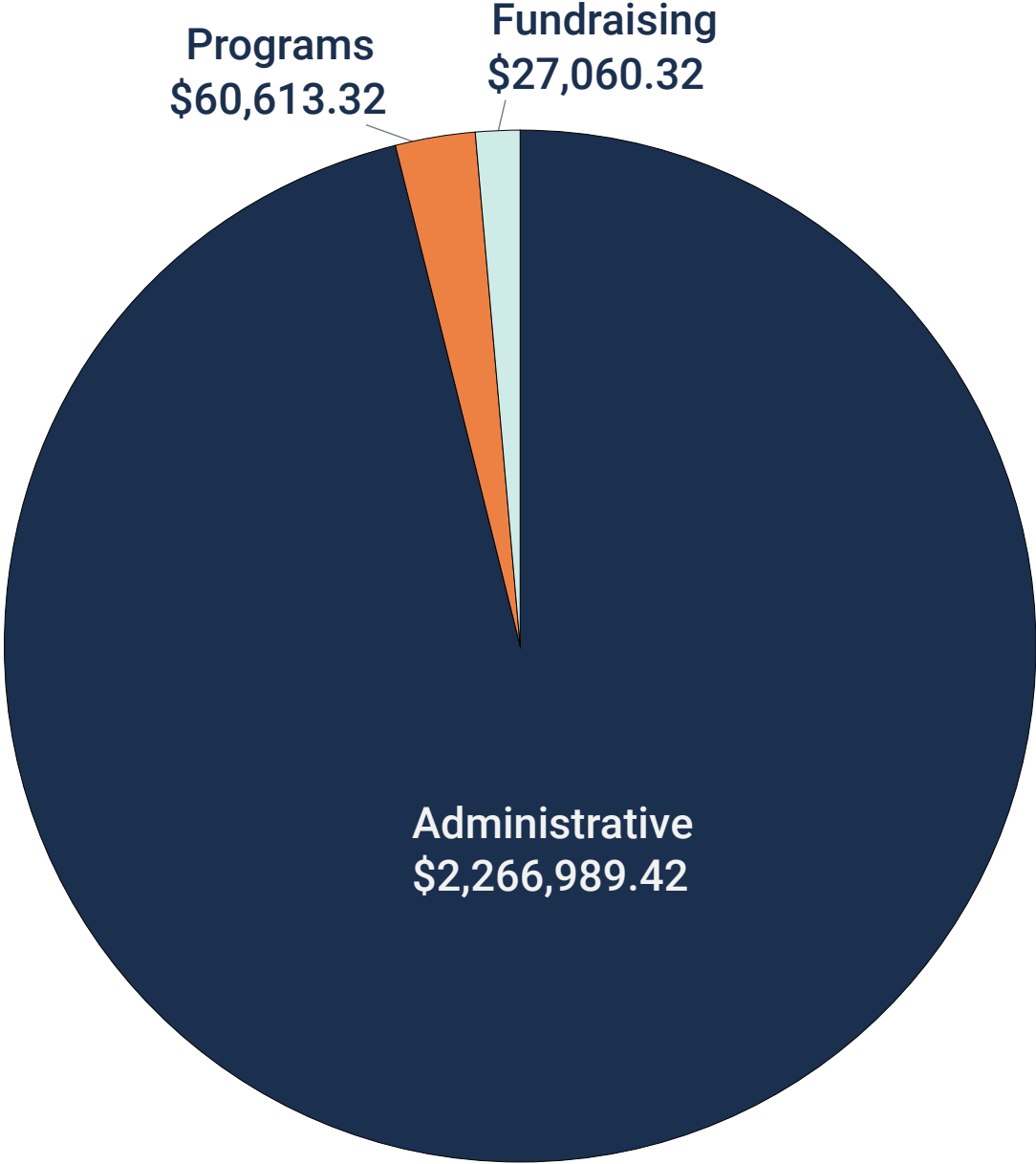
FINANCIALS

INCOME & EXPENSES

INCOME



EXPENSES



*These are not audited financials; this report will be updated to reflect the audit upon completion.



IMPACT

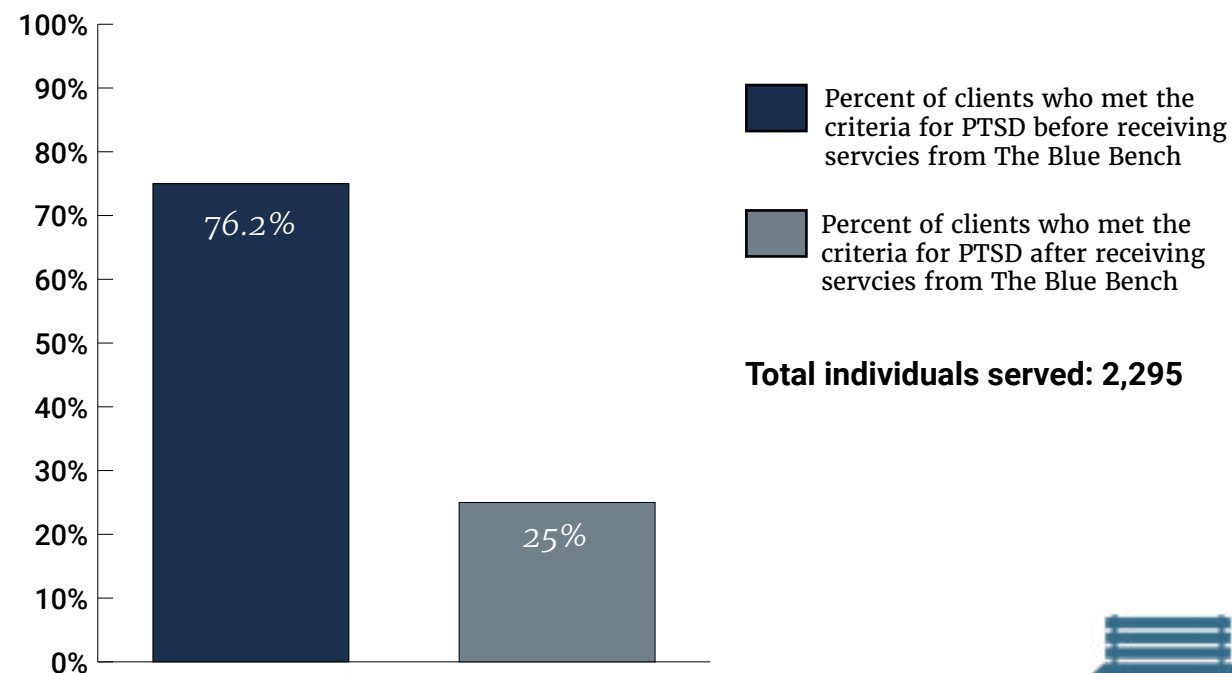
SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Blue Bench is here as a community resource to help survivors of sexual assault and abuse on their path to healing. We provide individual and group therapy including yoga and art programs, case management and more to survivors age 13 or older.

The Blue Bench serves: Denver, Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Douglas, Elbert, Gilpin, Jefferson, and Lincoln Counties.

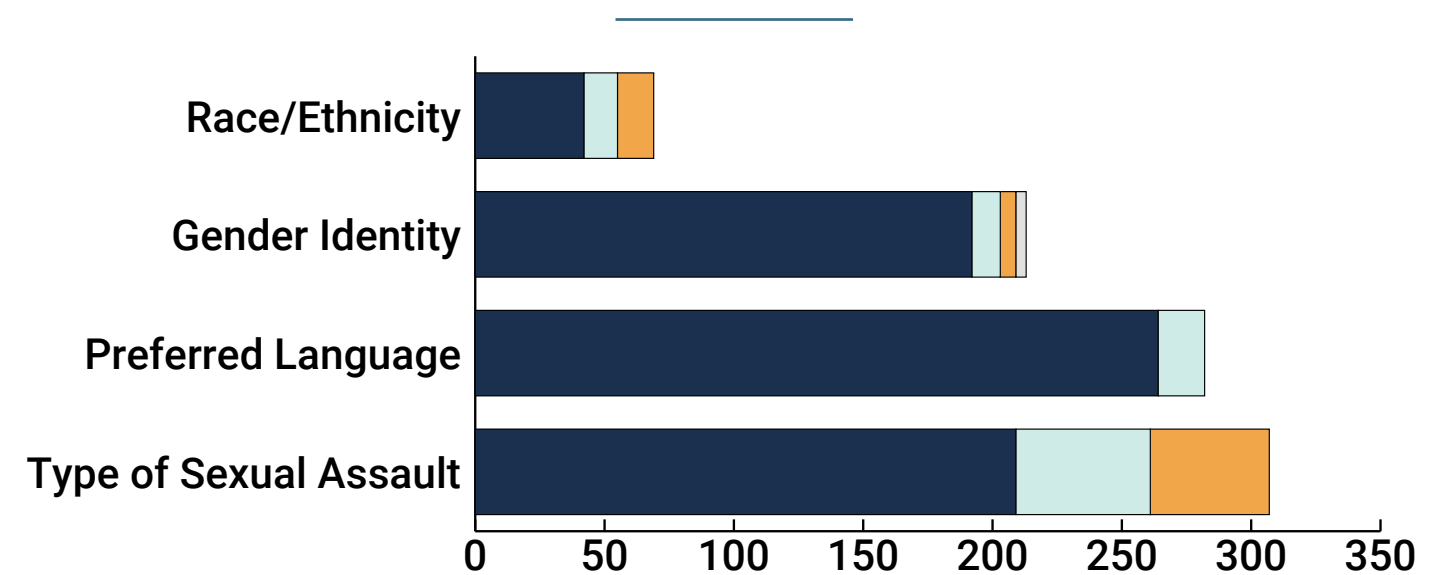
SERVICE	INDIVIDUALS SERVED
INDIVIDUAL THERAPY	212
GROUP THERAPY	40
CASE MANAGEMENT	252
POST-CONVICTION VICTIM ADVOCACY (PCVA)	166
RESOURCE NAVIGATION	425
CRISIS HOTLINE CALLS	1,200

PTSD SYMPTOMS IN CLIENTS BEFORE & AFTER RECEIVING SERVICES AT THE BLUE BENCH



DEMOGRAPHICS

WHO WE SERVE



RACE/ETHNICITY:	HISPANIC/LATINO	BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN	MULTIRACIAL
	42	13	14

GENDER IDENTITY:	FEMALE	MALE	TRANSGENDER	NON-BINARY
	192	11	6	4

PREFERRED LANGUAGE:	ENGLISH	SPANISH
	264	18

TYPE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT EXPERIENCED:	ADULT SA	ADULT WHO EXPERIENCED CSA	CSA OR TEEN SA
	209	52	46



RISE

RISE

RISE 2024 Featured Artwork: Whole Hearted by Tlalli

“Marigolds wrap around her as she dances, this shows a representation of death; a guide to earth, prosperity, and creativity. The woman is naked showing vulnerability- acceptance in herself, body, and mind. Her hair braided with gold ribbons signifying a representation of my childhood when my mother would braid my hair; Gold as in valuable, gold as in rich, gold as in justice, gold... wrapping around her arms is also a gold line which leads to flakes and butterflies that blend in.

A sense of confusion in life and creativity yet beauty in unpredictability.

This painting was made for my mother.”



“THIS WAS SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SHOW
AND IT REALLY ALLOWED ME TO BE IN
COMMUNITY WHEN I FELT SO ALONE.”

-Sho McClarence, 2024 RISE Artist



Body Type by Sho McClarence



Self Portrait by Gabriel Hutchings



Self Portrait by Ally Wrogg

01

Our 2024
RISE Survivor
Art Show
welcomed 62
artists.

Artists across the
Denver metro
showcased their
powerful artwork
detailing their
strengths, struggles,
rage, joy, and hope.

We welcomed a cohort
of newcomers and
many returning artists
for our third annual
survivor art show.

02

The Blue
Bench
introduced
our first RISE
Featured
Artist.

Tlalli’s Whole
Hearted (left) served
as an eye-catching
centerpiece for our
third annual RISE
Survivor Art Show.

Tlalli’s voice and talent
told survivors they are
not alone, and that
justice and healing are
possible.

03

RISE saw
nearly 1,000
visitors to our
first virtual
gallery.

To reach a larger
audience, The Blue
Bench incorporated a
virtual gallery to host
all submitted work
in an accessible and
evergreen format.

Visitors read 18 written
works, watched one
recorded performance,
and viewed 148 works
of art.



the blue bench

Ending sexual assault
through prevention & care

www.thebluebench.org



24-hour Sexual Assault Hotline / Línea De Crisis
Sobre La Violencia Sexual: 303-322-7273

Survivor Support Resources and Services:
English/Línea de servicio en español: 303-329-9922
Email: resourceline@thebluebench.org