



BLUE SKY BRIDGE

Child Abuse Intervention & Education

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“I appreciate how kind and empathetic everyone was. This is an invaluable tool that carries so much weight.”

- Parent of a client

1 in **10**
children will be sexually abused
before their 18th birthday



Dear Friends of Blue Sky Bridge,

This annual report reflects the work of Blue Sky Bridge during 2020 and early 2021, a challenging time for us all. I am incredibly proud to share the work our team accomplished over this period of time.

In April 2020, at the start of our new fiscal year, we implemented technology in all program areas to provide critical services to our clients, partners, supporters, and staff while addressing COVID-19 safety concerns. Through our Child Advocacy Program we offered tele-forensic interviews so that children could remove their masks in their own interview rooms, while law enforcement watched live off-site. Our Family Support Advocates met with caregivers over video chat in separate rooms to ensure safety. We began offering tele-mental health services allowing our therapy clients to continue sessions without missing any time. Our School Program was adapted to animated videos and live video chat booster sessions to keep connected with classrooms. We even hosted our first ever virtual fundraising event at the beginning of 2021.

All of these changes took creativity and an increase in time, staff, and funds. Our community supported us through it all, and we are grateful for their incredible support.

As I reflect on the past year, I am thankful that we could continue to provide much needed services for Boulder County. I am also glad to say that Blue Sky Bridge is returning to many of our old ways. Our staff has returned to the building. We have partners on site again. We are hosting in-person events in the coming months. There is much to look forward to.

Our continued growth and adaptation is possible because of you. Thank you for continuing to support Blue Sky Bridge.

Gratefully,



Gina Maione Earles
Executive Director



Child Advocacy Program

It used to be that a child would have to tell their story of abuse over and over to potentially more than a dozen school officials, police officers, doctors, attorneys, and social workers. Today, a child and their family is able to come to one place, our place.

By providing a centrally-located, child-focused facility and a coordinated response by all investigative agencies, we are proactive in our approach to helping families during child abuse investigations. We provide immediate intervention, forensic interviews, crisis intervention counseling, medical exams, family support, and follow-up services to child victims and non-offending family members.

The use of tele-forensic interviews throughout 2020 kept clients, staff, and partners safe from COVID-19, but increased the amount of time, staff, and technology required for each client coming to Blue Sky Bridge.

Therapy

Early intervention of mental health services is crucial to the healing process and the long-term health of child victims of abuse. Treatment is designed to reduce negative emotional and behavioral responses and Post-Traumatic Stress symptoms after a traumatic incident. We offer two therapy modalities, Trauma-focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) and Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR), for children aged four to 17 who have experienced a traumatic event.

We offer therapy in both English and Spanish, and clients can receive services in-person in our Boulder or Longmont offices as well as tele-mental health, which began in 2020.



Education & Outreach

Blue Sky Bridge believes that education is a tool for preventing child abuse. We are committed to helping children learn how to keep their bodies safe. Our school program utilizes a three-tiered holistic approach that includes a presentation with tips and resources for parents, training for school personnel, and developmentally age appropriate presentations for kindergarten and 3rd grade students.

To adapt the program to match safety protocols, our Education Team created animated videos for teachers, caregivers, and students to watch in classrooms or at home during remote learning. These videos continued to teach our curriculum in short, easy to follow lessons. Optional booster sessions gave our staff the opportunity to speak to classrooms over live video chats to answer questions and reinforce lessons.

We believe it is the responsibility of adults to keep children safe and are committed to helping adults learn how to prevent, recognize, and react responsibly to child sexual abuse. We offer a range of trainings and outreach opportunities throughout the year to serve our partners and community members. Our two most popular community trainings are Stewards of Children® and Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development. These also became virtual sessions throughout the last year, allowing us to reach adults across the country interested in protecting the children in their lives.



18

participating schools in
BVSD & SVVSD

1,891

pre-K through 4th grade
students

93

classrooms



470

parents & school staff
trained

121

professionals trained

477

community members
trained



724

people reached through
community outreach at
the Erie Police Popsicle
Parade and virtual events
including our Friends
Forum and Community
Town Hall

Fiscal Year 2021: April 1, 2020 - March 31, 2021

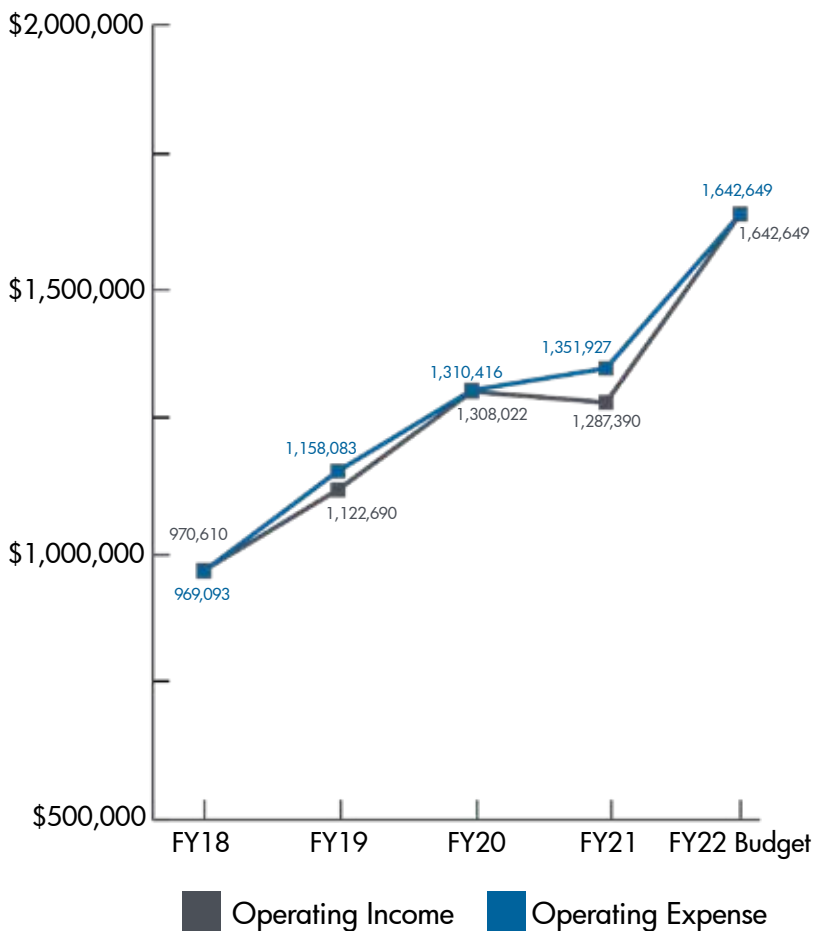
Of Total Operating Income* in FY21: \$1,287,390



Of Total Operating Expenses in FY21: \$1,351,927



Income vs expense



Statement of Financial Position as of 3/31/21

Current Assets	\$831,389
Fixed Assets	\$1,870,172
Endowment	\$209,953
Total Assets	\$2,911,514
Current Liabilities	\$48,281
Restricted Net Assets	\$407,486
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$2,455,747
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$2,911,514

* Blue Sky Bridge received Paycheck Protection Program funding in the amount of \$168,500. This was considered extraordinary one-time income and is not included in Operating Income.

Staff

Gina Maione Earles | Executive Director
Michelle Amato, LSW | Therapist
Katie Ashburner, MSW | Forensic Interviewer
Allison Breed, MSW, LCSW | Therapist
Lauren Brillante | Accountant
Gretchen Fair, LCSW | Therapist, Bilingual Education Associate
Robin Friesen-Holwell, MS, LMFT | Program Director, Therapist
Raine Garcia, MA, LPCC, ATR-P | Bilingual Therapist
Claudia Gilbert | Bilingual Education Associate
Martha Hawkinson | Bilingual Forensic Interviewer/Family Support Advocate
Anne Hedlund | Education Team Associate
Tanja Leonard | Project Consultant
Maryssa O'Dell | Family Support Advocate/Forensic Interviewer
Marce Olsen | Education Team Associate
Bella Parker | Forensic Support Associate
Hollie Reinhart | Forensic Interviewer
Melissa Santorelli | Development & Communications Associate
Don Shires | Director of Development and Communication
Jeff Stewart | Operations Coordinator
Trish Wood | Education Manager

Board of Directors

Jessica Dotter | Chair
Dave Rich | Vice Chair
Matt Buchanan | Treasurer
Mark Deaton | Secretary
Michelle Gallop
Amy Larson
David Mandell
Michael McCarthy
EJ Meade

Associate Board

Cody Clark
Heather Dieck
Tassi Herrick
Keelin McGill
Breck Roesch
Peter Rosato
Kristin Weisbach
Catherine Winsten
Ben Wright

*rosters as of 3/31/21



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