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Tom Concannon, *Director*Wes Gabel, *Director of Education*Ted Nichols, *Wilderness Program Director*

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Letter from Board President

As I look back over this past year, I am deeply heartened by the outpouring of community support for the mission of TYFS, "helping children and families find their way to fulfilling and constructive lives." This past year the pandemic brought to the forefront

the need for quick and effective intervention in a young person's life, as incidents of self harming, severe isolation and family crisis dramatically increased within our community. Thankfully, a caring and dedicated constellation of people stepped up to meet these critical demands.

The list of those who deserve profound thanks is lengthy, and those at the top include our Executive Director Sarah Cavallaro, her resourceful and determined staff — all of whom gracefully navigated the challenges of staff shortages and the inconveniences of moving during renovations — as well as the visionary and compassionate members of the Board who gave their time, treasure, and talent to this important community organization.

We all share profound gratitude to the community for their support this year, as well. From your generosity through Old Bill's to your votes during SPET, we cannot be more thankful for your support. Your help ensured that we reached our ambitious goals to reinvigorate the therapeutic spaces at TYFS.

As I look to a new fiscal year ahead, I see a bright horizon: new facilities for the safe care of our most vulnerable children, a community with an enhanced understanding of the need for intervention in childhood trauma, a deeper appreciation of the beneficial impacts that TYFS programming has on kids and families from all socioeconomic groups. This past year, over 800 children and family members passed through our doors and returned to their families and schools as better students, family members and citizens in their communities.

From my perspective, that's the very definition of a brighter future.

In gratitude,

Jim Hesser

Board President

Staff Member Spotlight







"I have worked for TYFS for over a decade now. For the people I surround myself with, that is a long time to stay at one job, none the less the type of work it is.

Why do I do it? I tell the kids it's because of the free food, and they laugh, but really I don't know why I keep doing it. Maybe it's my coworkers, and the cohesive bond one creates when working with traumatized youth. Maybe it's because as much as I can help and teach the kids, they continue to teach me about myself every year.

How many jobs can say that? When a twelve year old teaches you a life lesson you can ignore it or embrace it! When you stay at TYFS for a decade, you embrace them. With every new kid there is anxiety, but then also an opportunity. An opportunity to let them be a kid when often they are coming from places where they can't, an opportunity to form a positive relationship with someone who usually only knows poor ones, and possibly an opportunity to learn something new about yourself!"

BRETT BERNARD · TYFS Employee

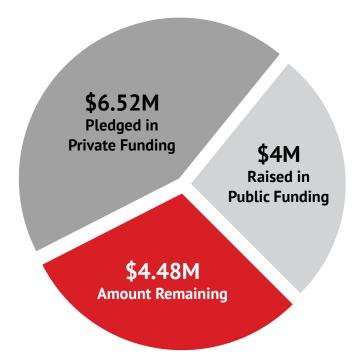


"At Red Top I love working to create meaningful experiences that develop life skills and relationships. Connecting with nature and pursuing challenge in the outdoors has been one of the most impactful and empowering parts of my own personal development, and I hope to impart that on the youth that we serve at Red Top."

ELIZA MERRITT · TYFS Employee

Capital Campaign to Raise

\$15 Million



Teton Youth & Family Services believes in a community where our youth and their families have every opportunity to thrive.

With the significant increase in demand for our services over the past two years, we need your support to improve and expand our programming and provide safe, welcoming facilities to meet the growing and changing needs of families.

With your help we can do more.









Over the past year alone, TYFS has provided:

days of wilderness therapy for 22 boys who passed through the Red Top Meadow 35 forensic interviews of children at the Hirschfield Center

145 children and families at

the Hirschfield Center

85%

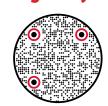
of those served in TYFS residential programs do not go on to higher levels of care, saving over \$4million a year in avoided costs.

20
hours of therapy sessions for hours of therapy sessions

hours of therapy sessions for 145 children and families at the Hirschfield Center 9,805

nights of safe care and service days for boys at Red Top Meadows and youth at Van Vleck House

Help us build a brighter future!

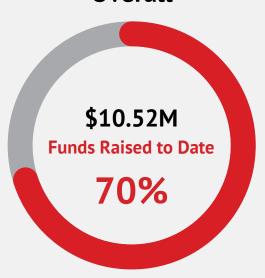


To see progress of campaign and sign up for our newsletter

Special thanks to Lisa Lord Price, founder of Philanthropy by Design and Cristine Wehner, founder of Creative Curiosity for their collaboration, guidance and inspiration.

Progress to Date

Overall



Let's break it down

\$2.2M | 67% \$1.1M

Van Vleck Group Home | \$3.3M

\$1.9M | 100%

Hirschfield House | \$1.9M

\$4M | 68% \$1.9M

Red Top Meadows | \$5.9M

\$300K | 60%

\$200K

Maintenance Reserve | \$500K

\$300K | 100%

Furniture Fixtures & Equipment | \$300K

\$800K | 67% \$400K

Programmatic Enhancements Staff Incentives | \$1.2M

\$150K | 60%

\$100K

Outreach & Education | \$250K

\$200K | 67%

\$100K

Fundraising Staff-support | \$300K

\$650K|50%

\$650K

Annual Operating Support During Campaign | \$1.3M

\$20K | 40%

\$30K

Vehicles | \$50K



TYFS Receives Funding from ARPA – A Vital Public Service

Teton Youth & Family Services is pleased to receive a **\$2 million grant from the American Rescue Plan Act** (ARPA), a stimulus bill that aids public health and recovery from the pandemic.

In Wyoming, these far-reaching public health concerns are no exception. TYFS alone has seen:

75% †

in forensic interviews

46% 1

in youth residential care

61% 1

in families receiving therapeutic and respite services

This \$2 million from the ARPA fund, alongside \$6.5 million in private commitments and \$2 million from a public vote on the SPET ballot, sets **Teton Youth and Family Services** \$4.5 million away from our goal of \$15 million for Building Brighter Futures. In addition, the campaign will expand existing programming, such as early intervention outreach in schools, and ensure long-term sustainability for TYFS services and staff.

With the large increases in demands for services that TYFS has seen since the pandemic, the \$2 million in government relief aid will help provide the crucial framework for answering mental health concerns in our community, and build a bright future for our youth.



Emma, age 16, landed at the Crisis Shelter homeless, suicidal, scared, and without family. During the first week, she only would talk to Walter, the Shelter dog. She stayed at the Group Home for nearly a year. After high school graduation, Emma enrolled in the nursing program at Central Wyoming College. "I used to wake up in the morning and be afraid of what was to come. I wake up now and I am excited for what is next."

Shocking Rise in Suicidal Youth Nationwide – A Trend Here, Too

A recent study from the American Academy of Pediatrics has revealed a disturbing increase in the number of children presenting to emergency rooms with suicidal ideation between 2016 and 2021. The results are shocking:

- Children seeking help with suicidal thoughts increased 59%
- A corresponding increase in cases in which suicidal ideation was the primary diagnosis: a leap from 34.6% to 44.3%
- Youth hospitalizations for suicidal thoughts increased 57% between the fall of 2019 and the fall of 2020

Unfortunately, Jackson Hole is no exception. Over the past year, we've had **two children as young** as 9 seek our help for suicidal ideation. In November 2022, Teton Youth and Family Services had **ALL 17** youth in residential care presenting with primary concerns of self-harm, suicidal ideation, depression and anxiety. And from 2017 to 2021, the organization saw a **185% increase** in demand for safe nights for actively suicidal youth.

Wyoming has the highest rate of suicides in the nation.

Teton Youth & Family Services operates the county's only 24-hour emergency suicide holding facility for youth under the age of 18; a resource relied upon by community partners including law enforcement and the local hospital.

1/4

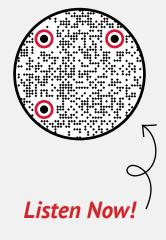
In 2020, nearly one-quarter of all deaths of children between the ages of 5 and 19 were due to an entirely preventable cause: suicide

'Facets' podcast from KHOL and Stio dives into wilderness therapy at Red Top Meadows

KHOL's Kyle Mackie discusses her reporting on a local program that helps Wyoming boys find success and heal from trauma.







Around the State

What is Wyoming Youth Services Association (WYSA)?

WYSA is a collaborative constellation of over 15 agencies across the state that offer a diverse array of services to support Wyoming's young adults — no matter how staggering the challenges they and their families face. This array of nonprofits, of which TYFS is proud to be an active member, encompasses Crisis Shelters, Group Homes, Residential Treatment Centers, and Psychiatric Residential Treatment Centers across the state. Together, we're a stronger team offering wraparound support to the children and families that need it most.



Of the 197 children in congregate care on November 2, 2022:

61%

had been diagnosed with Depressive Disorder

37%

had been diagnosed with Conduct Disorder or Oppositional Defiant Disorder

55%*

had one or more prior failed placements

39%*

had attempted suicide or planned to attempt suicide

72%*

had suffered some form of abuse

IN 2022. WYSA AGENCIES:



SERVED 5,173 People



AVERAGE AGE 14.4 Years Old



OF SERVICE **DAYS PROVIDED** 67,755



85% OF THE YOUTH RECEIVING CONGREGATE CARE SERVICES **RETURNED HOME** OR TO A LESS RESTRICTIVE PLACEMENT







Forensic Interviewing

When child abuse is suspected, whether physical or sexual, a forensic interview provides a safe place fore the victim to tell their story. A specially trained interviewer speaks with the child to gather information in a compassionate non-leading fashion.

Interviews are observed by a multidisciplinary team that generally includes child abuse experts, law enforcement, the Department of Family Services and the Prosecutor's Office.

The Hirschfield Center provides this service for children ages 3-18 and adults with developmental disabilities.

43%*

had suffered sexual abuse 47%*

had a history of personal substance abuse

68% came from families with

substance abuse

came from families in which one or more parents had been in jail for an extended period of time

74%*

had been prescribed psychotropic medication



Thank you for all your generous Christmas gifts!

There's always a need for something here at TYFS and we keep our wish list updated with items at various price points. If you feel called to support us in this way, please visit the link via the QR code.

Electric keyboard

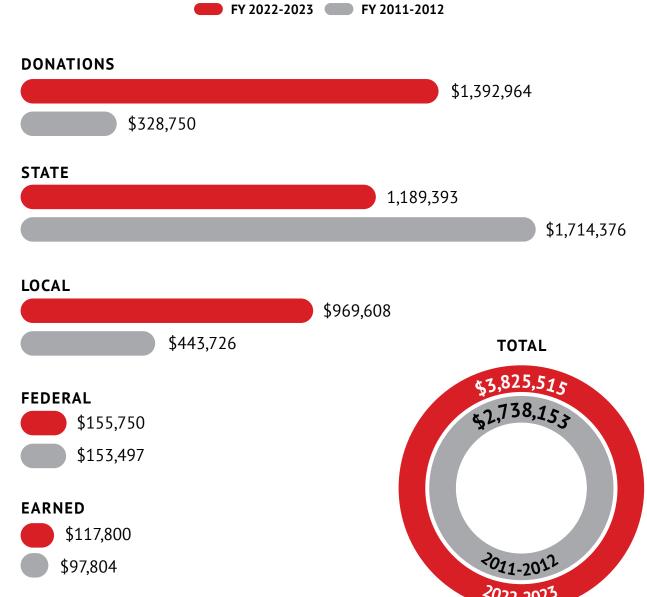
TYFS Wish List

- Microphone
- Propane grill
- Gas gift cards
- Restaurant gift cards or activity passes
- Acoustic guitars
- Used or new hiking boots
- Supplies for the Little Food Pantry: non-perishable food items, toiletries, socks, etc.

Income		
Private	\$1,579,664	
State	\$1,159,267	
Local	\$795,832	
Federal	\$71,285	
Earned	\$72,331	

\$3,678,379

Expenses		
Salaries and Wages	\$2,929,862	
Insurance	\$83,153	
Supplies	\$218,995	
Travel and Training	\$163,273	
Utilities and Facility Maint. \$183,		
Other	\$99,886	
	\$3,678,379	





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Save the Dates

Shine On @ The Cloudveil

MAY 19TH 6-10_{PM}

A dazzling evening at The Cloudveil – Teton Youth & Family Services is delighted to be partnering with The Cloudveil on our first annual SHINE ON rooftop event.

It will be a night to remember, with music by the talented Sister Karee, dancing in a sparkling sea of guests, and great food.

A healthy, thriving community means building better futures for our youth. Let's come together, and see how we can help them to shine their brightest.

Annual Golf & Pickleball Benefit

JUNE 28TH 12-8PM

We are so excited to host our Annual Golf & Pickleball Benefit at Teton Pines! A beloved springtime tradition, 100% of the proceeds from the Annual Golf & Pickleball Benefit go directly to services for children and families who need it most in our area.

Not a golfer? Join us later in the day from 4-6pm for a fun pickleball tournament and then head over to the Clubhouse and join our golfers for our Awards Party and Celebration. Pickleball is open to 36 players with four courts in action.

Red Top Meadows Family Picnic

AUGUST 6TH 4-7PM

Join us for some fun in the sun at our Free Community Picnic this July, which will feature live music, festive games, and good food at our Red Top Meadows facility. This is the perfect opportunity to show your support for your community and increase awareness of your business' offerings in a light-hearted, family setting.

Staff Appreciation & Ribbon Cutting

FALL 2023

Each year we seek to elevate our staff by having an event to show our appreciation. We try to make it a fun afternoon and evening with activities, a good meal, and giveaways. This year, we also have the privilege of including a ribbon cutting at the event.

PARTNERSHIP FOR A Purpose

Each year Teton Youth and Family Services must raise more than \$1.3M from private, corporate, business or foundation resources to leverage the support we get from town, county, state, and federal sources to provide our programming.

Will you join us by becoming a partner for a purpose this year?