



Between Friends

Between Friends Annual Report

FY22

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OUR MISSION

Between Friends is dedicated to preventing domestic violence and ending the cycle of abuse by equipping our communities with the tools necessary for everyone to feel safe and equal in their relationships.

OUR VISION

We envision a society free from domestic violence and abuse.

OUR HISTORY

In 1986, Between Friends was founded by volunteers and friends from the National Council of Jewish Women and the Junior League of Evanston/North Shore as a small grantmaking body dedicated to raising funds for local domestic violence programs. Between Friends began to expand our efforts in 1991, by providing direct crisis intervention services for individuals and families.

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the last year, one particular word comes to mind: **perseverance**.

Despite ongoing challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic and increased demand for our services, our staff demonstrated perseverance as they assisted survivors of domestic violence and educated our community members to prevent domestic violence altogether. Over the last two fiscal years, we answered 4,360 calls on our 24-hour crisis line – that is a 45% increase from the previous two years. During FY22, we used a hybrid model of virtual and in-person services to meet clients and community members in a method that felt most safe to them.

In the following report, you will learn about the direct impact of our programs and how we are working towards our vision of a society free from domestic violence. Thank you for your support of our agency.

Sincerely,



Verda Bhatti
Executive Director



FY22 OUTCOMES

Counseling and Support Services

The Crisis Intervention & Support Services and Prevention & Education Programs served



410 

individuals through the Court Advocacy Program,

2,262 

Callers seeking assistance through the 24 hour Crisis Line.

7,105 

Individuals this year through Crisis Intervention & Support Services and Prevention & Education Programs

91% of adult clients reported increasing their knowledge of strategies for enhancing their safety.

91% of children identified two things they learned to do when they don't feel safe.

96% of clients stated that they learned their rights as victims of domestic violence going through the justice system.

FY22 OUTCOMES

Prevention & Education

Between Friends continues to be a community leader in providing evidence-informed prevention and education programs to youth and adults across

The **Adult Education Program** trained

1,102



healthcare providers, social service providers, educators, parent/caregivers, etc

REACH Educated

3,122



young people across **15 Chicago Public Schools**

98%

of adults reported knowledge of the **warning signs of domestic violence.**

of adults reported that they felt **more confident in responding to domestic violence.**

89%

of youth reported knowing the warning signs and dynamics of abusive relationships.

87%

of youth reported knowledge of ways to **help someone who is experiencing an abusive relationship.**

Regina's* Story

"BETWEEN FRIENDS HAS ALWAYS BEEN THERE, IT IS LIKE A HOME TO ME."

Regina began group counseling services after finalizing a divorce from her abusive husband. The group instilled a newfound sense of empowerment in Regina and helped her identify the patterns of domestic violence in her past relationship.

After a few years, Regina returned for individual and family counseling services. With the help of their Counselor, Regina, and her family are processing the impact of domestic violence on their lives, establishing safety in their relationship, and engaging in difficult conversations. The Counselor has also referred Regina and her family for additional mental health services and legal services to meet their holistic needs.

Regina is extremely grateful for services and repeatedly expresses to her Counselor how much it means to her that Between Friends continues to be there for her family in these extremely difficult and painful seasons of her life.

*name changed to protect client confidentiality

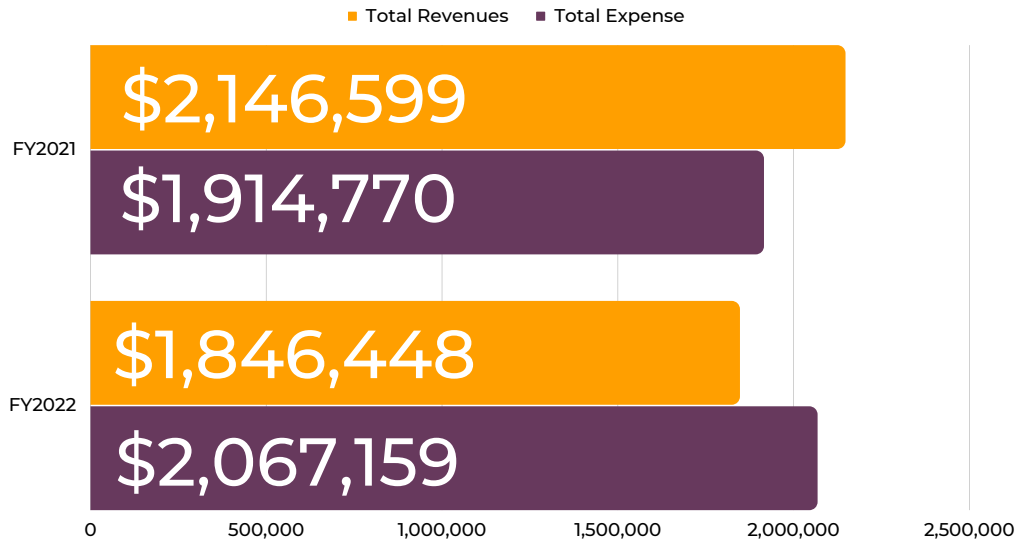


FOUNDATION AND CORPORATE SUPPORT

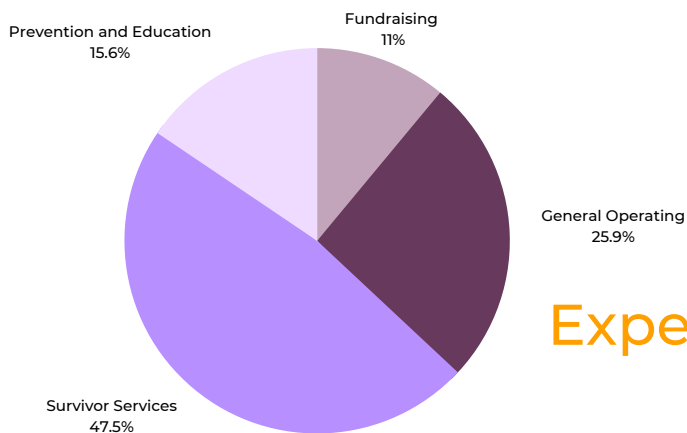
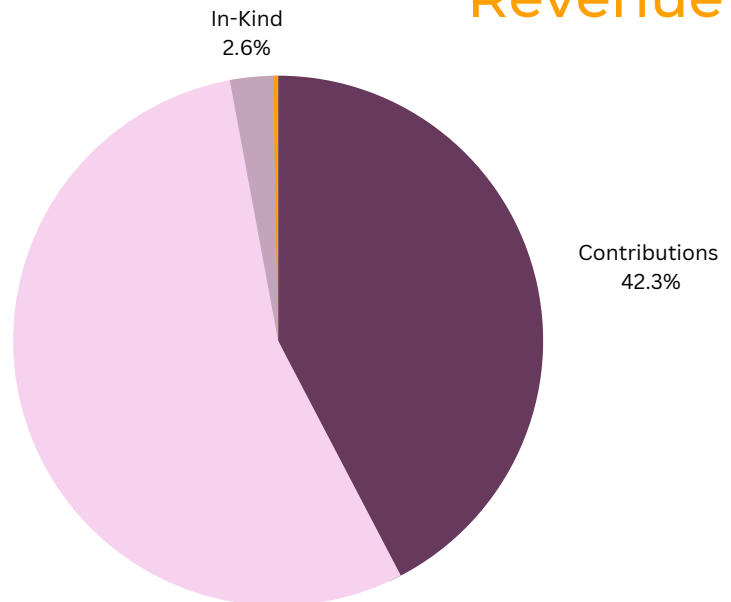
Abbvie
Allstate Foundation
AMITA Health St. Francis
Blowitz-Ridgeway Foundation
Calmoseptine
Chicago Foundation for Women
Christ Church Benevolence
Crown Family Philanthropies
The Egerter Family Foundation
Ernest and Sally Micek Foundation
Evon D. and Jack H. Keck Foundation
Flora Blahnik Group
Fourth Presbyterian Church
Friend of Between Friends
Fred J. Brunner Foundation
Greer Foundation
Havenga Family Charitable Fund
Heather Locus Impact Fund
Irving Harris Foundation
Jackson National Life
McCormick Network
Michael Reese Health Trust
NorthShore University HealthSystem
Polk Bros. Foundation
Rachel B. Williams Foundation
Rio Tinto
S&C Electric Company
S. Wolf & Associates
Walter & Edith Best Foundation
Wintrust Bank Rogers Park

Financial Breakdown

This section includes the breakdown of revenue and expenses for FY22. Thank you to our individual, foundation, corporate, and government partners who make our work possible.



Revenue



Expenses

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Daniel Hernandez (President)

Principal and Managing Attorney
Next Level Law

Arthur Beredjick

Reporting and Compliance Lead
Allies for Community Business

Norman Jones (President Elect)

External Partnerships Program Manager,
Global Inclusion and Diversity
Apple

Dejanae Byrd, LCPC, CPP

Clinician
Centers for New Horizons

Catherine Carmody (Secretary)

Retired Principal Owner and Consultant
Declaire Associates

Erin Ryan

Senior Vice President
The Night Ministry

James Javorcic (Treasurer)

Director
CBIZ

Jennifer Splinter

Mobility Leader
Raytheon

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Verda Bhatti

Executive Director

Bernard Mariano

Chief of Staff

Tonya H. McDonald

Director of Finance

Fawn O'Brien

Director of Development

Nancy Toncy

Director of Survivor Services

LEADERSHIP

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



Between Friends

We thank you for your continued support in our efforts to empower victims and prevent the spread of domestic violence.

CONTACT

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