



Center for Restorative Youth Justice

Impact: 2021





Center for Restorative Youth Justice envisions a community that values and embraces all young people by cultivating a climate of purposeful inclusion and non-judgement. Together we address the root causes and impacts of harm, deepen connections and relationships, and empower each other to move through the world with equity and integrity.

VISION | OUR FUTURE

A community that values and embraces all young people while addressing harm together

MISSION | WHAT WE DO

To create opportunities for reflection, connection, & empowerment for teens, victims, and families in the Flathead Valley

VALUES | WHAT MATTERS

Resiliency | Accountability | Integrity
Collaboration | Inclusion | Relationships

Who is CRYJ? CRYJ's staff represents an impassioned team of individuals who care deeply for the happiness and health of the teens we work with. Some of us spend more time talking about tough stuff with teens, some of us spend more time hanging out with spreadsheets, grant applications, or donors. Together, we support the teens who really make CRYJ what it is.



Ben Johnson
Development

Erin Goudreau
Programs

Ashley Tetu
Operations

Catherine Gunderson
Executive Director

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Tracy Brink

Cory Clarke





More important than the staff that makes up CRYJ are the teens that make up CRYJ. So often, the question is posed: **"Who is a CRYJ teen?"**

More times than we can count, while explaining CRYJ to someone not familiar, they've replied with something along the lines of "oh, so you work with the bad kids?" It's usually easy enough to brush aside and use as an educational opportunity. The truth is, all of us have made mistakes, as kids, as teens, and as adults. Some of those mistakes have had consequences, and those consequences occur on so many different levels. Some involved disappointment from a family member, some might have caused harm to a friendship or relationship, some might have had financial repercussions. Some mistakes involve law enforcement and the justice system, some don't. Regardless, in moving past a mistake, the opportunity is to repair harm and move forward with dignity. This is where CRYJ comes in.

We prefer to shy away from labels. Any given day seems like a modern-day incarnation of the 1980's film *The Breakfast Club*, where the brainiac, the jock, the outcast, the rebel, and the popular kid come together, learn more about each other, find connection, and move forward in the world as better people.

IMPACT: 2021

Restorative Justice

After 23 years, our bread and butter remains the same: offering teens an opportunity to take meaningful accountability and repair harm outside of the traditional justice system. By holding space for restorative conferences

Youth Empowerment Workshops

Teen workshops regularly happen at CRYJ twice a week. Covering the gamut from risk taking to mental health and coping, this is where youth get a chance to lead the discussion, and address what feels important to them. It's a place to be heard, a place to share, and a place to learn.

School Justice Partnership

5% of participants in 2019, 20% in 2020, and 41% in 2021.... we'll call that momentum! By partnering with administrators and school resource officers, youth are able to participate at CRYJ, spending less time out of school, with first-time infractions completely diverted from the justice system

Teen-in-Residence

But what happens after CRYJ?

For a select few teens (and more into the future!) the opportunity to return to CRYJ as a paid staff member for a three-month period is an opportunity to take a mentorship role, work a little closer with CRYJ staff, and polish up some leadership skills.

Impact: 2021

Non-Judgement

"I feel like I came in here hard headed and I thought CRYJ was just going to be people yelling at me about what not to do. I would tell someone who's new to this process that it's not just about getting in trouble. It's so non judgemental and things go a lot deeper than you're expecting." - EC

Holding space

My favorite thing about CRYJ is the way we all have respect for each other

Relationships

"My favorite part of CRYJ was the community impact circle. That was the turning point for my relationship with my mom. I think it was good for her to talk to other parents and know she wasn't alone. We hadn't talked to each other like that before, but it didn't end when we left the room. We kept talking that night, and the next day." - AW

Community

"I feel like CRYJ is a very safe place where you have people from your community who are going through the same things you are." - RA

Accountability

Turning 18 has a huge wake up call for me. It has me thinking about the harm I could cause driving drunk differently. But honestly I don't think I could have gotten there without CRYJ." - EC

By the numbers: Prior to CRYJ Participation

- 60% have used marijuana
- 45% have used alcohol
- 28% have seriously considered or attempted suicide
- 38% have had a recent change or insecurity in living situation
- 43% have been suspended or expelled from school
- 17% have run away from home

AT CRYJ:

- 93% felt their viewpoints and needs were respected
- 93% Felt like their voice mattered
- 93% have people in their lives who care about them and who they can trust
- 30% feel connected at school
- 85% reported positive changes in relationships (such as family, friends since participating at CRYJ)
- 93% Report a positive experience at CRYJ

CRYJ 2021: Programs

- 110 Teen Workshops
- 10 Community Impact Circles
- 91 Teens

3% Recidivism Rate
(Three percent of 2020 participants went on to be involved with the juvenile justice system in the following year)

Every teen's time at CRYJ is uniquely in response to their individual situation and needs. Not every teen needs to go to a risk-taking workshop on alcohol. Some teens end up having multiple one on one meetings in preparation for a victim-offender conference. Other teens choose to continue to participate after they have completed their program agreement, or engage in CRYJ's new Teen in Residence program.

Community Support

FUNDERS & FOUNDATIONS

First Interstate Foundation
P.D. Jackson Foundation
Oro y Plata Foundation
Montana Board of Crime Control
Flathead County Commissioners
Youth Court Services
Whitefish Community Foundation
State of Montana
Enterprise Foundation
Cross Family Foundation
Logan Health Foundation
Headwaters Foundation

PARTNERS

Flathead Health Department
Kalico Art Center
Kalispell Public Schools
Kalispell Police Department
The Heart Locker
Big Brothers Big Sisters
Montana Academy
Nate Chute Foundation
Abbie Shelter

BUSINESS AND BUSINESS IN-KIND

Backslope Brewing
Center for Native Plants
Ceres Bakery
Montana Coffee Traders
Sweet Peaks Ice Cream
Wasabi Sushi Bar

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VOLUNTEERS

So much gratitude to these folks. They brought snack for teens, they were community members participating in Community Impact Circles, they were mentors, guest speakers at workshop, got sweaty in the garden, helped CRYJ move offices, and so many more things!

Koel and Lazette Abell
AGL Foundation
Sophie Albert
Anonymous (13 donors)
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Chuck Cameron and Vita Wright
Randall and Kristin Zuckerman

Our sincerest apologies if we mistakenly excluded you or your spouse from this list;

FINANCIALS

(FY 2021)

Income

Government Grants \$73,088 (24%)

Foundations \$89,262 (30%)

Donations \$100,987 (34%)

Federal Covid Relief \$31,580 (11%)

Consulting \$2,500 (1%)

Total Income: \$297,417

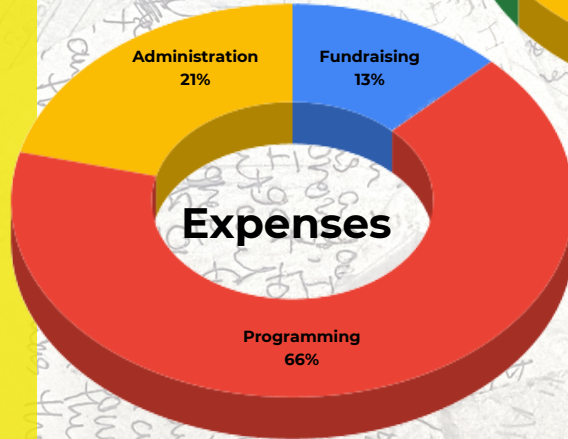
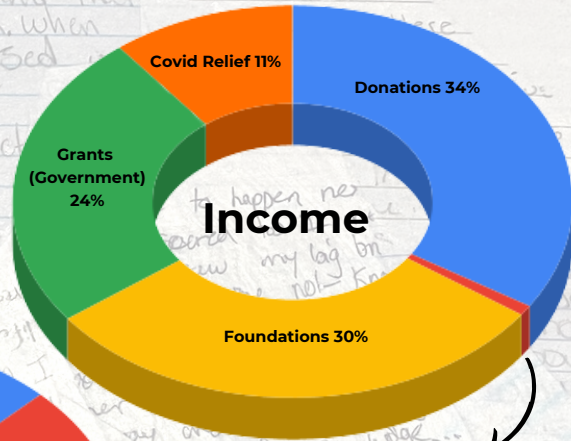
Expenses

Fundraising: 30,660 (13%)

Administration: 51,653 (21%)

Programming: 162,800
(66%)

Total Expenses: \$245,113





Center for Restorative Youth Justice
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www.RestorativeYouthJustice.org

