PLANTING THE SEEDS OF Hope
Dear Friends:

2019 was an outstanding year for ChildSafe Colorado.

We served more individuals in a single year than we ever have in our 34 year history – 85 more clients than in 2018. In fact, the demand for our services has more than doubled in the last ten years. We attribute this to population growth in our region, more people finding us through our far-reaching referral network and improved visibility.

A record number of people came to us to address the childhood trauma that holds them back from living their fullest, healthiest life. And as we have since 1986, we were here to help.

ChildSafe delivered tremendous impact – training a record number of parents, social workers, school personnel and medical professionals working with children or families.

Our work addresses many of the concerns for which the CDC identifies childhood trauma as the known root cause: suicide, self-harm, substance abuse/addiction, homelessness, domestic violence, sexual assault and abuse and more. When trauma is processed and resolved, health and safety can be restored.
That’s why ChildSafe exists. We help people who have experienced childhood trauma to find their voices and reclaim their lives. We give everyone affected by trauma the skills and hope to thrive.

We worked hard to move ChildSafe to a position of improved financial viability by seeking traditional, market-rate financing of our building, presenting ChildSafe to more foundations for funding to grow our mission and by expanding our donor base.

As a result, in 2019, we put ChildSafe on a path of renewed sustainability.

This result wouldn’t be possible without the support and trust of our community, donors, Board of Directors and amazing, dedicated staff. And you. You are helping us change the world in Northern Colorado by ensuring these improvements. We look forward to many more outstanding years ahead.

We are privileged to have you in our corner.

Our sincerest thanks and gratitude.

Carol Bennis
Executive Director
Brittany’s Story

Brittany, 13, came to ChildSafe from Mountain Crest Behavioral Health Center after a serious suicide attempt. Brittany met a “boy” online and invited him to hang out at her house. She snuck him through her bedroom window and discovered that Matt was not 15 like he said, but was actually 27. He raped Brittany while her parents slept down the hall.

Word spread at school and on social media, where Brittany was called a slut and ridiculed, leading her to attempt suicide. She came to us severely depressed, anxious and ashamed, with PTSD and very low self-esteem. She started with neurofeedback and individual therapy. After a few months, Brittany joined our Teen Girl’s Group and had family sessions with her parents. Her parents are working with our adolescent specialist to learn how to enforce healthy limits and keep their daughter safe. After four months, Brittany’s depression and anxiety are improving. Her parents are feeling a sense of relief and hope.

Brittany had a setback when she met with the District Attorney about the case against her perpetrator. She had mixed feelings about pressing charges, feeling guilty because she invited him to her house. This has become an important therapeutic issue - focusing on consent and what she did and did not agree to. The other teens in her Group have
been very supportive and have reinforced the idea that she is not to blame for the assault. Brittany’s therapist continues to monitor safety issues and Brittany now has more coping skills when she feels herself having unsafe thoughts. Her parents now have tools to recognize the warning signs and how to have the hard conversations with their daughter about suicide and safety. Brittany’s relationship with her parents has improved dramatically through family therapy.

Trust is being rebuilt in the family. Brittany’s prognosis is very good, as she navigates the challenges of adolescence with new skills and a solid support system behind her.
In addition to the original trauma, 85% of clients presented with these additional challenges.

- 29% Witnessed Domestic Violence
- 57% Suicidal Ideation
- 28% Emotionally Abused
- 28% Neglected
- 80% Sexually Abused
- 30% Pattern of Substance Abuse

Our Clients

Clients served from 43 Colorado and Wyoming zip codes.

- 840 (2019)
- 907 (Q3 2020)

Clients served considered Low, Very Low or Extremely Low Income.

- 77% (2019)
- 75% (Q3 2020)
Our clients range in age from a wide variety of backgrounds and ethnicities.

- 1,816 Community individuals trained through outreach and in-service trainings.
- 6,766 Services provided, including crisis services, advocacy and parenting classes.
- 75% Caucasian
- 14% Hispanic
- 385 Families
- 1-80 Our clients range in age from a wide variety of backgrounds and ethnicities.
- 10% Physically Abused
- 68% Female
- 32% Male
Income Sources

ChildSafe has a diverse stream of funding including grants from private foundations, local funders, and local, state, and federal governments.
2020 has presented us unique funding challenges, and while these numbers may look concerning, they tell an interesting story.

COVID-19 has greatly disrupted our event fundraising results which are budgeted to fund 30% of our total revenue. We expected this decline early in the year. However, the decline in individual and corporate giving was a big surprise. We have stepped up our grant efforts, applying for 60 new opportunities and increasing our award rate by more than $250,000 over 2019. Many of these increases won’t appear until 2021.

We fundraise and host events throughout each year to subsidize the gap between the rate of reimbursement (from victim’s compensation, private insurance and grants) and the actual cost of our services. On average, we work to raise at least $40 per appointment for our best reimbursement at 68%. That gap runs approximately $1,600 per client per year. At the pace we are serving clients in 2020 – which we predict will approach 25% more than 2019 (1,050 clients), we need to fund treatment at slightly more than $1,500,000.

ChildSafe Colorado is a lean organization with less than 11% of our total budget going toward its administration. A full 89% of our budget is devoted to direct client care.

As a result, individual giving is a critical area of growth for us in 2020.
Since 1986, ChildSafe has helped individuals address childhood trauma.

Today, ChildSafe is Northern Colorado’s only comprehensive outpatient treatment program for child and adult victims of childhood abuse, particularly child sexual abuse, and their non-offending family members.

Our program combines group, individual, and family therapy to heal the trauma from abuse and sexual abuse. ChildSafe offers neurofeedback, art, play and music therapy, outdoor spaces and a therapy dog to help clients find the most comfortable approach to addressing their trauma. We coordinate services with law enforcement, child protection agencies, schools, medical professionals and mental health specialists to ensure we are working together for the best results possible.
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ChildSafe Colorado is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides therapy for victims of childhood abuse and neglect, primarily sexual abuse. We provide the most comprehensive, trauma-focused treatment in Northern Colorado.

We work to restore dignity and trust, to repair the damage done to survivors, reduce the risk of re-victimization and prevent the cycle of abuse from carrying over into future generations.