



**A PERSONAL NOTE FROM
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JEANNE BUFFINGTON**

Winter has arrived which means grant writing season at Rape Response. The crisp temperatures lead me to reflect on the spring, summer and fall months that have passed. My reflections lead me to gratitude, which is appropriate at this time of year. Grant writing season has a similar effect on me. Funders ask about the highlights of the year, the numbers of individuals benefitting from our programs, successes we've shared &

challenges we've faced. There is data to be gathered, finances to review and most importantly, survivor stories to be celebrated. It's often the first time I slow down enough to consider the significant details in the big picture of our work throughout the year.

I recall a sermon where the pastor said, "A hero is someone who sees a need and meets it, knows the price and pays it, and doesn't talk himself out of it." I work among heroes at Rape Response. Our staff, contractors and crisis line volunteers recognize the unique individual needs of each survivor; they accept the 24/7 schedule and on-call hours; they are compassionate and giving beyond words. Our survivors are courageous as they step onto the path of healing, accept the challenges and hard work before them, and one day at a time, they keep moving forward. Our collaborative partners - medical, judicial, law enforcement and academic - see the roles they play in the lives of survivors, and they carry out their professional responsibilities while juggling so many cases. Our Board is supportive and encouraging as they use their own unique skills and wisdom to guide us. Our donors and funders are the heroes who make our work possible, for lives affected by sexual violence to be changed, for survivor services to be offered 24/7 and for Let's Talk© prevention education, outreach and awareness programs to be provided. It takes a team to do this work! I hope that as you review the statistics on page two, you will be fully aware of your hero status and your value to our work. We are deeply grateful.

Thank you for being part of the Rape Response team and for being one of our heroes!

Mission

Rape Response serves as a system of support, advocacy & education providing services to the community & survivors of sexual assault while safeguarding the dignity of each person served.



RRI intern Cody Sumner assisted the One Hall Education Committee in putting together Parent Literacy Packets that were given to Murrayville Fieldale parents.



"I learned that we should help people who have been a victim of rape. I also learned that if this happened to anyone that we should start speaking up more."

8th grade student from our Let's Talk © Program

MORE THAN A CRISIS LINE...

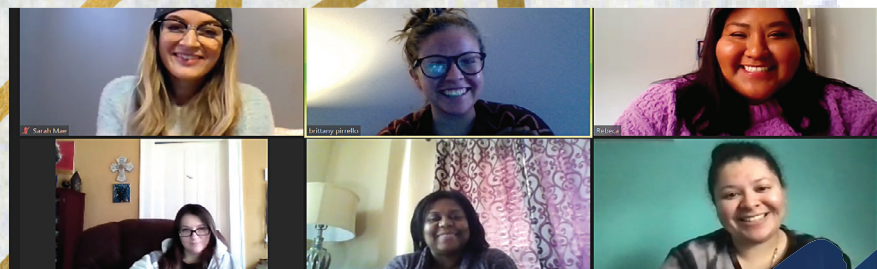
Rape Response is a nonprofit agency providing 24/7 services to sexual assault survivors, ages 13 & older, in Dawson, Forsyth, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin & White counties.

Advocacy in action for fiscal year 2020-2021 included:

- **830** survivors & their loved ones were supported by RRI staff & volunteers.
- **2,022 New Crisis Calls & 2,803 Follow Up Crisis Calls** provided survivors with information, resources & emotional support to address sexual trauma.
- **352 Individual Therapy sessions & 36 Support Group sessions** were provided by our therapist.
- Advocates supported survivors during **398 Crisis Intervention sessions**, equipping them with essential tools needed on their path to healing.
- **Personal Advocacy** helped survivors to navigate health care, law enforcement, criminal justice, Title IX & other social service agencies. **2,907**
- **723 Information & Referrals** connected survivors to community resources for continued support & healing.
- **Court Accompaniment** ensured survivors were supported during trial & court proceedings for a total of **42 days**.
- **Medical Accompaniment** Due to COVID-19 restrictions, advocates were not able to provide in person support to every survivor. NGMC Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) connected us with survivors after each Forensic Medical Exam. **84**
- **Aftercare Referrals & Information** offered survivors health care exams for STI's; paid for by RRI & provided by local health departments. **89**
- **Let's Talk© Programs** were provided to **8,332** middle school students, **1,312** high school students, **78** at-risk youth, **87** parents & educators.
- **College Advocacy & Outreach** was provided at **59** events to **2,748** students, faculty & staff at 6 colleges/universities across 10 campuses.
- **Collaborations** included in interagency engagement opportunities to benefit survivors with **146 agencies & over 18,800** participants .
- Staff participated in **620 crisis coordination meetings** to better serve survivors.

Spring 2021 Volunteer Training

Top L-R: Sarah Marin, Brittany Pirrello, Rebeca Ruelas; Bottom L-R: Brittany Williams, Janice Mattie and Jenifer Ramirez



FOR GOOD FOR EVER



Summer 2021 Volunteer Training

Top L-R: Valerie Rivenbark, Allison Ahrens, Sloan Robocker, Beth Joice and Betsy Chaput; Bottom L-R: Alexandra Montay, MC Whitlock, Sommer Floyd, Hannah Nauck and Kennedy Wilson

CURRENT VOLUNTEER ROSTER

*Spanish Speaker

Jasmine Adams	Sarah Marin	Aiesha Smith
Allison Ahrens	Janice Mattie	Ashley Smith
Dominique Allen	Jennifer McGroarty	Samantha Smith
Betsy Chaput	Susan Medrow	Samie Smith
Jaira Falcon*	Alexandra Montay	Cody Sumner
Jazy Fortson	Jasmine Murillo*	Jillian Underwood
Mia Fuentes	Hannah Nauck	MC Whitlock
Ansley Graham	Kristie Pruitt	Kennedy Wilson
Susan Hosford	Jannet Quackenbush-King	Brittany Williams
Laine Johnson	Valerie Rivenbark	Emerald Williams
Beth Joice	Ashlynn Rivers	Jennifer Wren
Abby Kelly	Stephanie Roberts	

CRISIS CALL RESPONDERS

Kalia Jordan
Sarah Strzemienski
Ashley Sullins

*Crisis Call Responders are experienced volunteers who contract with RRI to provide crisis line back up on nights, weekends & holidays.

Volunteers donated over 6,920 hours supporting survivors this year!

EVENTS AND UPDATES



NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest Rape Response Board Members! Pictured L-R: Jeremy Weiner, Detective from University of North Georgia; Anna Fowler, Assistant District Attorney for the Northeastern Judicial Circuit; Jeanne Buffington, RRI Executive Director.

DONATION

Flowery Branch Masonic Lodge donated proceeds from their Flowery Branch 5K Spring Fun Run on May 15th, 2021. Pictured is Jen Tarnowski, RRI Advocacy Director, accepting the donation.



DONATION

Rape Response Community Engagement Director, Angel Jackson, (left) and Campus Advocate, Ariel Donaldson, (right) accept "Jeans for Justice" donation from North Georgia Technical College in honor of SAAM (Sexual Assault Awareness Month). Sherry Seal (middle), Campus Life Director, coordinates this event each year.

"Even just knowing I have a person to reach out to gives peace of mind."

Mother of a survivor

RAPE RESPONSE STAFF

L-R: Jeanne Buffington, Rebeca Ruelas, Sommer Floyd, Erica Autry, Angel Jackson, Ashia Gallo, Brittany Pirrello, Jen Tarnowski, Ariel Donaldson and Laura Rodriguez.



NEW STAFF

Meet our newest staff members: Sommer Floyd (left) is our new Mobile Advocate & Ashia Gallo (right) is our new Outreach & Awareness Advocate. Welcome!

STAFF SHOW SUPPORT

RRI partnered with Good News Clinic to give thanks to our healthcare heroes at Northeast Georgia Medical Center. L-R: Rebeca Ruelas, Angel Jackson, Liz Coates (Executive Director of Good News Clinic), Ariel Donaldson & Phoenix Kalmbach.



SPRING INTERNS



Undergraduate Interns, Cody Sumner (left) and Jasmine Adams (right); both from the University of North Georgia.

FALL INTERNS



Masters intern Valerie Rivenbark (left) from the University of Georgia & undergraduate intern Kennedy Williams (right) from the University of North Georgia.

DONOR FAMILY

Grants

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council/State
North Georgia Community
Foundation Impact Grant
North Georgia Community
Foundation COVID-19 Relief
Emergency Grant
Preventive Health Block Grant
Sexual Assault Services Program
(SASP)
The Nathan-Schrage Fund at the
North Georgia Community
Foundation♥
The Starlet Rhodes Jones Foundation
at the North Georgia Community
Foundation
United Way:
Dawson, Forsyth, Greater Atlanta,
Habersham, Hall & White County
Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

Churches

First Presbyterian Church♥
Grace Episcopal Church♥
Trinity United Methodist Church of Clermont♥

Local Government

Gainesville, Habersham, Hall,
Lumpkin & White (5% Funds)
Hall County Government

Business & Community Organizations

Amazon Smile
Atacama Investments LLC♥
AT&T
Flowery Branch Lodge 212♥
I.S Consulting*
Kroger
Network For Good - Facebook
donations♥
Northeast Georgia AT&T Pioneers*
The Benevity Community Impact
Fund♥
The Good Coin Foundation
The Women of UNG Board♥
Wimberly Funeral Home♥

Honorariums

Miles & Sharon Coker♥ in honor of
Jeanne Buffington & "Jeyatashakalalo"
Steve Cronic in honor of Harry
Chapman
Ellen Rapier in honor of Carrie Anne Hunt♥
Marta Shelton in honor of Ruth Bader
Ginsburg & Jeanne Buffington♥

Memorials

Steve & Kittie Ross♥ in memory
of Helen Ross & Hazel Propes

Individuals

Anonymous♥
Danny & Leticia Adams

Shane & Haley Adams
Bartley & Kim Alley
Natasha Alvarado♥
Sarah Armstrong♥
Faith Atkins
Erica Autry
Jasmine Bailey
Sheryl Barrett
Danielle Bell
Kaity Black*
Major Borders
Darin & Laurie Boozer
Ellen Corinne Briggs
Kris Orr Brown♥
Diane Bryant
Jeanne Buffington♥
David & Margie Burroughs♥
Eddie & Melinder Caudell
Harry Chapman♥
Monica & Torre Christensen
Susan Cole♥
Steve & Karen Collins♥
Blake & Lynette Conner
Jackie Cooley♥
Gerald Couch♥
Lane Cox
Julia & John Cromartie♥
Faye & James Crupi♥
Susan & Reese Daniel♥
Tina DeWaart♥
Edrea Douglas
Dennis & Cathy Drerup
Amanda Duncan
Larry & Debbie Edwards♥
Dustin Emhart
Durante Footman
Anna Fowler♥
Ron & Martha Fritchley♥
Karen Frost♥
Stephanie & Joe Galloway♥
Elsa Ann Gaines♥
Phoenix Garland
Randy & Jennifer Garrett
Wendy Glasbrenner♥
Rubi Gonzalez
Lisa Harris
Monica Hayman♥
Jane Hemmer♥
Susan Hosford♥
David & Shannon Hughs♥
Ginger Imperiale
Angel & Bernard Jackson♥
Carol Jackson
Kaylar Jackson
Stephanie James
Katherine Johnson
Nicole Kessler-Razo
Melissa King♥
Amanda & Christopher Lammers♥
Aurora Latson
Jessica Ledbetter♥
Joshua & Michelle Likins

Heather Lovelace
Teina Loworn
Theresa MacMillan♥
Shori Maglio
Carmen Mas
Jennifer McCall♥
Sean McCusker♥
Jessica McGinnis
Kylie McGuire
Amy McNeilly
Ron & Jennifer Meeks
Ashton Meeks♥
Felton Melton
Martha Nesbitt
Nnamdi Nwajide
Nancy Oneil
Alyson Paul♥
Bea Phillips
Kerrionne Phillips
Erica Pickens
Brittany Pirrello
Lisa Pirrello
Lisa Ramsey
Brittany Rhodes
Kelly & Rodger Rhodes
Caryl Roark♥
Rhett & Amy Roark
Rebeca Ruelas
Dorothy Russ
Brandy Sackel
Neomi Santiago♥
Jim & Gail Sargent♥
Sherrie & Lorry Schrage♥
Pamela Segers♥
Danny & Karin Sexton♥
Martha Shell
Marta Shelton
Trent & Kelly Smith
Jack & Bess Smith
Leigh Stallings-Wood♥
Bobby & Laura Staub
Jackie Steffey
David & Diane Stover
Jen & Jeff Tarnowski♥
Brandon & Heather Terrell
Vince Tillirson
Stephanie Turk♥
Savonda Turner
Elisabeth Vaughan♥
Maria Vega
Cynthia & Jimmy Vickery
John & Janet Walden♥
Sally Walden-Crowe♥
Steve & Lisa Warwick
Brecken Watts
Jeremy & Rachel Weiner♥
Heather Welborn*
Addie Pearl Williams
Margie Wise*
Sally Wise
Trey Wood♥

♥ Donors giving \$100 or more
* In-kind goods or services



Thank you to our Sheriff's Offices and Police Department's for participating in Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) 2021 by wearing teal ribbons!

Top to bottom, left to right: White County Sheriff's Office, UNG PD, Hall County Sheriff's Office, Oakwood PD, Gainesville PD, Flowery Branch PD, Dawson County Sheriff's Office and RRI staff

PRESENTATIONS AND COLLABORATIONS

- Amerigroup
- Adults Protecting Children
- Bald Ridge Lodge
- Beautiful Feet
- Canopy & The Roots
- Caminar Latino
- Children's Center for Hope and Healing
- Circle of Hope Domestic Violence Center
- Colleges: Lanier Technical College & North Georgia Technical College
- Corner Farms
- Cumming Women's Center
- Department of Family & Children's Services
- District Two Public Health
- District Attorney & Solicitor's Offices
- Domestic Violence Task Forces: Dawson, Forsyth, Hall, Lumpkin & Mountain
- Earnest Love, Inc.
- Eagle Ranch
- Edmonson Telford Center
- Family Connections
- Family Haven of Forsyth
- Family Promise of Hall County
- First Presbyterian Church
- Forsyth Chamber of Commerce
- Forsyth County Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Initiative
- Full Circle
- Gateway Academy
- Gateway Domestic Violence Center
- Georgia Legal Services
- Georgia Mountain Food Bank
- Good News Clinic
- Good Shepherd Church Youth Group
- Habersham Chamber of Commerce
- Hall County Rotary
- Hispanic Alliance
- Humane Society of Northeast Georgia
- In the Burbs Podcast
- Juvenile Court: Forsyth, Habersham and Hall
- Latino LinQ
- MedLink
- No One Alone (NOA)
- Northeast Georgia AT&T Pioneers
- North Georgia Diaper Bank
- North Georgia Community Foundation (NGCF)
- North Georgia Pregnancy Service Center
- Northside Forsyth
- One Love
- Period.org
- Regional Youth Detention Center (RYDC)
- Rotary of Gainesville
- Ser Familia
- Saint Luke's Catholic Church
- Saint Pius High School
- School Systems in Dawson, Forsyth, Habersham, Hall, Lumpkin & White Counties
- Sheriff's Offices & Police Departments
- South Enotah Child Advocacy Center
- Sunrise Rotary
- The Place of Dawson and Forsyth
- The Wild Flower Organization
- The Younique Foundation
- United Way
- Universities: Brenau, Piedmont, Truett McConnell & University of North Georgia
- Women of University of North Georgia

SAAM Comedy Jam with Jessica it's All Good



Gainesville Rotary wearing teal ribbons for SAAM



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P. O. Box 2883 • Gainesville, Georgia 30503 • www.raperesponse.com
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3 WAYS TO GIVE

Reoccurring Digital Envelope



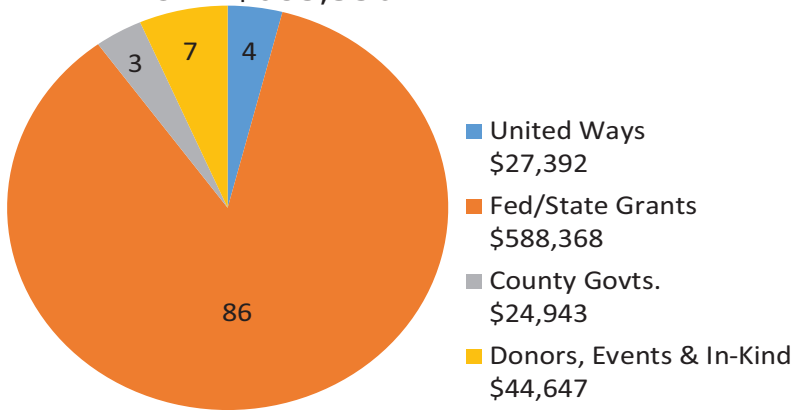
www.raperesponse.com/donate



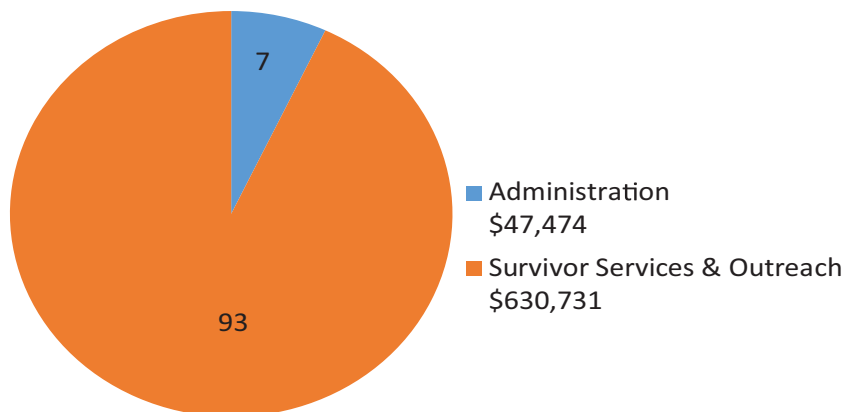
Dawson*Forsyth*Habersham*Hall*White

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE - \$685,350



EXPENSES - \$678,205



BOARD OF DIRECTORS Executive Committee 2021

President	Melissa King
Vice President	Sally Walden-Crowe
Past President	Sean McCusker
Secretary	Leigh Stallings-Wood
Treasurer	Jeremy Perry

Members at Large

Natasha Alvarado	Carol Martin*
Kris Brown	Shelly Martin*
Debbie Edwards*	Ashton Meeks
Anna Fowler	Alyson Paul
Kevin Gaddis*	Carol Shirley*
Chris Gailey	Wanda Vance*
Monica Hayman	Camille Viera
Amanda Lammers	Jeremy Weiner
Laura Major	Trey Wood

*Rotated off board