# RECLAIM



# **SANNUAL SREPORT**

# Dear RECLAIM Community,

As it was for most organizations, 2021 was a year full of both challenges and opportunities for RECLAIM. Despite ongoing uncertainties in the world, RECLAIM has continued to grow into the next exciting chapter of its life. We are pleased to share this annual report, which highlights our support of queer and trans youth and provides updates regarding our accomplishments.

During the past year, the Board of Directors focused on structure and leadership. In order to allow more focused and effective leadership in all roles, a decision was made to separate the Clinical Director and Executive Director positions. The Executive Director, in addition to being responsible for the strategic plan and the overall organization, will be focused on administration, finance and development, and a significant portion of time spent on building relationships and partnerships in the community. This allows the Clinical Director to really focus on the delivery of services and how to best serve clients and develop programs. As a result, these two critical arms of the organization now have the focused attention they need.

In January 2021 Caitlin Baldwin joined RECLAIM as the Clinical Director. As the year ended the board was excited to confirm the addition of Ryan Fouts as the new Executive Director. Ryan joined RECLAIM in July of 2021, beginning the new 2022 fiscal year.

Although throughout 2021 our therapy services remained virtual due to the pandemic, with Caitlin's leadership our therapists continually rose to the challenges of navigating telehealth to provide unwavering support to the youth we serve. Caitlin's management has allowed us to sharpen our focus on providing state-of-the-art therapeutic care as well as improve our training and support of our mental health team. As a result, during 2021 RECLAIM began adopting a new approach to our therapeutic care, and our therapists are expanding their skills through increased targeted training opportunities and enhanced supervision. In addition to strengthening our support of the mental health team, we were also able to increase our capacity to serve more youth, allowing us to reopen our waitlist that was closed throughout the initial wave of the pandemic.

Our new leadership structure provides the opportunity to have a more collaborative, focused, and broad leadership team, and we're thrilled to embark on the next part of RECLAIM's journey.

Our success this year would not have been possible without the dedicated support of our staff, volunteers, donors, funders, partner organizations, the Board members, and the broader community. We were also very lucky to have a partnership with Social Venture Partners, who offered incredible guidance and support to the board as we navigated the last couple of years.

With a solid foundation in place and the continued generosity of our community, we remain dedicated to our mission of offering culturally and financially accessible mental health care to queer and trans youth. We look to the future with excitement and invite you to continue with us on our journey.

Sincerely,

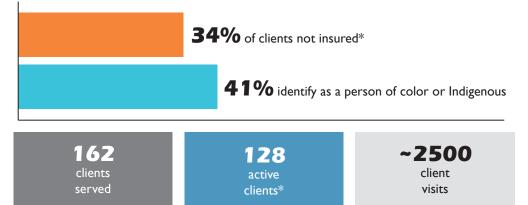


#### About RECLAIM

RECLAIM's mission is to increase access to mental health support for queer and trans youth so they may reclaim their lives from oppression in all of its forms.

At RECLAIM, we provide financially and culturally accessible care to queer and trans youth and their families, train practitioners, and partner in community at the intersection of gender and racial justice.

# **About the Youth We Work With**



\*As of the end of 2021

# **Clinical Programs Update**

RECLAIM has continued to conduct therapy groups for clients in addition to individual and family therapy. In 2021, we revamped our therapy groups by differentiating our offerings and redesigning our curriculum. One example is our weekly Gender Exploration Group, which was divided into two age cohorts: one for high schoolers and one for young adults. We've also revived our BIPOC Group. Instead of indefinite participation, groups are now structured around a cohort of youth who move through a curriculum together.

Additionally, RECLAIM has re-prioritized supporting the professional development of our clinicians to become independently licensed while also expanding our team. This has raised our standard of care by improving competencies with the multiple intersecting identities queer and trans youth hold, and we nearly doubled our capacity to see more clients.



Over 900 people attended the Rally for Trans Kids we helped organize in December 2021 to stand against transphobia in Hastings and everywhere.

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# Virtual CTL

We held an all-virtual gala in February 2021 and welcomed 300 guests for a morning of games and activities, connecting with old and new friends, and an inspiring program. While we couldn't be together in person, our event embodied the theme of RECLAIMingTogetherness with special opportunities to share space and connect in community. Thanks to the cost savings of going virtual and new sponsors responding to our call for support, we set a fundraising record and reached people who normally wouldn't be able to attend our annual celebration.



# **Project CLEAR**

Since 2017 RECLAIM has been in a valued partnership with Saint Paul Public Schools, Ramsey County Public Health, and the Sexual Violence Center to facilitate Project CLEAR (Consent Leads to Empowered and Affirming Relationships), a program focused on supporting queer and trans youth with identifying, preventing, and healing from sexual violence and unhealthy relationships. Our three-year grant from the Department of Justice for Project CLEAR came to an end in September 2021, and RECLAIM has decided not to renew our funding to continue this project. We are grateful to our partners and to the young people we worked with throughout Project CLEAR, and we look forward to deepened connections and new partnerships to serve our Twin Cities community.

#### Program highlights:

- 93% of middle and high school students that engaged in workshop discussions found the content to be relevant to their everyday lives.
- Majority of students cited learning something new about consent, boundaries, and allyship within the LGBTQ+ community which was the main goal of Project CLEAR.

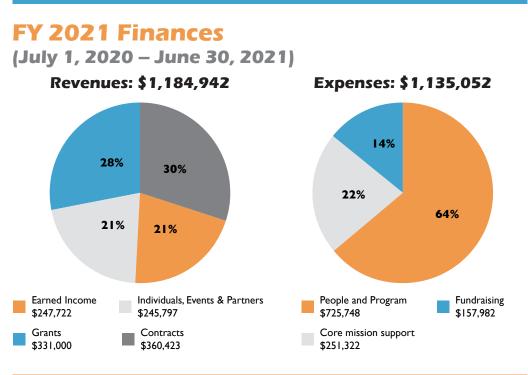


Shedding the weight of 2020 by clearing out our offices.



I am a more positive person, and I feel way more relaxed than I did before coming here. I am more comfortable in my own body and less stressed out each day.

- Anonymous client -



My son has, for the first time, connected with his therapist in an authentic way, and this means he feels safe and able to talk about the tough things that other therapists never heard from him.

- Anonymous parent of client -

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(July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2021)

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