

2024 Annual Report

Cultivating a Northeast Kingdom where all people thrive free from abuse and oppression.



Dear friends

Thank you for your incredible support of Umbrella and our mission. This past year, we made a deeper impact in the community; expanding Kingdom Child Care Connection, reaching more schools in the NEK than ever before, and implementing our innovative domestic violence accountability programs.

These achievements are made possible by the exceptional leadership of our Board of Directors, the dedication of our hardworking staff, and the unwavering support of our generous donors and community members.

Our Advocacy program supported approximately 509 survivors of domestic and sexual violence, while the Kingdom Child Care Connection program **served over 740 families**. The Family Room facilitated safe, **supervised visits for more than 90 children**. Our Economic Empowerment program, Cornucopia, **provided nearly 39,509 meals** to homebound seniors. Our Social Change programs saw extraordinary growth, doubling their reach to local schools to provide prevention education and **support to 2,670 youth** and conducting multiple **training sessions and workshops for 1,369 adults**. In the inaugural year of our Accountability Programs and Spark Warmline, **we served 88 individuals**.

We hope you find this report insightful as it highlights the significant impact Umbrella has made in our community over the past year.

With immense gratitude,

Amanda Cochran, Executive Director



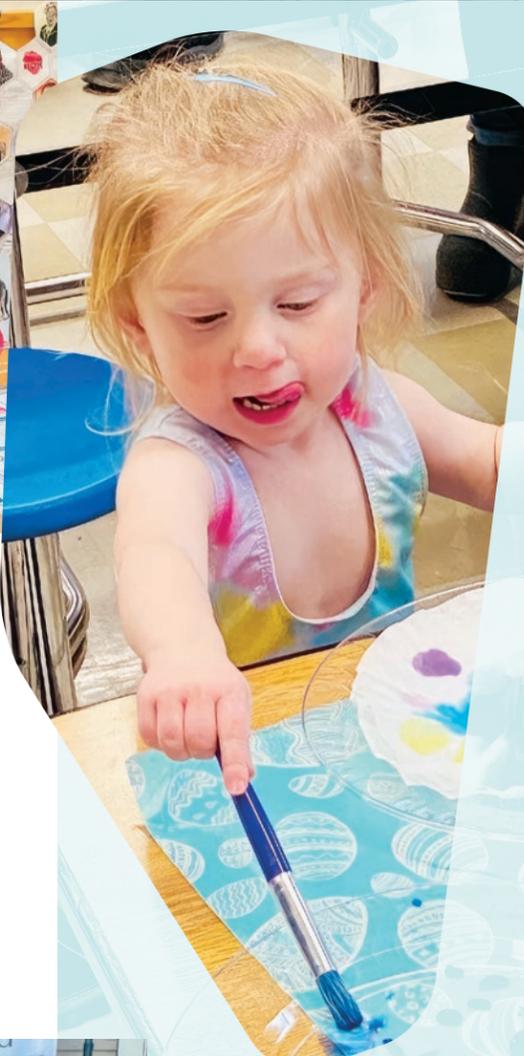
LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Kristen Bartlett
Director of Advocacy South
- Kimberlie Buxton
Director of Kingdom Childcare Connection
- Amanda Cochran
Executive Director
- Tracey Doore
Finance Director
- Olivia Plunket
Director of Innovation and Accountability Programs
- Henekis Stoddard
Associate Director
- Savannah Williams
Director of Operations North

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- Mary Cote
- Owen Davie
- Ilene Dickinson
- Carol Lyon
Treasurer
- Alex MacLean
Vice President
- Chris Manges
- Erin Narey
- Monica Pineda Etter
- Liz Prohaska
President
- Dale Steen
- Lona Stuart

Umbrella Staff attend a 3-day Healing Focused Care training in June



Supporting Families Through Safe Visitation

Umbrella's Family Room program provides supervised visitation for parents who require supportive, safe third-party supervision to maintain contact with their child(ren). This need often arises in cases involving substance misuse or domestic violence, with visits mandated to be supervised by the Department of Children and Families or the court system.

Our program offers the consistency essential for children who have experienced difficulties due to their parents' challenges. **This year, 11 of the 49 families we supported have been with us for over two years.** While consistent support is crucial, our goal is to help families reach a point where they can eventually transition to unsupervised visitations. Last year, fifteen families successfully achieved this transition.

Kingdom Childcare Connection Meeting Community Need

Thanks to Vermont's groundbreaking Act 76 legislation, more families are now eligible for childcare financial assistance. As the community partner responsible for administering this program in the Newport and St. Johnsbury districts, we are scaling up to meet the increased demand. We've welcomed new staff members and are working diligently to connect families with financial assistance. Additionally, our team is engaging with childcare providers to address questions about the new funding structure and offer support to new programs.

This year, we assisted approximately 740 families in the NEK with subsidies, an increase of 234 from the previous year. Many caregivers had previously found childcare too expensive, but with Act 76, they can now afford to re-enter the workforce. We look forward to continuing our support for community members and childcare programs as our system evolves in the coming years.

Capital Campaign update

We are excited to announce that we have entered the public phase of our Cultivating Healing Spaces: Root, Nurture, Grow capital campaign. After a successful launch party in July, **we are now on the verge of reaching our ambitious \$600,000 goal!** To learn more about our campaign or to offer your support, please visit our website at umbrellanek.org/capitalcampaign.





Amanda Cochrane, Executive Director, attended the Northeast Vermont Prevention Consortium conference in June.

Integrating Trauma and Recovery

There is a critical connection between domestic and sexual violence, sex trafficking, and substance use. Research indicates that individuals who experience intimate partner violence are more likely to engage in substance use, while those who misuse substances face a heightened risk of abuse. A 2020 literature review by the National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health underscores that experiencing multiple forms of violence or trauma increases the likelihood of developing substance use-related issues. Dr. Gabor Maté, a respected physician and author, notes, “Don’t ask why the addiction, ask why the pain.” Additionally, many survivors face substance use coercion, often accompanied by threats of violence, a situation further complicated by societal stigma and systemic barriers.

In recent years, Umbrella has actively engaged with the community to address these interconnected issues. As leaders of

the Orleans and Northern Essex Prevention Coalition, we have fostered collaboration among diverse stakeholders to drive meaningful change. A needs assessment conducted in early 2024 revealed a strong demand for in-house substance use services, including support groups and counseling for alcohol addiction. Clients expressed satisfaction with our existing services and supported expanding our offerings, reflecting a community commitment to addressing the intersection of intimate partner violence and substance misuse. Looking ahead, we are excited to announce that Umbrella has secured funding to launch an evidence-based support group in partnership with Kingdom Recovery Center. We also plan to enhance cross-training among our partners to ensure comprehensive recovery support for everyone in our shelter. Additionally, we have added a Shelter and Substance Misuse Prevention Advocate to our staff who brings extensive experience in the recovery field.



Chelsea Corrow, our Social Change Coordinator, presented to the students at St. Johnsbury Academy on the importance of stewardship during Sophomore Stewardship Day.

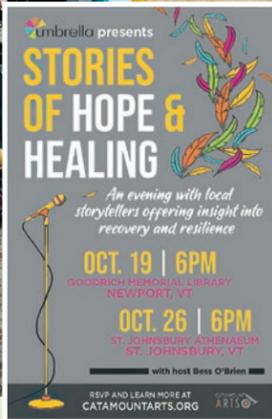
Advancing Prevention Education

Our Social Change programs are dedicated to prevention education and initiatives that address gender-based violence in schools and the broader community. Umbrella recognizes the vital importance of empowering youth and prioritizing prevention work grows, more schools, childcare centers, and community partners seek to collaborate with us, inviting our prevention educators and curricula into their environments.

This year, our Social Change programs provided prevention education and support to 2,670 youth and conducted training sessions and workshops for 1,369 adults. We increased the number of schools where we provide prevention education from 18 to 30! In addition, we expanded our

reach by offering office hours at St. Johnsbury Academy and the Community Youth Space, as well as a three-week “J-Term” course at Lyndon Institute.

A central component of our prevention education is the 12-week Youth In Power Program, designed to educate and empower female-identifying, gender fluid, and non-binary youth in the Northeast Kingdom. This initiative helps participants recognize and harness their strengths. We observed a significant increase in youth leaders this year, who collaborated with two summer school programs. We believe that empowering youth involves creating spaces where they can take charge of their lives and providing the resources necessary for building self-confidence, self-reliance, and mutual support.



Stories of Hope & Healing

Last October, community members gathered to share stories of Hope and Healing as part of Umbrella’s observation of October Domestic Violence Awareness month.

Eclipse Celebration in St. Johnsbury

On April 8, 2024, St. Johnsbury served as an ideal viewing location for the eclipse, experiencing complete totality for 1 minute and 35 seconds. Main Street was bustling with spectators, and with Umbrella’s office located at the heart of the festivities, we took the opportunity to engage the community.

We offered face painting, eclipse-themed sensory crafts for children, and delicious homemade chocolate chip cookie ice cream sandwiches. It was a joy to celebrate this cosmic event with our community!



Domestic Violence Accountability First Year Update

We are pleased to report the successful completion of our first year operating the Accountability Programs, Ignite Change and The Spark Violence Prevention Warmline.

During this inaugural year, 68 men participated in our Ignite Change classes, with 23 graduating from the program. Umbrella’s Ignite Change is the most intensive offering of its kind in the state. Participants, whether convicted of a domestic violence charge or self-referred, engage in a comprehensive process that includes a 2-3 hour intake, an 8-hour orientation, and 26 weeks of group sessions that meet twice a week for two hours. Currently, we offer three groups: one in Newport, one in St. Johnsbury, and a third that meets virtually.

Our Violence Prevention Warmline, The Spark, has also launched and is actively receiving calls from individuals who have or are at risk of causing harm in their relationship—whether physical, emotional or verbal.

Our goal with both of these offerings is to break the cycle of violence and inspire positive change in the lives of residents in the Northeast Kingdom.

FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS

Do fights with your partner go too far?

It can be difficult to call. Your safety matters to us. We get it.

Call today for support.
802-613-0375
10am-10pm, 7 days a week
Or email Info@TheSparkVT.org

the spark
violence prevention warmline
Where healing and change ignite.

FREE | CONFIDENTIAL | ANONYMOUS

Do you lose your cool in your relationship?

It can be difficult to call. Your safety matters to us. We get it.

Call today for support.
802-613-0375
10am-10pm, 7 days a week
Or email Info@TheSparkVT.org

the spark
violence prevention warmline
Where healing and change ignite.

WHAT TO EXPECT

- Compassionate responder
- Space to process
- Anonymity & confidentiality
- Response within 24 hrs

WHAT NOT TO EXPECT

- Judgment
- Counseling
- Reporting to outside agencies

The Spark is a program of Umbrella's Department of Social Change.

Thank you!

Umbrella is honored to recognize those individuals, families, corporations, and foundations whose generous donations help to make our work possible. The following lists reflect all gifts and pledges received between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2024.

Note: Capital Campaign gifts and pledges are not included. Our gratitude for those gifts were recognized in our Capital Campaign special issue; Cultivating Healing Spaces, Root, Nurture, and Grow back in July 2024.

- \$20,000 +**
Forward Philanthropy
Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital
The Rona Jaffe Foundation
- \$15,000 +**
Lawson's Finest Liquids LLC
- \$10,000 +**
Marion & Bill Mohri Vermont Community Foundation
- \$5,000 +**
Ed Vilandrie & Marty Cavanaugh
Lynn Eikenberry
Susan Gresser & Stanley Baker
M&T Charitable Foundation
NEK Fund of the Vermont Community Foundation
Sunflower Fund
- \$2,500 +**
Anonymous
Friends of Umbrella
Community National Bank
Lona and Peter Stuart
St. Johnsbury Academy
Thom Goodwin
- \$1,000 +**
ABC & LOL Child Care & Preschool Center
Mary & Paul Berlejung
Amanda Cochrane & John Raser
Janice & Jack Cummings
Paul Decelles & Neila Anderson-Decelles
Gail Flynn
Richard & Laura Gagnon
Hill Farmstead Brewery
Libby Hillhouse

- Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence
- Up to \$999**
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Jane & Joe Alper
Marion Anastasia
Jeanne Desrochers & John Miller
Jodi Anthes
David Askren
Darci Bailey
Kathy Bales
Robert Balivet
Barton Chamber of Commerce
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Janina Beach-Ward
Kendyl Bell
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Andrew Berley
Kate & Martin Bertolini
Marilyn Bisson
Debra Bixby
Marc Bouchard
Eileen Boland & Don Brede
John & Zenaida Bongaarts
Naomi Bossom
Kendra Brazeau
Taylor & Billy Brink
Catharine & Richard Browne
Mallory Buck
Karen Budde
Susy Bunanta
Winterset
Henry Butler
Kimberlie Buxton
Tammi and Dave Cady

- Phoebe Courtot
Anne Cramer
Creative Counters LLC
Paige & Peter Crosby
Jacqueline Dadourian
Judy Daloz
Dana Young Construction
Danville Congregational Church, UCC
Danville Woman's Club
Bonnie Dasher-Andersen
Owen Davie
Mary Dawson
Dead River Company
Caroline & Sal DeMaio
Denise Deschenes
Linda & Robert Desrochers
Ilene & Casey Dickinson
Tracey Doore
Ellen Doyle
Downs Rachlin
Martin PLLC
Marie Dumas
East Haven Veterinary Service
Jan Eastman
Eiler Financial Services Inc
Diane Elliot
Martha Elliott
Gay Ellis & Rob Brown
Mary Etter
Brynn & David Evans
Perkins Family
Robert Farlice
Robert Farlice-Rubio
Stephen & Martha Feltus
Kristina Fitts-Hoppe
First Congregational Church of Lyndonville-Women's Fellowship
Virginia Flanders
Nicholas Flanders
Rita Fortin
Priscilla Foster
Joseph Fox
Kay Freedy

- Jordan Cady & Brendan Hughes
Angela Cai
Laura Cannon
Lili Cargill
Wendy & Stephen Carpenter-Israel
Barb Zander & Dennis Casey
Diane Chadderdon
Barbara Chapman
Chase Concrete
Stephanie and Jay Churchill
Kenneth Clark
Debbie Clark
Catherine Clark
Disa & Douglas Clarner
Jennifer Cochrane-Bell
Geoffrey Commons
Fran Cone
Andrew Conway
Angel Corrow
Ally Corrow
Mary Cote
Kathryn Cote
Crosby Coughlin
Deirdre Coughlin
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Eric Jensen
Hannah & Michael Johnson
David Johnston
JRH Building Construction LLC
Joshua Kantrowitz
Jeffrey Kay
Carl Powden & Dorigen Keeney
Lorraine & Dave Keir
Julie & Sam Kempton
Matt Kirby
Martha (Jane) Kitchel
Alice Kitchel
Rita Kitchel
Kingdom County Productions
Rhonda Korol & Omar Johnsin
Brittany & Jeremy Korsh
Richard S. Kozlowski
General Dentistry
Dana Kraus & Tom Forster
Mildred Labeur
Tracey & Ray LaBounty
Melissa LaCoy
Lake Morey Resort
Steven & Wendi Larrabee
Gail Lavigne
Sarah Lawrence
Sydney Lea
Jacob Leach
Reeve Lindbergh
Wendy Lippmann
Cathlin Lord & Kevin Driscoll
Jennifer Lorrain
Penny Lowe & Greg MacDonald
Laura Lucas
The Lyndonville Methodist Women
Carol & Rich Lyon
Denny & Carolyn Lyster
Alexandra MacLean & Tim Scott
Patrick Malaney
Chris Manges
Lori and Michael Marcus
Donna & William Marshall
Jill Mathers
Megan Matthers

- Constance Nixon
Cortney & Jennifer Noonan
North Country Union High School
Northeast Lock & Key LLC
Carol Novick & Larry Stahler
Judith & Dennis O'Brien
Evan Oleson
Onehope Wine
Alexia Ostrout
Mackenna Palmer
Bruce and Dee Palmer
Catherine Palmer
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Penny Patch
Karyn Patno M.D.
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Erica Perkins
Goodwin Mountain Mechanical
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Gregory Piper
Sarah Piper
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Anita Price & David Roth
Kim Prior
Jill & Matti Pylkkanen
East Haven Veterinary Service
Nicki & Matt Reimert
Leslie Renfro
Linda Reyes
Nancy & David Reynolds
David Reynolds
Shirley Richardson
Carolyn & John Ritter
Anita Rosenkrantz
Robin Rothman
Rotary Club of Newport
Ellen & Mel Rowe
Stephanie & Alan Rowe
Alan and Heather Ruggles
David and Linda Sargent
James & Nancy Scherer
Sally Schlueter
Jerry & Diana Senturia
Geoffrey & Gillian Sewake
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Karen & Sam Shippee
Rachel Siegel
Miriam Simon & John Ajamie
Sara Simpson
Katherine Siner
Jeremy & Martha Smith
Sydney Smith
Laura & Walter Sophrin
Cindy Spring Burak
Stephanie Srowe

- Waterford School
Patricia Webster
Lisa Werchow
Gerald West
West Barnet Women's Fellowship
Karen Westover
Wes Ward Auto
James & Catherine Wheeler
Cathie Wheeler
Amy W. Wheeler
Wildflower Inn
Beth Williams
Robert Wilson
Winterset
Joan Wollrath & Christine Frost
Richie & Viki Woodworth
Amanda Young
Tracy & Kurt Zschau

- In Honor of**
Sue Blaisdel
Jordan Cady
Amelia Clark
Amanda Cochrane
God
Lisa MacDowell
Susan Parker
Dale and Ron Steen
Lona Stuart & Peter Stuart MD
Victims of sexual abuse by Shambhala "leaders"
- In Memory of**
Emily Higgins
Marilyn Jewett
Marie Manning
Kathryn A. Piper
Michelle Renee
William Gordon Stowe
Thea Swartz
Joan Tucker

Umbrella would like to thank all in-kind donors who gave their talents and resources to help us meet our mission this year. This included local artists, businesses and individuals. Thank you!

We regret any errors on our recognition list.



Umbrella
RENEWAL BEESNESS
2024 SPRING GALA



Thank you to our lead sponsor.

Umbrella's 2024 Annual Spring Gala was held on May 17, 2024, at the Inn at Mountain View Farm. **We exceeded our fundraising goal, raising over \$90,000**—setting a new record for the Spring Gala! A heartfelt thank you to our incredible donors and sponsors for their generous support.



Day of Caring

In February, on Valentine's Day, we celebrated our very first virtual giving day, aptly named our Day of Caring. This special event was dedicated to spreading love and compassion within our community. **We successfully raised \$5,800, with over 20 dedications and more than 15 heartfelt stories** of love and care shared throughout the day.



Thank you to these sponsors of Stories of Hope and Healing, part of Umbrella's observation of October Domestic Violence Awareness month.

In Honor of Kate Piper

Kathryn "Kate" Aring Piper passed away on March 6, 2024, after bravely facing an untreatable, degenerative neurological disease. In honor of her memory, Kate's friends and family have made generous donations, reflecting her unwavering commitment to justice.

As a dedicated lawyer, Kate devoted her career to advocating for children in abuse and neglect cases, extending her compassion and support to many in our community. She was deeply involved with Umbrella's development over the years, and her warmth, passion, and beautiful smile touched everyone around her.

On behalf of the Umbrella staff and Board, we express our heartfelt gratitude for your thoughtful gifts in memory of this remarkable woman. Kate's spirit will continue to inspire us all.



Umbrella's Statement of Activities*

FOR YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2024 AND 2023

Financial Statements

	2024	2023
SUPPORT AND REVENUE		
Program Revenue and Grant Income	\$ 2,136,263	\$ 1,965,751
Fundraising	270,210	271,460
Interest and Misc.	16,733	13,130
Subtotal Support and Revenue	\$ 2,423,206	\$ 2,250,341
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	128,946	199,904
Total Support and Revenue	\$ 2,552,152	\$ 2,450,245
EXPENSES		
Programs	\$ 2,158,008	\$ 2,062,974
Administration and General	174,831	283,819
Fundraising	62,598	77,985
Total Expenses	\$ 2,395,437	\$ 2,424,778
Change in Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 156,715	\$ 25,467
Change in Net Assets With Donor Restrictions	84,804	251,096
Total Change in Net Assets	\$ 241,519	\$ 276,563

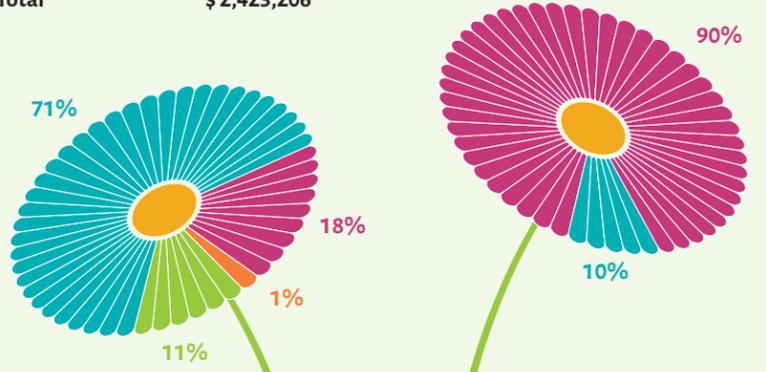
*unaudited

Revenue by Source

Government	\$ 1,710,487
Program Income	425,776
Private Fundraising	270,210
Miscellaneous	16,733
Total	\$ 2,423,206

Operating Expenses

Programs	\$ 2,158,008
Administration and Fundraising	237,429
Total	\$ 2,395,437





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St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819
802.748.1992

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Your support makes our work possible.



Umbrella had a remarkable year filled with so much growth, and we look forward to continuing this success in 2025.

If you would like to support our efforts for the coming year, you can do so by scanning the QR code or by mailing a check using the envelope provided inside the annual report.

Thank you for your continued support of our dynamic work in the community!

