

Dear RS EDEN Community,

To capture the experience of RS EDEN in 2022, let's first discuss the buffalo.

On the Midwest Plains, both buffalo and cow roam together. When a storm comes from the west, cows behave as we expect, they turn east, running away from the storm. This contrasts with the behavior of the buffalo. In the face of a storm, buffalo do not run from it. In fact, they face it and charge toward it. This instinct to face the storm head-on allows the buffalo to spend less time suffering in the storm.

In many ways, 2022 was 'The Year of the Buffalo'.

Our community is being transformed by generational impacts of the pandemic that are launching society onto new trajectories, some positive, but others grim.

RS EDEN is situated at the intersection of many of those grim challenges, including: a growing population of unhoused people; rising prevalence of substance use and mental health crises; wide availability of deadly fentanyl; increased community violence; stress caused by inflation and economic hardship; and more.

In 2022, RS EDEN chose to turn toward this storm.

We chose to engage with our community partners, our participants, and our teams to face these seemingly insurmountable challenges, head-on, in an assertive and bold effort to create solutions.

Over the course of the year, RS EDEN began building a clinically monitored withdrawal/detox program within our substance use disorder treatment center to combat the increasing complexity of needs. We launched mental health supports across RS EDEN to mitigate the ballooning crises and build a more comprehensive continuum of care. We began rehabbing an underused halfway house to transform it into an updated permanent housing site. We established a low-barrier, community-facing mental health program in partnership with a coffee shop to create access to non-stigmatizing care.

We increased opportunities for staff development and resources, including paid: internships, parental leave, and training, as we committed to caring for the caregivers. **We chose to act.**

By turning toward the storm, RS EDEN chose innovation over status quo – we chose the risk of the unknown over the risk of 'not good enough'. We turned toward the storm, reducing the length of time we - our participants, our organization, and our community – must suffer in the storm.

Not only were we reshaping programs in 2022, but we were also REIMAGINING our organizational philosophy – one of clarified identity, impact, and future potential.

Our Reimagined philosophy adopts a person-centered approach, infusing culturally responsive, traumainformed, and strength-based strategies to assure progress. This focus requires curiosity, partnership, inclusion, and boldness. We ask that you proudly join us in this pursuit. Please learn more about the REIMAGINED RS EDEN here.

In 2022, RS EDEN turned toward the storm. In 2023, RS EDEN will continue charging toward the storm.

Caroline Hood, LICSWPresident and CEO



RS



MEALS PREPARED

65,000

Meals were prepared and provided to men, women and children across our programs.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SUPPORT

708 individuals exiting incarceration accessed our services in 2022.

73% completed the reentry program across all our recovery housing communities.

UNIQUE PARTICIPANTS SERVED

1,546

Men, women and children served in 2022 across Recovery, Supportive Housing and Criminal Justice Support.

70%

Of all our participants are from communities of color.



RSI LABORATORIES

31,000 individuals were served at one of the leading, regional drug testing laboratories in the Midwest (RSI Laboratories), and nearly...

180,000 drug screenings were provided.



SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

800

Adults and children

accessed supportive housing and other services, supporting the transition out of chronic homelessness.

At least 90% of all our participants remained housed for a year or moved onto stable housing.



RECOVERY

45% of RS EDEN Residential Substance-Use Recovery participants successfully completed their treatment plan.

* American Addiction Center reports a dropout rate of 70-80% within the first 3 to 6 months.



With over 50 years of experience meeting—and anticipating—our community's needs, RS EDEN makes opportunities out of obstacles, filling service gaps with creative solutions for those who come through our doors. Here are a few ways we are building new beginnings in 2023 and beyond.

Expanding Recovery Housing to Include Families in All Forms

Today at Lorraine Apartments, RS EDEN houses mothers in recovery and their children, filling a gap in two-generation support. But across our community, there are very few housing options for fathers, LGBTQ caregivers, two-caregiver families, and others who seek to live with their children while going through recovery programs. To give families of all types access to supportive and inclusive substance use treatment while living as a family unit, RS EDEN will amend admissions criteria to include all families.

Low-Barrier Mental Health Services Across All Programs

RS EDEN participants are coming to us with increasingly complex mental health crises, leading to increased substance use, behavioral challenges, and other needs that require enhanced approaches to care. In response, RS EDEN is establishing integrated, seamless access to mental health services for every participant in every RS EDEN program, embedding clinicians into all staff teams across the organization.

A Continuum of Care for Detox and Recovery Services

Overdoses in our state are at record highs while there is a growing gap in care for people who are between detox and residential treatment. People at this precarious stage have no place to turn for treatment, often leading to relapse, overdose, and death. RS EDEN is working to close that gap through updated state licensing, policies, staff training, admissions processes, program delivery, and more to ensure that people with complex medical needs have access to substance use disorder treatment, reducing overdoses and increasing long-term recovery.

Employee Advancement and Enrichment

To support our participants' resilience as they build new beginnings, RS EDEN needs highly credentialed and experienced staff to deliver care across the RS EDEN continuum, and across our already direct care talented staff we want to provide even more growth opportunities. Through initiatives like our Moxie Fund, RS EDEN is giving team members, especially those from BIPOC communities, new opportunities for certification and credentialing, pathways from internship to employment, and other avenues to career advancement.



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DONATE HERE

RS EDEN delivers effective, comprehensive services across the Twin Cities metro.

From early achievements in substance use disorder treatment and residential programs for individuals exiting incarceration, to the development of affordable, low-barrier housing, to the delivery or services to residents in permanent, supportive housing, RS EDEN has evolved into a multi-faceted human service organization that provides services to individuals and families of all ages.

Our innovative service models and housing programs promote dignity, recovery, employment, mental health, wellness, and the capacity to give back to the community.

Using a person-centered, trauma-informed, and gender-affirming approaches, RS EDEN helps individuals and families build new beginnings.