



TOGETHER RISING

ANNUAL REPORT

2022



A Note of Gratitude

Although 2022 marked the beginning of a post-pandemic return to “normal,” for many of us, “normal” has still felt a long way off. Despite the uncertainty of the road ahead, one thing is sure. Our path is made better when we stand in community with each other. Over and over again, YOU stepped in to lend a hand, show support, and spread love.

Thank you for trusting us with your stories, hopes, fears, and - of course - your dollars so we can turn moments of heartbreak into connection and community that reflect our shared humanity.

YOU helped to accomplish incredible acts in 2022, and we look forward to the next phase of our journey - creating a more compassionate and loving world with you, together.

With love, fury, and relentless hope,


Executive Director


Founder

We invested directly in grants to individuals and families.

In 2022, Together Rising distributed \$818,971.02 in grants directly to individuals and families who sought help with a range of basic necessities, including housing, food, electricity, medical bills, transportation, and mental health support.

Cate, pictured right, was one of those individuals. A single mom to two children, Cate needed substantial dental work after losing or damaging several teeth while in active addiction.

We also helped Karla, pictured below who, like Cate, is also a single mom to two children. We covered the cost of several months of groceries to keep Karla's family nourished while she underwent treatment for breast cancer.



In addition to Cate and Karla, we sent a direct grant to Robert and Maddie - parents to three little ones who desperately needed breathing room after several surgeries, and new orders from the military necessitated a move from Hawaii to New Jersey. We helped cover the cost of their most immediate needs, as well as adaptive winter boots for their daughter.

We also supported baby James, a ten-month old who was born blind due to a rare retina disease. Together Rising supported James' mom, Kelsey, so she could provide him with sensory play toys, braille books, safety gates, and more.

\$32

AVERAGE MONTHLY
DONATION

7,907

TOTAL RECURRING
DONORS ON TEAM LOVE

178

INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES
ASSISTED VIA DIRECT GRANTS



Photo courtesy of The Center for Family Life

We met urgent needs by investing in partners.

In 2022, Together Rising invested in dozens of trusted partner organizations to address urgent needs across our country, including reproductive justice, gun violence prevention, and support to marginalized communities, including the LGBTQ+ and Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) communities.

We invested in reproductive justice.

In June, *Roe v. Wade* was overturned by the Supreme Court, and a cascade of bans and restrictions on reproductive health care immediately followed. In response, we raised and invested \$1,077,842.42 in nine partner organizations to increase abortion access and fight for reproductive justice. Colorado Doula Project was one of those organizations. A queer and Latine-led organization, Colorado Doula Project provides emotional, physical, logistical, and financial support to patients accessing abortion care in the Denver-Boulder area.

We stood with gun violence victims and against gun violence.

Throughout the year, we responded to the continued rise of terrifying gun violence and mass shootings by investing in long-term structural change and immediate community support in the aftermath of several horrific tragedies.

In April, in response to a shooting on a subway car in the Sunset Park neighborhood of Brooklyn, New York, Together Rising invested \$50,000 in The Center for Family Life to provide critical services and resources directly to the victims.

In May, 10 Black people were shot and killed by a white supremacist in a grocery store in Buffalo, New York. In response, Together Rising invested \$55,557 in a local organization, Delavan-Grider Community Center, for community resources. Days later, 19 children and two teachers were shot and killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas. In response, we raised and deployed a total of \$483,382.97 directly to the victims' loved ones via VictimsFirst and to Everytown for Gun Safety Support Fund for structural change to help prevent future tragedies.

In November, in response to the shooting at a queer club in Colorado Springs, we deployed \$50,000 to our queer-led partner, Queer Asterisk, to continue to provide inclusive mental health care for the queer community of Colorado.

We stood with the LGBTQ+ and AAPI communities.

Together Rising invested funds to support the LGBTQ+ community and trans youth amid a wave of attacks throughout the country, including bans on gender-affirming care. In total, we invested \$380,000 in trusted partner organizations to support LGBTQ+ communities and help provide gender-affirming care. We supported Trans Families' work operating a nationwide virtual community hub to serve transgender youth and their families by offering support groups for young people who are gender diverse and neurodivergent and for transgender youth of color.

In response to skyrocketing rates of hate crime and violence, Together Rising invested \$250,000 to support and stand in solidarity with AAPI communities. We granted \$25,000 to Soar Over Hate, an AAPI-led, boots-on-the-ground nonprofit in New York City, for critically needed resources such as self-defense classes and personal safety items.



Photo courtesy of Soar Over Hate

We supported those devastated by the attacks on Ukraine.

Together Rising raised and deployed a total of \$2,595,239.88 in comprehensive relief for families and children whose lives were shattered by the devastating attacks on Ukraine.

Immediately after the attacks began in February, Together Rising deployed \$150,000 to Direct Relief and \$100,000 to World Jewish Relief for urgent relief, including food, emergency cash assistance, psychological support, medical supplies, and mental health support.

In March, Together Rising invested \$153,617.38 in Outright to provide urgent support to queer people still in Ukraine and evacuees in neighboring countries. We invested \$140,197.18 in Rescue Foundation, whose team immediately activated on behalf of Black students and students of color who were denied passage across the Ukrainian/Polish border, securing safe transport for them.

Additionally, we invested \$146,307.71 in Amna (formerly Refugee Trauma Initiative), an organization led by an Afghan woman who was a refugee herself at age eleven, to provide trauma-informed mental healthcare for frontline aid workers, as well as long-term training for organizations so they can best meet the mental health needs of children and families in Ukraine. We also invested \$25,000 in Vostok SOS, a Ukrainian-led grassroots organization, to provide critical aid, support evacuation efforts, and resettle families in safer parts of the country. We deployed a total of \$452,193.76 in grants to our trusted partner, Estonian Refugee Council, to provide critical aid and evacuation assistance to those fleeing Ukraine.



Photo courtesy of Estonian Refugee Council

We continued to reunite parents and children separated at the border.

In 2022, we continued to reunify families who were separated at the U.S. border under the abhorrent zero tolerance policy.

We invested \$771,650 in our long-time partner, Al Otro Lado, to continue the critical work of locating parents who were deported back to their home country without their children.

Herbil, pictured left, was one of those separated parents. After four excruciating years of being apart, Herbil and his 19 year old son Danny were reunited in 2022 because of your investment in the tremendous advocacy and diligence of the Al Otro Lado team. We also provided funding for travel fees, finding sponsors, living expenses, and mental health services to help families recover from the trauma of separation and adjust to living in the United States.

Additionally, we invested \$52,000 in Respond Crisis Translation, to provide trauma-informed interpreting and translation services for families in 100+ languages.



Photo courtesy of Al Otro Lado

We provided urgent assistance for those devastated by disasters.

Throughout the year, we helped provide critical assistance for those devastated by disasters both in the United States and internationally.

In July, in response to massive flooding in Missouri and Kentucky, we invested \$54,277.05 in Action St. Louis and \$54,277.11 in The Let's Empower Employment (LEE) Initiative for food and water to first responders and victims, hygiene products, relief supplies, and more.

In September, in response to the deadly flooding in Pakistan that killed more than 1,700 people and destroyed entire communities, we deployed \$100,000 in vital relief to two of our trusted partners, Too Young to Wed and ShelterBox USA. These grants provided emergency food, water, hygiene and baby care items, critical medical care, solar lights, tarpaulins, and more.

Not even a week later, Together Rising deployed \$100,000 to Cooperation Jackson to deliver emergency cases of water after river flooding resulted in a serious lack of safe water in Jackson, Mississippi.



Photo courtesy of Cooperation Jackson

Later that month, Hurricane Ian devastated southern Florida. In response, we distributed \$120,517.50 to The Smile Trust, which successfully coordinated thirteen activation hubs to distribute critical supplies to families in desperate need of help, including water (shown above), non-perishable food, tents, first aid kits, flashlights, batteries, hygiene, medical and cleaning supplies, and more.

Just days later, Hurricane Fiona made landfall in southwestern Puerto Rico, wreaking havoc and destruction. In response, Together Rising invested \$73,529.92 in our long-time partner, Direct Relief, to procure and transport four hurricane prep packs – enough medicine and supplies to treat 400 patients for up to five days, including vital antibiotics, syringes, basic first aid supplies, and medications.



Photo courtesy of BRAC

We supported refugee communities.

In 2022, Together Rising invested \$498,000 to support refugee communities throughout the world. We invested \$100,000 in BRAC, the longest-standing and largest organization providing comprehensive support for Rohingya refugees living in Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, the largest refugee camp in the world. We also invested \$100,000 in Too Young to Wed to provide life-saving emergency food and prevent young girls and women in Afghanistan from being sold into child marriage.

\$8.69M

Distributed to individuals, families, and boots-on-the-ground organizations

TOTAL GIFTS DISTRIBUTED

In 2022, Together Rising distributed \$8,691,282.62 to organizations, families, and individuals.

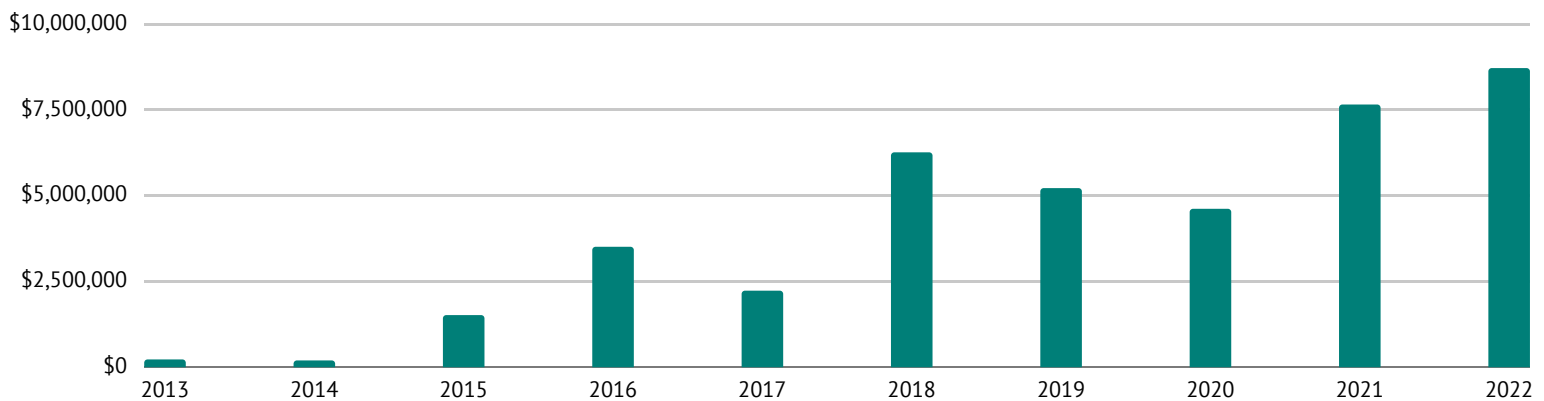
PROGRAM PERCENTAGE FOR 2022

93%

In 2022, 93% of Together Rising's functional expenses went to Programs and Services.

TOTAL GIFTS DISTRIBUTED BY YEAR

As of December 31, 2022, Together Rising has distributed \$39,898,697.30 to people in crisis.



Thank you!

The support and compassion reflected in these stories is only possible because of YOUR contributions. We are grateful and humbled by what this community accomplished in 2022, and we are deeply committed to standing with you to spread more love and hope in the years ahead.