

SAFEHOMES NEEDED FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS



Did you know that in rural communities much like Pagosa Springs **1 in 3 people** are affected by domestic violence, many of them with children? Often times they must make the choice between being abused or being homeless.

Victims and their families need your help to change their future

HOW CAN I HELP?

The following accommodations are great options for transitional housing:

- Unlived in Spaces
- Short Term Rentals
- MIL Suites
- Basement Studios

If you have these spaces available, you are in a position to transform the lives of victims. All we ask from you is the space, we do the rest.

A word from a
crisis housing
partner:



"We've been a host home for Rise Above Violence for about 3 years. We feel grateful for the opportunity to provide a place of peace and privacy which facilitates rest and recovery for those in need. This has been a rewarding and fulfilling experience."

Visit <https://www.riseaboveviolence.org/transitionalhousing> for more info or contact Kristen Bair at kristen@riseaboveviolence.org or 970-264-1129 ext.

ABOUT RISE ABOVE VIOLENCE

Established: 1996

Goal: To support victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Pagosa.

Mission: Rise Above Violence is an advocacy program that promotes the belief that all people have the right to live free from violence by providing support and advocacy services for victims of domestic violence, and education for youth and our community.



There are many kinds of abuse: physical, emotional, sexual and financial.

98% of people in abusive relationships experience financial abuse that hinders their ability to acquire, use and maintain resources.

All Services are provided at no cost to recipients.

A dedicated staff and securing funding has made this a reality.

HOUSING PROGRAM

Housing is a major step in stabilization. Victims face the same barriers such as rising housing costs and low availability of long-term housing, but their violent situations put them at a great need to find stable housing and safety as soon as possible.

Rise offers 3 Housing Programs:

Emergency Housing Program: Designed for clients in need of one-time rental assistance or need to stay in a hotel for 1-3 nights for safety reasons.

Transitional Housing Program: Provided through partnerships in our community to utilize guest apartments in private homes. This program offers victims short term housing in order to get on their feet and find permanent housing.

Long Term Housing Program: A 6-month program that gives clients financial independence by paying a portion of their rent and each month tapering the amount of financial support. This allows clients time to find income, child care, and (most importantly) relieve financial stress while healing from trauma they've endured.

IMPACT STORY



Jane was in an abusive marriage for years. She always wanted to leave her situation; but did not have the means to do so. Her husband had never allowed her to have a job, and controlled every part of their finances. As a result Jane had no rental history and no credit score. We were able to place her in transitional housing and then work with her to get a job, get an apartment of her own and start saving money. Jane also had two children who were traumatized by their home situation. Jane and both her kids were able to receive counseling services and are doing much better. At the beginning of this process Jane very much wanted to leave Pagosa. She is now empowered by her situation and deeply connected to her community. Her kids are happy and involved in the local sports and community organizations. Jane is deeply thankful to the resources available to her which helped her overcome her abusive relationship. She is even giving back to her community as a volunteer at Rise now. Jane has been self-supporting for the last year and half and is now looking to purchase her own home in Pagosa Springs.

Client Testimony

I attempted to escape my toxic situation for years. I wanted so badly to give my children a better life. For us to be able to live without torment and fear. If it hadn't been for the transitional housing provided by Rise Above Violence, I don't believe we would be living the life we are today. I am happy, thriving, and so are my children. I can't ever thank Rise and the generous Housing Provider enough."

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Victims and survivors need safe housing for an interim of 1- 3 months. Here they can begin their recovery and also work to find longer-term housing solutions. Mother-in-law suites, small apartments and campers make great locations. We are looking for owners to partner with Rise and house individuals or families in need in return for a tax deductible donation.

Rise currently has two transitional housing units - a long term master lease on a studio and one donated apartment. These transitional/safe homes provide a stepping stone to long term safety and independence.

You provide the place, Rise provides the following:

- Rise thoroughly vets all clients and require them to sign a contract to follow not only the policies set in place by the Property Provider; but also Rise.
- Rise will provide 24 hour advocacy and support .
- Rise will provide a cleaning fee in between clients, for your chosen cleaning person up to \$250. Rise agrees to pay for property damage acquired by any clients of Rise up to the amount of \$500. It is the decision of the property as to whether or not to file a claim with their homeowner's insurance.
- Rise will provide a utility reimbursement of \$20 per night in the winter (October-March) and \$10 dollars per night in the summer (April-September) or the housing provider may choose to gift the cost of the utilities to Rise and receive a tax write-off in return
- Rise will provide a tax receipt for a donation and end of year write offs to participating Property Owners.

Rise's average client is 1 woman & 1 child who need 1 to 2 bedroom;
if it is a larger family and there is a 3 bedroom available,
Rise can pay an additional \$10 per night utility allowance.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How does Rise vet its clients for the SafeHome Program?

We look at our client's prior history regarding housing. We also require that all of our clients sign a Code of Conduct Agreement stating that they will keep the location of the property confidential. They are not allowed ANY visitors to the property for this reason. Failure to follow the Code of Conduct will result in having to vacate the property immediately.

2. How does Rise protect against Trespassers?

Trespassers are illegal and have no rights to the property on which they are trespassing. Rise would take the normal measures to have them removed. Clients sign a contract with Rise which specifies what date they are to be out of the property. They are advised of this upon signing the contract. This is a legally binding contract. Worth noting; this has not been an issue with any of our clients to date.

3. What kind of Advocacy and Support does Rise provide?

Rise supports our clients in a variety of ways. By building safety plans, providing emotional, financial, and legal assistance referrals. We help them to utilize community resources with the purpose of having the highest level of success. We help them plan their next steps forward once they are in the property and can think from a place of safety.

4. What if the housing provider does not want to accept pets?

Rise has established an arrangement with the Humane Society. The human society has agreed to partner with Rise and house any animals free of charge.

Rise invites you to partner with us to provide safe, transitional housing for domestic violence victims in Pagosa Springs, CO. This is your chance to make an everlasting impact in the lives of individuals who desperately need your help. Together we will never have to turn someone away who is in need of housing due to a lack of supply. We need your assistance to accomplish this goal.

For more information on this program, please contact Kristen Bair at kristen@riseaboveviolence.org or 970-264-1129 ext. 7