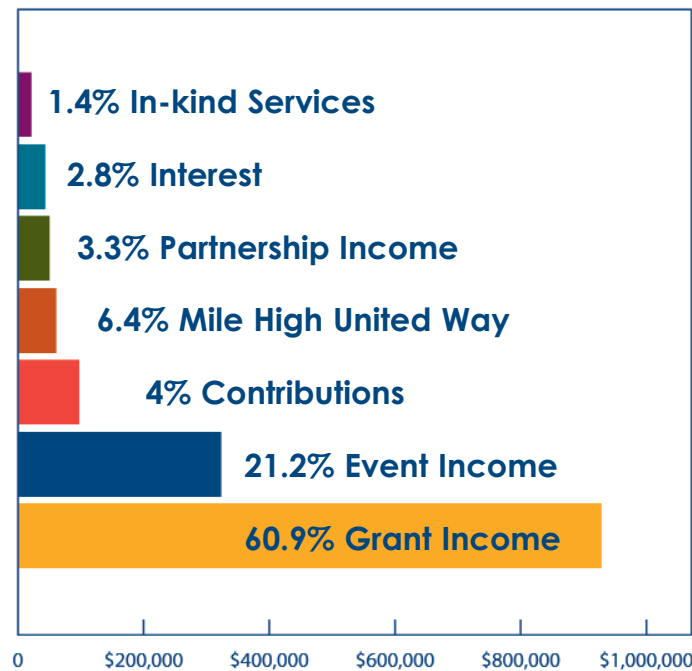
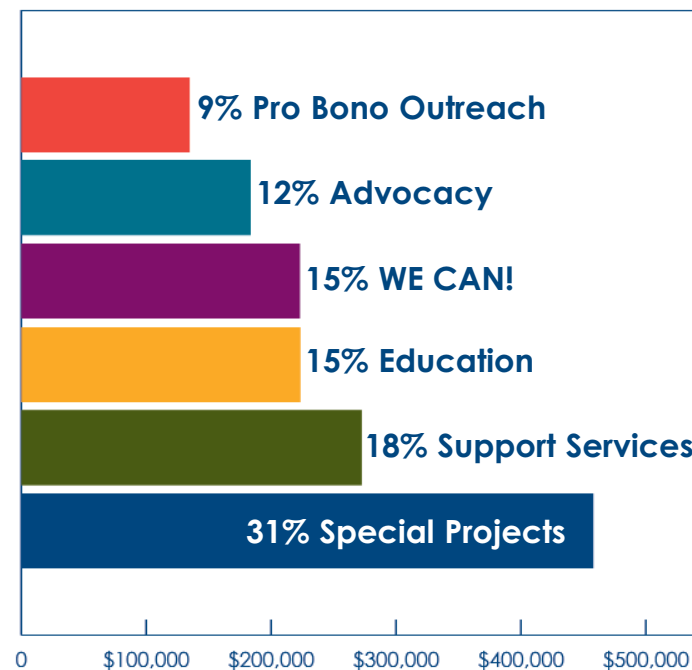


## 2008 revenue\*



**Total \*Unrestricted Revenue: \$1,525,843**

## 2008 expenses



**Total Expenses: \$1,495,231**

*bringing wellness home*

## programs & accomplishments

### The Metro Crisis Triage Project

The number of people in crisis who seek and need psychiatric services at local hospital emergency rooms is escalating. MHAC is the lead agency in the creation of a new crisis service system in the Denver Metro area that will provide an alternative to emergency room care for urgent psychiatric services. The Metro Crisis Triage Project was incorporated as "Metro Crisis Services," an independent business entity that will own and operate the (Triage) crisis system for Metro Denver.

### Public Policy & Systems Advocacy

MHAC monitors, analyzes, initiates and responds to legislation pertinent to mental health, with the aim of eliminating barriers to mental health treatment and improving service provision. Central to this work is the goal of ensuring the inclusion of mental health in all progressive health care reform.



Greeley resident Kevin Thompson was voted Advocate of the Year for his dedication to mental health at the 15th annual Legislative Education Day. Kevin is pictured with his parents and wife.

### Suicide Prevention

Colorado has the 6th highest suicide rate in the nation and MHAC is committed to reducing this alarming statistic. MHAC provided gatekeeper training and education in eight communities across Colorado, reaching 222 people.

The final draft of the Suicide Prevention and Intervention Plan was provided to The Colorado Trust in August 2008 and will be released in early 2009 for implementation.

### Free Mental Health Services for Low-Income Adults & Children

The Pro Bono Outreach Program provided professional mental health therapy services to 1,295 low-income children, teens, families, and adults — at no cost to service recipients — at 31 host sites throughout the Metro Denver area. Volunteer mental health professionals donated 7,747 client hours of services to the program, valued at \$774,700.



Students at Red Rocks Elementary talk about feelings and emotions and learn healthy ways to express themselves.



Teens from the Check Your Head program perform at the Black Arts Festival.

### Empowering People with Mental Illness

The Wellness and Education Coalition and Advocacy Network of Colorado (WE CAN!) is a statewide grassroots organization run by and for individuals with mental health conditions to provide support to its members and to advocate for progressive state and local policies pertaining to mental health. In 2008, 42 consumers received advocacy training through WE CAN!'s Basic and Advanced Leadership Academies. Through WE CAN!'s Networking Meeting's 408 members throughout Colorado participated in discussions about the quality of their behavioral health services. This information is reported to the Division of Behavioral Health for planning purposes.

### Mental Health Information & Education

MHAC provides free mental health and wellness information to the public through a variety of means including health fairs, youth programs, Speakers' Bureau presentations, education forums and our website, [mhacolorado.org](http://mhacolorado.org).

In 2008, more than 28,000 pieces of educational printed materials were distributed; 35 health fairs and school educational events were conducted; and over 400 people, including business leaders, parents, teachers and the general public attended Speakers' Bureau presentations, receiving education about mental health and wellness.

- **Information & Referral:** MHAC helped over 5,500 consumers, family members and mental health professionals access information about mental health services.
- **Free Depression and Anxiety Screenings:** MHAC provided 975 free depression, anxiety and suicide screenings at community centers, businesses and through our online screening tool.
- **Check Your Head** is a school-based program that encourages young people to explore such issues as self-identity, conflict resolution, depression, and tolerance. The program helps young people identify their mental health needs, communicate their needs to others and find constructive resolutions to the problems they face. Three Check Your Head curriculum-based hip-hop programs were completed at East High School and two at Montbello High School. More than 4,000 Denver high school students participated in or received information from the program.

