

2019

RISE



rhode islanders sponsoring education

report to donors & stakeholders 2019



RISE Mentor Program Scavenger Hunt
Brown University, Providence



board president's message

Dear Friends,

All of us affiliated with RISE hope you and your loved ones are healthy and well during this unprecedented time in our history. Now, more than ever, your support has enabled RISE to assist our student community in a highly personal and meaningful way as our amazing students and their families have adjusted to the impact of Covid-19 on their lives.

I hope you will join me in reflecting on the positive outcomes achieved by the students sponsored and mentored by Rhode Islanders Sponsoring Education in the past 18 months, but also in the past 21 years. RISE saw seven high school scholars graduate in 2019, and all those students are now attending college. Thirty-six more are currently enrolled in transformational schools, and they have adjusted remarkably well to their new learning requirements. Fifty more currently benefit from RISE mentoring relationships. Over 400 children of incarcerated parents graduated from our partner schools over the past 21 years. These young people not only change their trajectory in life, but they often positively impact family and friends around them. We are very proud of all the students we support, who see hope as real and take responsibility for changing their own lives.

We cannot assist these hopeful young people without you. Your contributions to our life changing mission have tremendous direct impact on young Rhode Island students who face significant challenges, and we are so grateful.

Please have a look at this RISE Report to Donors & Stakeholders, highlighting our successes and activities from the 2018-2019 year.

Thank you for your continued confidence in RISE, and in the opportunity for change we provide to young Rhode Islanders seeking to break the intergenerational cycle of incarceration through education.

With appreciation,

Robin Boss





our mission

RISE provides scholarships and mentoring to children of incarcerated parents in order to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty, crime, and addiction that too often threatens them.

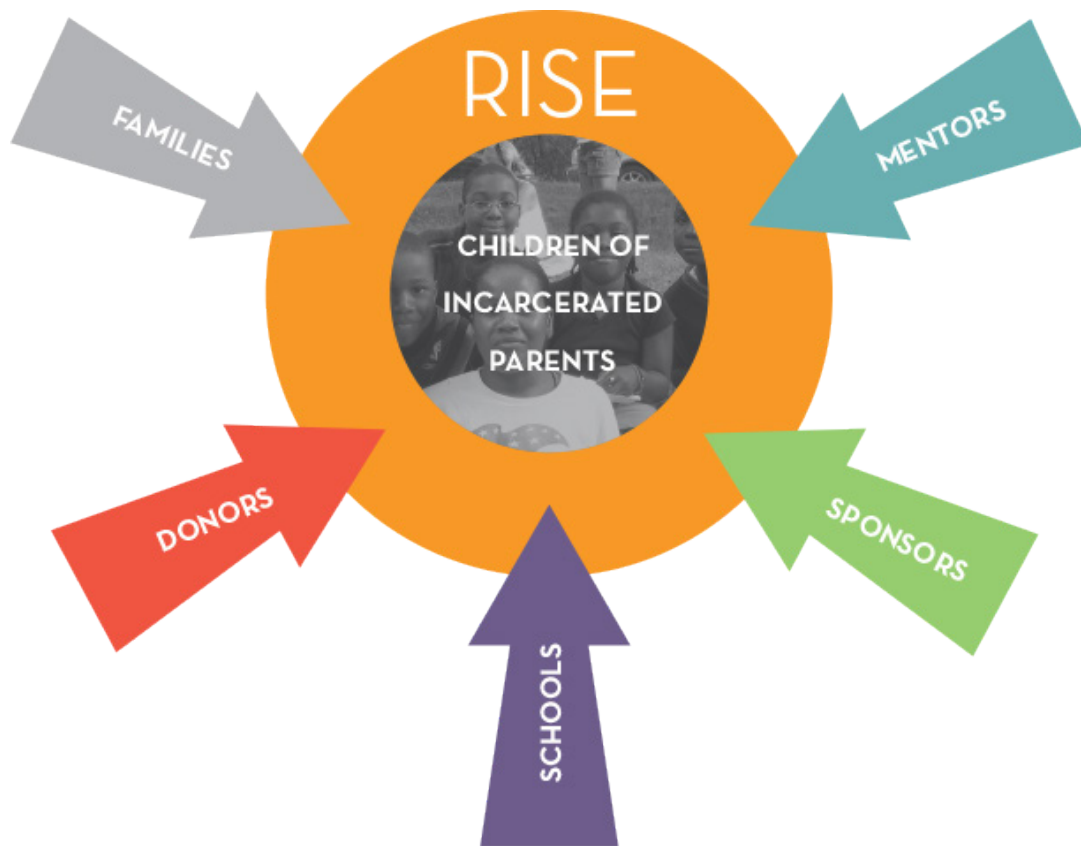
our history

The idea for RISE sprang from the medical practice of two physicians from Brown University, Tim Flanigan and Kevin Vigilante. These physicians cared for addicted and incarcerated women, and wondered what would happen to their children – the next generation. Research showed that the children of incarcerated parents often ended up in similar circumstances so they developed a concept which became RISE, a program that would provide mentors and educational opportunity for children of incarcerated parents. In 1997, RISE wrapped its arms around the first group of 25 students and became one of the first organizations in the US to focus on children of incarcerated parents. As a small community based organization, RISE has been able to remain nimble and responsive to the needs of families and children and this quality remains its cornerstone of care.

RISE Back to School Party
Roger Williams Park, Providence



the rise model



RISE seeks to stop the intergenerational cycle of poverty, addiction and crime by investing in children of incarcerated parents over time. Our work builds access to the intellectual, social, and emotional supports young people need to thrive, particularly those who find themselves in challenging circumstances beyond their control. Through this long term investment we work to ensure high school graduation and the strongest possible foundation for productive, independent, and happy adult lives.



nadia

“I can honestly say that without the support from RISE I wouldn't be where I am today. I became a RISE student in elementary school. My father went to prison multiple times growing up and the only stability I had was my school. I graduated from college with a double major in psychology and sociology in 2016. My father went back to prison my freshman year of college, one of my brothers was sentenced with life that year and the other a double life sentence the following year. I felt like my world had been crushed for the 50th time, except it wasn't. My foundation of support has molded me into the person I am today. My first mentor came from RISE, my first tutor and my first job. RISE has literally helped me RISE, over and over. Thank you RISE!

mentoring

Mentoring is a structured and trusting relationship that brings young people together with caring adults. Mentors offer guidance, support and encouragement aimed at developing the competence and confidence of their mentee. Through participation in the mentoring program, RISE mentees benefit from added individualized attention from a positive adult as well as exposure to new people, ideas, and experiences.

high-quality education

Research has found that schools with personalized learning environments which are rich in learning supports, enrichment opportunities, and high expectations provide the best opportunity for success for our students. For some, these high quality learning environments can be found in public or charter schools. For others, the best fit is in a private or parochial school. To that end, RISE provides scholarships to students who otherwise would be unable to attend due to financial constraints.



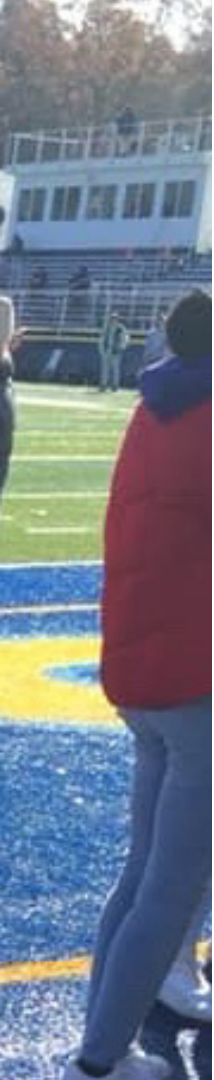
raisa

“RISE!!!! RISE to me means Raising Individuals to Strive for Excellence.

RISE means replace all excuses all circumstances and all struggles through education. As a parent who has been through so much, I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this organization. My pocket and bank will reflect that my income is below poverty level but my heart and my motivation will show you just how rich I really am. I currently have one graduate of the RISE program and another child currently involved. Can you imagine that? Two underprivileged black boys who come from a very diverse background, whose parents have been in the system, who are poor, were given the opportunity to RISE above all of the negativity that I brought them into and go to a private school of their choice. RISE is the gift that keeps giving!! As a former teen mom at 15 years old, I often wondered how I would accomplish the hope and goal of sending my son to private school. A promise I made myself while a sophomore in high school and a promise that RISE helped me accomplish 15 years later. Amazing!!! RISE helped me more than I can ever thank them for with my first child. He is a senior in college and when he graduates, my level of poverty will RISE to wealthy.

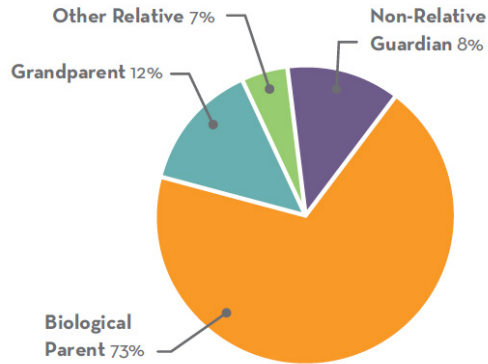
My second child who currently is in the program, loves and appreciates this program more than I thought he would. RISE means: elevate yourself, educate yourself and become that person you want to be. My son Iryan decided he wanted to RISE like his brother and wants to match his academics with his athletics so we enrolled him in private school as well. In the beginning it was tough. He went from 5 classes to 11 classes — talk about RISE! He was frustrated, angry, upset and wanted to go back to public school. After regrouping, he will now tell you, he will never go back to a public school and accepts the challenge of being the best version of himself. It's amazing to see the transformation in such a short period. Thank you RISE for this opportunity. I have seen a change in my son's confidence, academics and overall study habits. When he graduates, I will be RICH!!!!

I certainly would recommend this program to everyone and invite anyone and everyone to donate to RISE. This organization is all about Raising Successful Students and I am grateful they are helping me with mine.

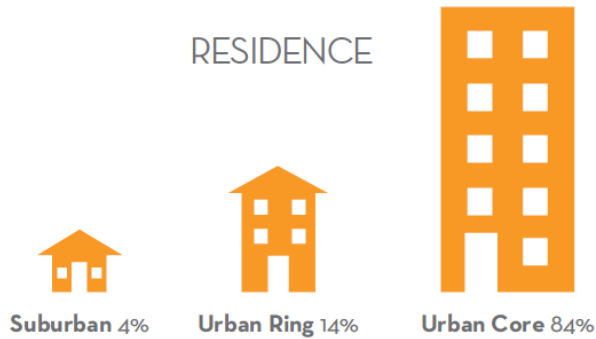


program stats

CARETAKER



RESIDENCE



700

CHILDREN

650

MENTORS

53

SCHOOLS

2500

DONORS

partner schools

2018-2019 schools in **bold**

Barrington Christian Academy

Bishop Hendricken High School

Bishop Keough Regional High School

Bishop McVinney Catholic Elementary School

Blackstone Academy

Blessed Sacrament School

Community Preparatory School

CVS-Highlander Charter School

Elizabeth Ann Seton Academy

Good Shepherd School

The Gordon School

Holy Ghost School

Holy Name School

International Charter School

La Salle Academy

Lincoln School

Monsignor Gadoury School

Moses Brown School

Our Lady of Fatima Regional High School

Our Lady of Mercy

The Penfield School

Portsmouth Abbey School

Providence Country Day School

Sacred Heart Academy

San Miguel School

School One

Sophia Academy

St. Andrew's School

St. Ann School

St. Augustine School

St. Bartholomew School

St. Cecilia School

St. Joseph Catholic School

St. Kevin Elementary School

St. Leo the Great Elementary School

St. Mary's Bay View Academy

St. Mary School

St. Matthew School

St. Patrick Academy

St. Paul School

St. Phillip School

St. Pius School

St. Raphael Academy

St. Rose of Lima School

St. Therese Catholic Elementary School

St. Thomas School

Sunrise Academy

Textron Chamber of Commerce Academy

West Bay Christian Academy

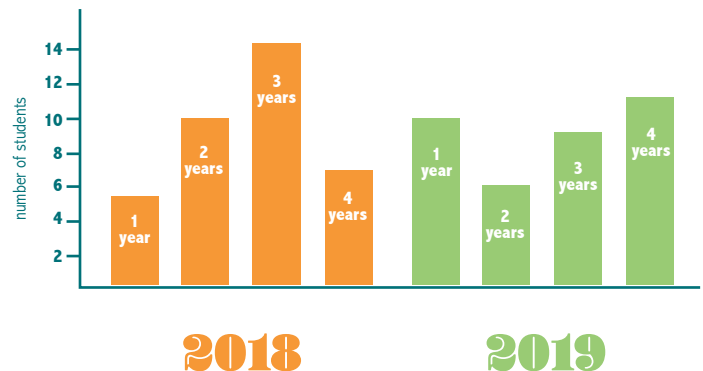
The Wheeler School

Woodlawn Catholic Elementary School

Over \$4.2M dollars has been paid by RISE in tuition for our students. While not all RISE students are on scholarship, this program remains an essential aspect of our work to increase access to high quality learning experiences.

318
SCHOLARSHIP
STUDENTS

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS: YEARS IN RISE



eulanda

“Outside people do not fully understand the importance of RISE to families like mine. RISE changes lives. They give hope where there is none. They give light during the darkest moments and they never judge. They make you feel accepted and they do everything they can to uplift everyone they come in contact with. So many of my family members are addicts and have been incarcerated. I didn't want that for my daughters. I wanted better. I didn't want to repeat all the wrong choices people in my family made but I didn't know where to turn. Then I found RISE. I applied to the program and all three of my girls were accepted on one of the lowest days of my life. It made all the difference in changing the direction of their lives. They all graduated high school and went on to college. They are all doing amazing things and it's all because RISE took a chance on us. They not only supported us financially, but also emotionally during the many ups and downs we encountered over the last several years. My children had wonderful mentors that turned into some of my best friends and the staff became my family. Their work inspired me to go back to school and a few years ago I was able to buy my first home, finally putting roots down. RISE helped make that happen. They changed all of our lives and I will forever be grateful.”

rise impact



= 100%

as compared to 75% (2018 non-RISE graduation rate for Providence and 84% non-RISE graduation rate for RI

financial summary

\$1.2M

tuition paid to date

\$4k

typical support for RISE student/yr

typical student support entails:

books
tuition
supplies
technology
sports equipment
uniforms
lunch
transportation
tutoring
etc.



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