



Live Free 999 2025 Impact Report

Hope. Healing. Youth Empowerment.

A Message from our Founder, Carmela Wallace



Live Free 999 was built on the belief that no one should suffer in silence.

In 2025, our programs and partnerships helped those in need find hope, healing, and the courage to ask for help.

Together, we are continuing Jarad's legacy by transforming lives through mental health support, crisis resources, and youth empowerment.

2025 by the Numbers

Through grants totaling over \$100,000, we supported nine mental health and substance recovery programs. In April 2025, we hosted a transformative mental health awareness event at Homewood-Flossmoor High School, bringing together national and local organizations to educate students and promote mental wellness.

11,700

Crisis Text Line interactions
using the LF999 keyword

1,622

Visitors accessed mental
health resources on
livefree999.org

3,210

Students engaged in school-
based mental health
programming

\$100,000+

Distributed in grants to nine
mental health organizations

Mental Health Day 2025: Shatter the Silence



On April 30, 2025, Homewood-Flossmoor High School held Shatter the Silence, a powerful mental health day dedicated to creating space for students to speak openly about their struggles and support one another. Through workshops, interactive sessions, and mental health resources, the event empowered students to recognize signs of stress, build coping skills, and know they're never alone.

Stories of Impact

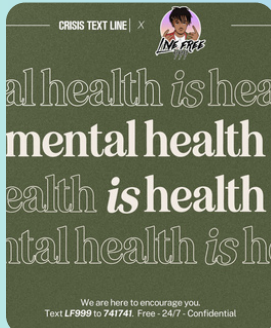
Hear from individuals whose lives have been touched by your support.



Jennifer Rudan

Director of Student Supports
Homewood-Flossmoor High School

“Live Free 999 played an instrumental role in the success of our first-ever Mental Health Fair. Their team was diligent in ensuring we had presenters from a wide range of organizations focused on mental health awareness and support. They are compassionate, hardworking, and deeply dedicated to making a meaningful difference in the lives of our youth.”



Jana French

Community Partnerships
Director; Crisis Text Line

Our partnership with Live Free 999 is deeply meaningful and truly unique. Together, we are able to reach more BIPOC boys and men in a way that we could never do alone. We are profoundly grateful for Live Free 999’s continued commitment and for the trust and collaboration of the Wallace family, whose partnership makes this work possible.”



Tim Hawkins

Team Member
Live Free 999

“Working with Live Free 999 has shown me just how powerful our impact can be, and it’s inspired me to be that same advocate within my own circle. I’m constantly doing check-ins with my friends and family, doing my part to help de-stigmatize conversations around mental health. This work reminds all of us that it’s okay to speak up, and that resources like the Crisis Text Line are there when we need them.”

Our Partners in Impact

We proudly support organizations working every day to provide mental health resources, crisis support, and youth empowerment.



CRISIS TEXT LINE |



K E V I N
LOVE FUND



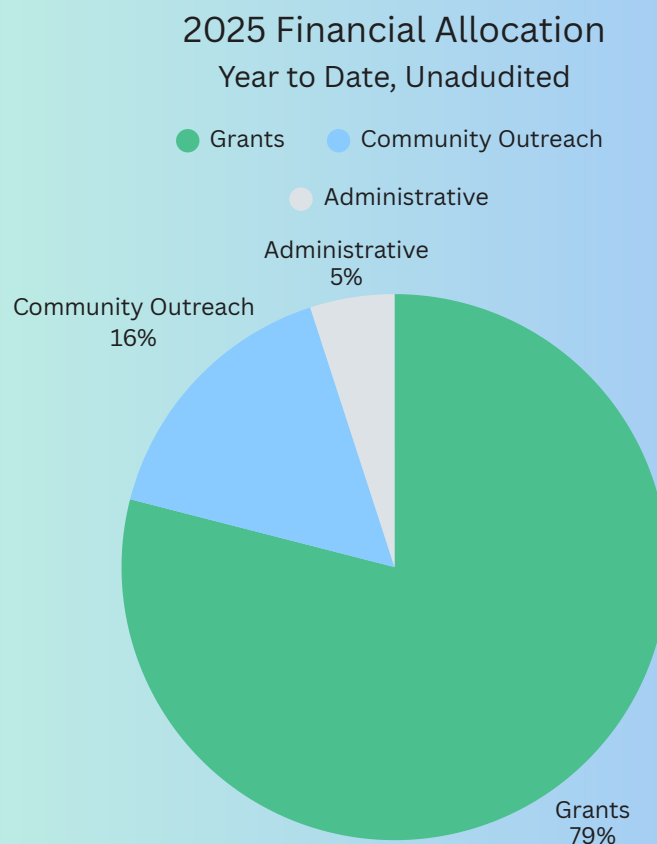
**MUSIC
HEALTH
ALLIANCE**



Financial Transparency

In 2025, Live Free 999 strengthened its commitment to supporting youth mental health, substance recovery, and community well-being through strategic grantmaking and program investments. Thanks to the generosity of our donors, partners, and supporters, we distributed over \$100,000 in grants to nine organizations advancing mental health education, counseling services, crisis intervention, and recovery resources.

Our financial approach prioritizes impactful, mission-driven work. The majority of our funding directly supported programs that reach young people and their families through school-based education, community initiatives, and access to mental health resources, including our partnership with Crisis Text Line, which connected individuals to 11,700 crisis support interactions this year. We remain committed to transparency and thoughtful stewardship of all contributions. Every dollar entrusted to Live Free 999 helps expand access to mental wellness tools, empower young people, and foster hope and healing in communities across the country.



Looking to 2026: Our Vision

In 2026, we're expanding our reach to provide more comprehensive mental health resources. We're also working on a groundbreaking research program with MusiCares to improve the mental health and wellness of emerging young music artists, with more exciting new ventures on the horizon.

Our vision for 2026 is simple but powerful: to reach more young people with hope, healing, and real support—right when they need it most. Building on the momentum of 2025, we are expanding our partnerships, amplifying student-driven mental health initiatives, and bringing programs directly into schools and communities across the Midwest and beyond.

In the coming year, Live Free 999 will grow our network of trusted partners, including NAMI, Crisis Text Line, Music Health Alliance, the Kevin Love Fund, and a growing number of Illinois school districts inspired by the impact of Shatter the Silence. These collaborations will allow us to bring more workshops, mental health days, coping tools, crisis resources, and education to the students who need them most.

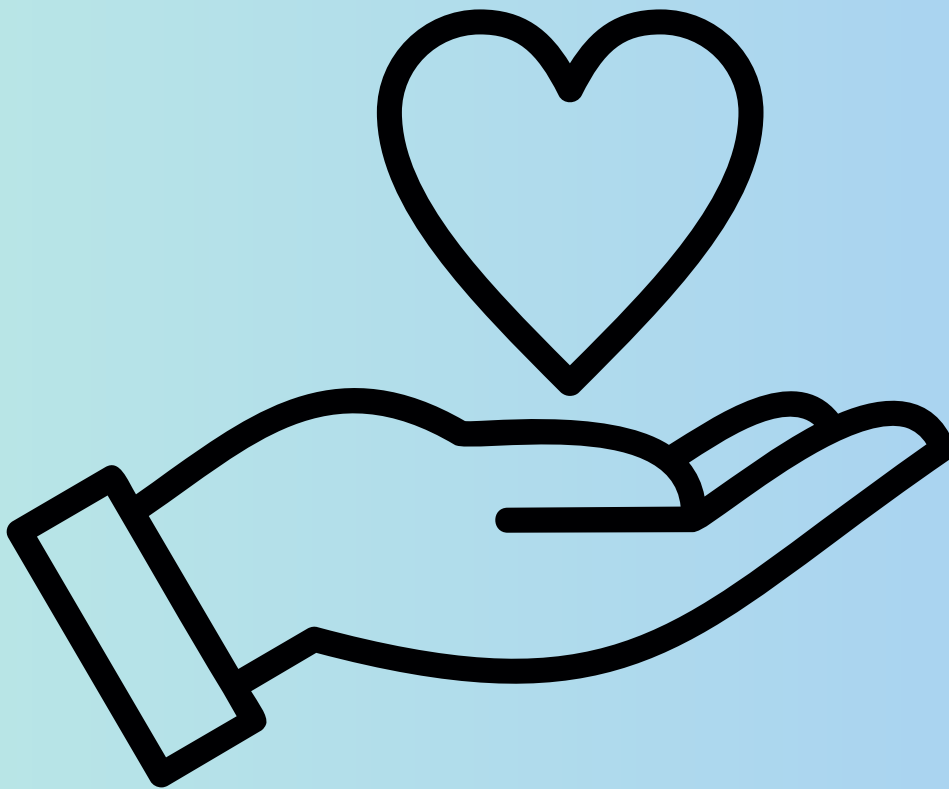
2026 is a year of scaling up our mission—expanding access, elevating youth voices, and making mental health support feel accessible, relatable, and stigma-free. As we move forward, we remain committed to turning pain into purpose and helping young people feel understood, supported, and never alone.

You Are Part of This Impact

Your support helps young people find hope, healing, and a path toward mental wellness.

Together, we can continue turning challenges into opportunities for growth.

Visit livefree999.org/donate



Live Free 999

A charitable fund of the Entertainment Industry Foundation (EIF)

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