Buckelew Programs

2025–2026

IMPACT REPORT











Dear Friends,

It's almost impossible to find your way out of crisis alone. It usually takes someone who knows the terrain to guide the way, and a place to land upon arrival.

This fiscal year, we focused on expanding the infrastructure of support for our community. In Marin County, we opened the Rising Recovery Center, realizing a decades-long dream to fill a massive gap in services for those with co-occurring diagnoses. Our ribbon-cutting drew a packed house, proof of the tremendous support for such a program.

We also built out our 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline with a new Follow-Up Team, so any help seeker who requests this additional support can receive care beyond their initial call. Research confirms what we're seeing firsthand: consistent follow-up leads to better outcomes and fewer repeat crises.

We have already seen what sober living environments can do for someone rebuilding their life, so when Sonoma County's Opioid Settlement Funds became available, we knew exactly where they belonged. Two new sober living homes are now available for single men and fathers, broadening our footprint of care, with a third in development.

Not every part of this year was expansion. When Sonoma's HUD funding was cut, we felt the weight of this loss. But we met that moment with the same values that built everything else: partnership, resourcefulness, and a refusal to let anyone fall through the cracks. Not one client went without services as we partnered with fellow providers. That, too, is infrastructure; the kind you can't always see, built from relationships and resolve.

We successfully wrapped our 3-year strategic plan while celebrating a milestone: 55 years of Buckelew! We have been strengthening the infrastructure of hope for over half a century; one door, one call, one relationship at a time.

With gratitude,



Chris Kughn, LMFT

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Our Mission

To promote recovery, resilience and hope by providing behavioral health and support services that enhance quality of life.



Who We Are

Buckelew Programs is the North Bay's leading nonprofit provider of behavioral health services, helping thousands of people who experience mental health and substance use challenges lead healthier, more independent lives. We offer relief, respite, and support to individuals and the loved ones who walk alongside them.

This work takes place across Marin, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties through five core areas of service: Counseling, Service Navigation, Substance Use Recovery, Suicide Prevention and Supported Housing.

Further expanding our circle of care, Buckelew operates one of California's eleven 988 Lifeline call centers, answering more than 37,000 calls from residents across the North Bay.

Our Programs

Marin, Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino counties

Counseling

- Individual, group, youth, couples and family counseling

Recovery / Substance Use Treatment

- Athena House
- Helen Vine Recovery Center
- Hope Village
- Housing for Hope
- Marin Recovery Homes
- Orenda Center
- Rising Recovery Center

Service Navigation

- Collaborative Treatment and Recovery Team
- Family Service Coordination
- inRESPONSE: Mobile Mental Health Support Team
- Maternidad y Esperanza
- Transitional Age Youth

Supported Housing

- Casa Rene Crisis Residential Program
- Forensic Assertive Community Treatment
- Intensive Supported Housing Program
- Marin Assisted Independent Living
- Residential Support Services
- Sonoma County Independent Living
- Sparrow House Transitional Program
- Transitional Age Youth

Suicide Prevention

- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
- Suicide Prevention Outreach & Education
- SOS: Survivors of Suicide Groups

Reducing Strain, Building Strength: Our services support a healthier community

Emergency Rooms

12% **of adult emergency room visits are related to behavioral health crises**

Our continuum of care helps prevent crises before they escalate into costly and time-consuming visits.[1]

Homelessness

48% **of unhoused people in California have complex behavioral health needs**

Supported housing combined with mental health services keeps people off the streets and out of shelters.[2]

Substance Use

97% **cost reduction for placement in sobering beds vs. jail time**

Substance use services provide ongoing support at a fraction of the financial and emotional costs of police engagement.[3]

Law Enforcement

73% **of inRESPONSE dispatch calls divert from police**

Our mobile response team helps reduce the strain on local public service departments.[4]

1. hcai.ca.gov/data/initiatives/behavioral-health 2. homelessness.ucsf.edu/BehavioralHealth 3. https://bit.ly/4yN4zS9 4. Buckelew.org

“We don’t know what we’d do without Buckelew. Our son is part of the MAIL program, and it is doing very well for him. He’s independent and happy. It has given me peace of mind knowing he is well cared for.

BETTY, DONOR AND PARENT OF SUPPORTED HOUSING CLIENT



Overcoming Addiction

"I knew I needed help; I just didn't know where to start," says Alex. "My life was completely unmanageable."

After losing his father at age five, Alex grew up feeling responsible for his mother and sister. In his teens, dealing drugs felt like an efficient way to avoid debt. By 22, he was using and selling cocaine, with a police record that included a DUI and a couple of felonies.

After being arrested twice, Alex joined the Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) program, where he learned about Buckelew's Orenda Center. This single connection changed everything.

"I can't speak highly enough about the Orenda staff," says Alex. "They helped me feel more at home. The whole experience was very humanizing."

In treatment, Alex gained a stronger understanding of how to navigate sobriety. He credits having time, a supportive environment, and people who believe in recovery for the incredible progress he has made.

"Orenda gives people who seem like unlikely candidates another chance at their lives," says Alex. "The opportunity to restart and reinvent yourself, no matter how far gone you think you are."

Today, he is off probation and pursuing a Construction Management Certificate at Santa Rosa Junior College. He is ready to step into a supporting role as a housing manager for Buckelew's new Housing for Hope sober living home in Santa Rosa.

"My next steps are getting back to being a good friend, a good son, and a good role model in my community."

Read Alex's full story at:
Buckelew.org/Meet-Alex

Over **1,300** people received Substance Use Services across Sonoma and Marin counties.

Buckelew's **Substance Use Treatment Services** offer a comprehensive continuum of support for lasting recovery through withdrawal management, residential treatment, and sober housing. Clients receive tailored recovery plans, including for those with co-occurring psychiatric disorders. Our services span Marin and Sonoma Counties and include long-established programs like the **Helen Vine Recovery Center & Marin Recovery Homes, Orenda Center, Athena House & Hope Village**. We are pleased to introduce **Rising Recovery Center** and **Housing for Hope** in 2026.

For years, Marin residents facing simultaneous mental health and substance use diagnoses had nowhere nearby to turn. Treatment meant traveling as far as Ukiah or San Francisco, far away from family, community, and the support systems recovery depends on. This year, all that changed.

We opened the **Rising Recovery Center**, Marin County's first residential treatment program built specifically for Medi-Cal-eligible individuals navigating co-occurring conditions. This innovative project realizes a longtime vision held by our CEO, Chris Kughn, and his counterparts at the County of Marin. Clients arrive during some of their most challenging times and we meet them with stability, safety, and integrated care.

The goal is to build a real foundation: developing skills, strengthening connections, and forging a meaningful path to recovery. When people get the right care at the right time, the effects ripple outward: fewer emergency room visits, less cycling through jails and shelters, more people living with dignity in their own community.

"I've walked alongside thousands of people on their recovery journeys," says Teresa Bowman, Buckelew's Regional Director of Substance Use Services for Marin County. "I've seen firsthand what happens when the right care is available — and what happens when it isn't."

This center came to life through state BHCIP funding, the County of Marin, the Department of Health Care Services, and the generosity of the following partners:

COUNTY OF MARIN

DHCS

DLRGROUP
ARCHITECTURE ENGINEERING PLANNING INTERIORS

DOVETAIL
Construction Project Management

McDevitt
CONSTRUCTION
PARTNERS

"Today we cut a ribbon; tomorrow we open the door to recovery.

CHRIS KUGHN, CEO BUCKELEW PROGRAMS

A New Kind of Care



HOUSING for HOPE

We're proud to be part of the solution when it comes to Sonoma County's critical shortage of sober living beds. Our newest project, Housing for Hope, is a partnership with the County of Sonoma, Gallaher Companies, and Poppy Bank. The first of its kind to leverage Opioid Settlement Funds, these homes will support men in recovery with dedicated space for fathers with young children. Ongoing support will help break generational cycles of substance use and keep families together.

With this project, we are laying the foundation for the safe, stable housing our community desperately needs.

sonomacounty DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

POPPY BANK

GALLAHER COMPANIES

Thank you to our supporters: Celebrate Community Partnership, Gallaher Community Housing, Bill and Cindy Gallaher, Robinwood Foundation, Dennis and Becca Ryan, Sutter Health

Want to help fill these homes with love?
Visit our registry to send a housewarming gift:
Buckelew.org/housing-for-hope













A Mother's Strength

"Every time I go to the group, I learn something from another member," says Valeria*, who joined Buckelew's Survivors of Suicide support group two years ago. "There is a sense of safety, to be able to trust that you can share your story and be uplifted and cared for."

Valeria's son, Rafael*, would have turned 25 this year. He was a bright light not only to his family, but to everyone in their community. "He was smart and strong, and a hero to his little brother," says Valeria. "He had a lot to offer, and he accomplished so much."

Rafael died by suicide in 2023. Valeria spent the following year trying everything to help process her unbearable grief: talk therapy, psychiatry, spiritual counsel. Then a friend told her about Buckelew's SOS group. She decided it was worth a try and joined the group for Spanish speakers.



When she first joined, she could not stop crying. Yet she always left feeling validated and accepted. In the group, Valeria found relief from the unspoken pressure she often felt to be 'further along' in her grief.

Now, as part of her personal healing, she helps others through their own grief. She also encourages all parents to learn about the mental health resources available in their area, and to know the warning signs of suicide.

"I'm sharing my story because I think it will have a ripple effect, where other mothers feel hope. I want them to see what lies on the other side of grief. That you can move through it, and there is recuperation."

Names changed for privacy

Read Valeria's full story at:
Buckelew.org/Meet-Valeria

Buckelew's **Suicide Prevention Programs** provides outreach, education, and peer-to-peer support for those impacted by suicide loss. Our team offers trainings throughout the community; visiting schools, businesses, nonprofits, and other groups. Buckelew operates one of California's eleven 988 call centers, part of the national network. Our center responds to calls from Marin, Sonoma, Lake, and Mendocino counties, offering free and vital services to anyone experiencing any level of distress.

By calling or texting 988, individuals are connected with highly trained counselors who provide compassionate support, active listening, and referrals to life-saving resources, including Buckelew's own counseling and substance use treatment programs.

This year, we answered
37,000 calls
on the 988 Lifeline.



Finding His Footing

After a severe mental health reaction to medication, Jason was hospitalized and then enrolled in residential treatment. In treatment, he learned to build emotional regulation and mindfulness practices, taking steps toward regaining stability.

Coming home, however, meant facing multiple challenges at once: “I was trying to navigate housing, school, and my mental health,” says Jason. “Trying to secure work and take care of my four kids. I wasn’t familiar with how to navigate any of that.”

He met Vernon, one of Buckelew’s System Navigators, on campus at Santa Rosa Junior College. Vernon helped Jason build his resume, keep his mental health appointments on track, and set up weekly reviews of his goals and progress. Slowly, all the pieces Jason was juggling came together. His health stabilized, his finances steadied, and his grades climbed.

“I didn’t understand how I would benefit from Buckelew, but the longer I stayed connected, the more I adjusted to what they had to offer. They were supportive of me from the beginning.”

Read Jason’s full story at:
Buckelew.org/Meet-Jason

Buckelew’s Service Navigation programs connect individuals experiencing behavioral health challenges, and their loved ones, with essential resources tailored to their unique needs.

Family Service Coordination (FSC) offers support, navigation, education, and advocacy for supporters of individuals with behavioral health challenges.

inRESPONSE Mental Health Support Team is a collaborative crisis-response team responding to calls with a mental health-first approach. The Buckelew-led team is comprised of a licensed mental health clinician, a paramedic, a homeless outreach specialist, and wrap-around support services providers. inRESPONSE diverts calls from traditional police response and hospitals, working collaboratively with FSC to provide follow-up care.

Collaborative Treatment and Recovery Team (CTRT) supports first-time behavioral health services clients to gain and maintain their independence in the community.

Transition Age Youth (TAY) program provides young adults ages 18-25 with supportive housing and mental health services designed for their unique developmental needs.

More than **700** individuals and their loved ones received Service Navigation support.

55 YEARS Buckelew Programs

55 Years of Buckelew

In November 1970, Murray and Harriet Richards had a revolutionary idea: a safe place where people with mental health diagnoses could be cared for with dignity, instead of living in isolation. They modeled this new program after a traditional halfway house and named it Buckelew Farms, in honor of the settler on whose land the house was built.



The first residents, all young women including the Richards' own daughter, moved into the house in early 1971. It was Marin County's first community-based facility of its kind, planting seeds that would grow into something far greater than the Richards might have imagined.

Fifty-five years later, Buckelew Programs has blossomed into a life-changing network of support. Today, Buckelew serves more than 30,000 people annually across four counties, providing a robust continuum of care that meets the ever-evolving needs of our community.

We are so grateful to the donors and partners who support us as we continue the work that Murray and Harriet started long ago.

Learn more about our history at: Buckelew.org/55years

A Steady Rhythm

Music is a big part of Chris's daily routine. He picked up a guitar at fifteen and taught himself to play by ear, channeling blues legends like Stevie Ray Vaughan and Robben Ford. "That's one thing about music: there aren't limitations if I keep working at it," says Chris.

Chris was in his twenties and experiencing a difficult period at home when he received his first mental health diagnosis. In the years since, he's moved through several programs across the North Bay, learning to manage his mental health while holding onto what matters most to him: his guitar, his singing, and his family relationships.

He has found stability in Buckelew's Supported Housing, which he calls his favorite program yet. Here, he's developed a steady routine: staying on top of his medication, checking in with his case manager, and joining weekly peer groups. He's built positive relationships with his housemates and support staff, and has an equally positive outlook. **"Mental illness is nothing to be ashamed of. It's just a diagnosis, just like any other disease. So, I keep working on my recovery."**

He still plays every chance he gets, recording videos and jamming with a fellow resident. His mother visits often, and their trips to a favorite Chinese restaurant have become a cherished tradition.

Looking ahead, Chris hopes to keep building on his progress and, one day, find a place of his own.

Read Chris' full story at:
Buckelew.org/Meet-Chris

Over **600** individuals received Supported Housing services.



Stable housing, combined with personalized case management, is the foundation for lasting recovery and independence.

Buckelew's **Supported Housing** programs meet clients wherever they are, offering a full continuum of care that ranges from intensive, short-term crisis support to the light-touch guidance of independent living. As needs change, our level of support changes with them; always focused on helping clients remain stably housed, healthy, and happy.

This flexible model breaks cycles of homelessness, hospitalization, and incarceration by treating housing not as an endpoint, but as the ground our clients stand on while they rebuild everything else. The result is more than a roof: it's the confidence and independence to build a fulfilling life.



When I first started therapy, I was overwhelmed and didn't really know what to expect. Looking back now, I can honestly say I've grown so much. Ana has challenged me in ways I needed while always making me feel supported, and I'm really grateful for that. I still have work to do, but I'm in a much different place than I was a year and a half ago.

MIRA*, BUCKELEW COUNSELING CLIENT

**Name changed for privacy*

Buckelew's **Counseling Services** provide compassionate, culturally responsive care for individuals, couples, families, and groups across Marin and Sonoma counties. Our licensed and pre-licensed clinicians offer a full spectrum of support, from psychotherapy and psychological assessments to specialized care for co-occurring mental health and substance use conditions.

Care is available in-person, via telehealth, and bilingually, meeting clients where they are. Rooted in cultural humility and lived experience, our approach centers each client's own path toward healing, backed by evidence-based practices that reflect both clinical rigor and genuine understanding.

200 individuals received

3,073 counseling sessions to help support and stabilize their mental health.



Five Years of B4B!

For the fifth year running, Bike + Hike 4 Buckelew was a sold-out success, bringing together people of every age and background to move and connect outdoors. Together we biked, hiked, stretched, danced, and celebrated our wonderful community!

Proceeds from this year's event will help to fund personal enrichment activities for the individuals in Buckelew's housing programs. Opportunities like equine therapy, yoga and art classes, a day at Oracle Park, and a summertime picnic at McNears Beach all help our residents thrive in their recovery.

We hope to see you at B4B 2027!

Learn more at **Bike4Buckelew.org**











Community Partners and Supporters

We are so grateful for the generous support of our donors, foundations, corporations, collaborative partners, and community members.

Advocates for Human Potential
Aliados Health
American Endowment Foundation
Aurora Signature Health
Bank of America Charitable Gift Fund
Bauer Associates, Inc.
Bella Vista Foundation (aka GGS Foundation)
Bingham, Osborn & Scarborough Foundation
Burbank Housing
Capital Bridge Partners
CASRA
Catholic Charities of Northwest CA
Celebrate Community Partnership
CHC: Creating Healthier Communities
Chevron YourCause Matching Gift Program
Church of the Nativity
City of Santa Rosa
Comforts Restaurant
Community Foundation Sonoma County
County of Marin and Marin Behavioral Health
County of Napa and Napa County Health and Human Service Agency
County of Sonoma and Sonoma County Department of Health Services
DAFgiving360
Dan Bavosa Community Volunteer Award Endowment Fund
Dave Moss Case Management Services
DKM Investments
Dovetail Project Management
EAH Housing
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
ExtraFood
Fairmont Sonoma Mission Inn & Spa
Faith Tattoo
Family Service Agency Endowment Fund
Feibusch Foundation
Fidelity Charitable
Flamingo Resort & Spa
ForeMeta Coaching
Gallaher Community Housing
Gallaher Companies
George H. Sandy Foundation
Giving Marin Community Partnership
Greater Horizons
Grey Family Foundation
Healthcare Foundation Northern Sonoma County
Healthy Petaluma District and Foundation
Hidden Coast Tattoo
Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation
Humanidad Therapy and Education Services
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
John Jay Hopkins Foundation
Julia L. Grant Fund for Basic Needs at Community Foundation Sonoma County
Kaiser Permanente Northern California Community Benefit Programs
Kebok Foundation
Lindskog Foundation
LMNT
Marianne and Albert Figen Foundation
Marin Charitable
Marin Community Foundation
Marin Cyclists
Marin Lutheran Church
Marin Museum of Bicycling
Marin Sanitary Service
MarinHealth
McDevitt Construction Partners, Inc.
Mechanics Bank
Mike's Bikes
Montecito Plaza Shopping Center
Morgan Stanley
MSB Charitable Fund
National Philanthropic Trust
Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation
Ophthalmic Mutual Insurance Company (OMIC)
Pan-Med Enterprises LP
Partnership HealthPlan of California
PayPal Giving Fund
Petaluma Health Center
Petaluma Police Department
Petaluma Valley Rotary Trust
Petaluma Tattoo
PG&E Employee Workplace Giving
Poppy Bank
Press Democrat
Providence
Redwood Credit Union
Redwood Empire Food Bank
Relevant Wealth Advisors
Robinwood Foundation
San Francisco Foundation
San Rafael High School "Bike Dawgs" Mountain Bike Team
San Rafael High School Hiking Class
Santa Rosa Behavioral Healthcare Hospital
Santa Rosa Fire Department
Santa Rosa Police Department
Schwab Charitable
Seagate Properties
Silverado Foundation
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange
Sonoma Clean Power
Sonoma County Office of Education
Sonoma County Pride
Sonoma County Sheriff Department — MADF
Spieltel Properties, LLC
Sutter Health
Tam High Mountain Bike Race Team
Team Ghilotti Inc.
Terra Linda High School Moutain Bike Club
The Bike Shop at REI Corte Madera
The Blackbaud Giving Fund
The Bunnie & Jerome Sachs Family Foundation
The Charles D. and Frances K. Field Fund
The Joseph and Vera Long Foundation
The New Wheel
The Party Queen
The Sacred Order
The Swenson Group
Thebuildingblocks.inc
Third Arm Marketing
Tommy Breeze Studios LLC
Unicorn Group
United Markets
United Way
Vanguard Charitable
Vibrant Emotional Health
Weaver's Coffee & Tea
WestAmerica Bank
YourCause

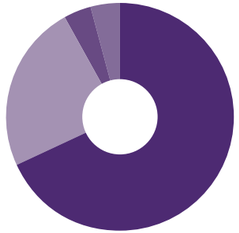
"Healthy Petaluma is committed to ensuring our community has access to the full range of care it needs, including behavioral health. We are proud to support Buckelew Programs' vital services for residents facing life's most difficult moments.

RAMONA FAITH,
CEO HEALTHY PETALUMA

Financials — Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

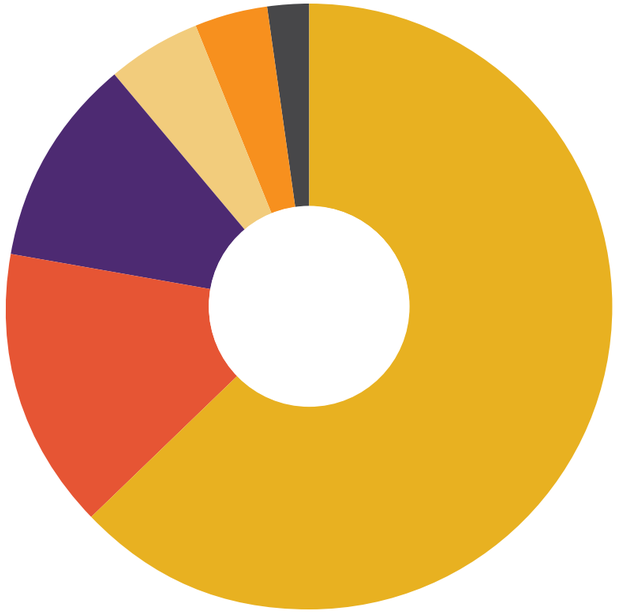
Revenue TOTAL = $27,419,852

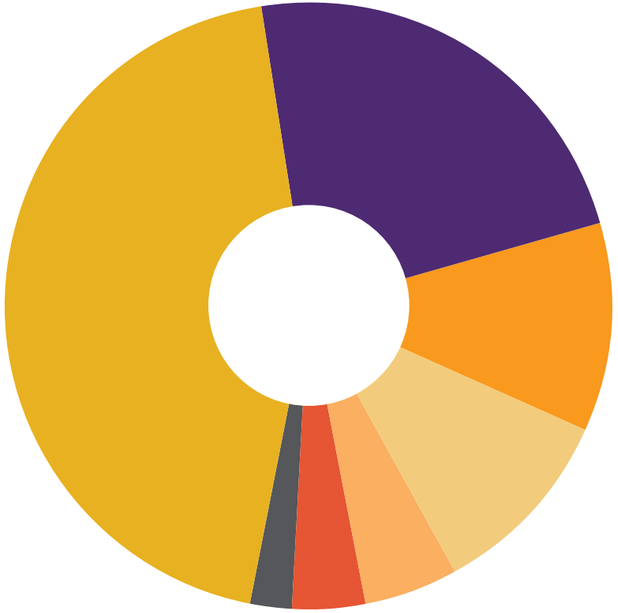
- County (Marin, Sonoma, Lake and Mendocino) **63%**
- State **15%**
- Charitable Giving **11%**
- Client Fees **5%**
- Managed Care* **4%**
- Federal **2%**



Charitable Giving by Source

- Individuals **69%**
- Foundations **24%**
- Corporations **4%**
- Events **4%**





Expenses TOTAL = $25,168,776

- Supported Housing **44%**
- Recovery / Substance Use Treatment **23%**
- Administration **11%**
- Suicide Prevention **10%**
- Service Navigation **5%**
- Fundraising **4%**
- Counseling **3%**

We depend on the generous support from individuals, foundations and corporations to meet the full fiscal obligation of our programming and to continue delivering high-quality services to people living with mental health and substance use challenges.

Full financials available on our website and available on request.

*Managed Care includes Partnership, Medi-Cal, and other private contract payments.
Amounts include gifts and new pledges. They do not include pledge payments on previously reported pledges. Report subject to audit.

Buckelew Programs Senior Management Team

Chris Kughn, LMFT
Chief Executive Officer

Lyudmila Aronova
Fractional Chief Financial Officer

Teresa Bowman
Regional Director of Substance Use Services, Marin County

Laurel Collier
Chief Operating Officer

Sylvie V. De La Cruz
Regional Director of Substance Use Services, Sonoma County

Pat Gallagher
Chief Philanthropy Officer

Nori Keppel
Head of People

Erika Klohe, LCSW
Regional Director of Behavioral Health, Sonoma County

Connie Mann, LMFT
Regional Director of Behavioral Health, Marin County and Suicide Prevention Program

Grace St. Clair, MS-HCA, JD
Director of Quality and Compliance

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Buckelew.org

Buckelew.Programs

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Platinum Transparency 2025 Candid.

CALL 988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE

Buckelew Programs is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID# 23-7088977



I feel a lot more empowered now.
I know my self-worth.

LAVENDER, ATHENA HOUSE ALUMNA

Read Lavender's story and more on our website:
Buckelew.org/Meet-Lavender