



MUSICARES®



23/24

ANNUAL REVIEW

from August 1, 2023 – July 31, 2024

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First launched in 2020, MusiCares' annual Wellness in Music Survey aims to highlight the most pressing challenges facing music professionals, in real-time. The resulting data informs our programs and services each year, thereby helping ensure MusiCares provides the best possible support for the community we serve.

In response to feedback on previous surveys and following a comprehensive review, the 2024 iteration was fully revamped. Improvements focused on five areas:

COMPARABILITY: Refined questions for better comparison with existing national surveys

ATTRIBUTION: Added questions to clarify attribution (e.g. causes of stress)

INTEREST IN MUSICARES SERVICES: Added questions and clarity on which MusiCares services were of most interest

TOURING: Added additional questions related to touring, time on tour, and income from touring

REDUNDANCIES: Reduced questions that consistently had similar responses in the last three years or were superfluous

The resulting 2024 survey was comprised of 84 total questions covering topics such as finances and income levels, physical health, insurance coverage, mental health, and the sustainability of a career in music.

Respondents reflected dozens of professions and genres across the music industry, in addition to geographic locations throughout the United States and abroad.

The 2024 survey received a total of nearly 2,800 responses in both English and Spanish.

Here's what we learned...

KEY FINDING #1: FINANCIAL INSECURITY CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR CONCERN

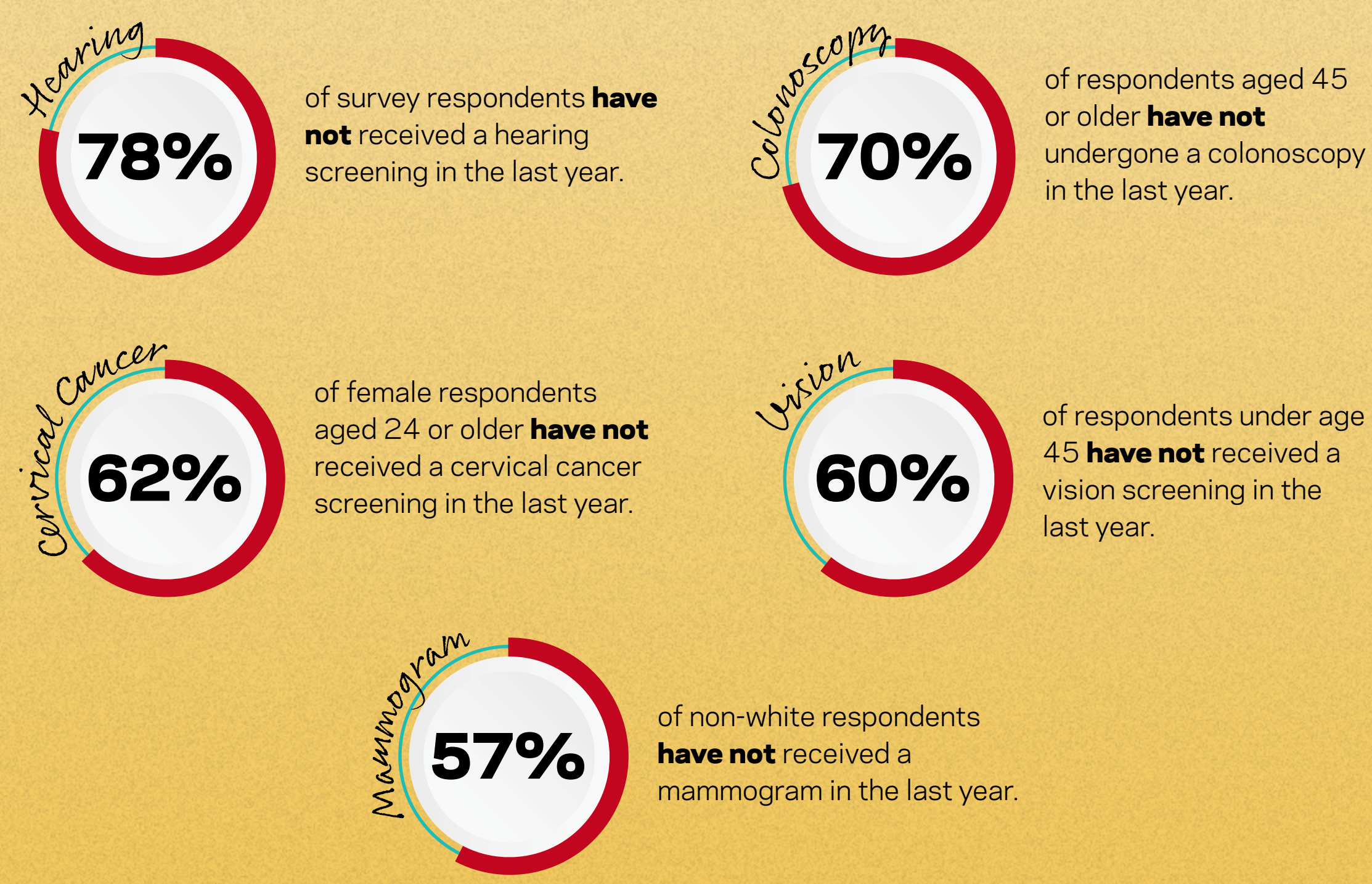
It is clear financial insecurity, and any associated strain, impacts all areas of respondents’ lives. These results highlight a few of the unique challenges music professionals face, as they must grapple with additional layers of instability due to their work in the industry.



KEY FINDING #2: LOW ACCESS TO PREVENTIVE CARE SERVICES

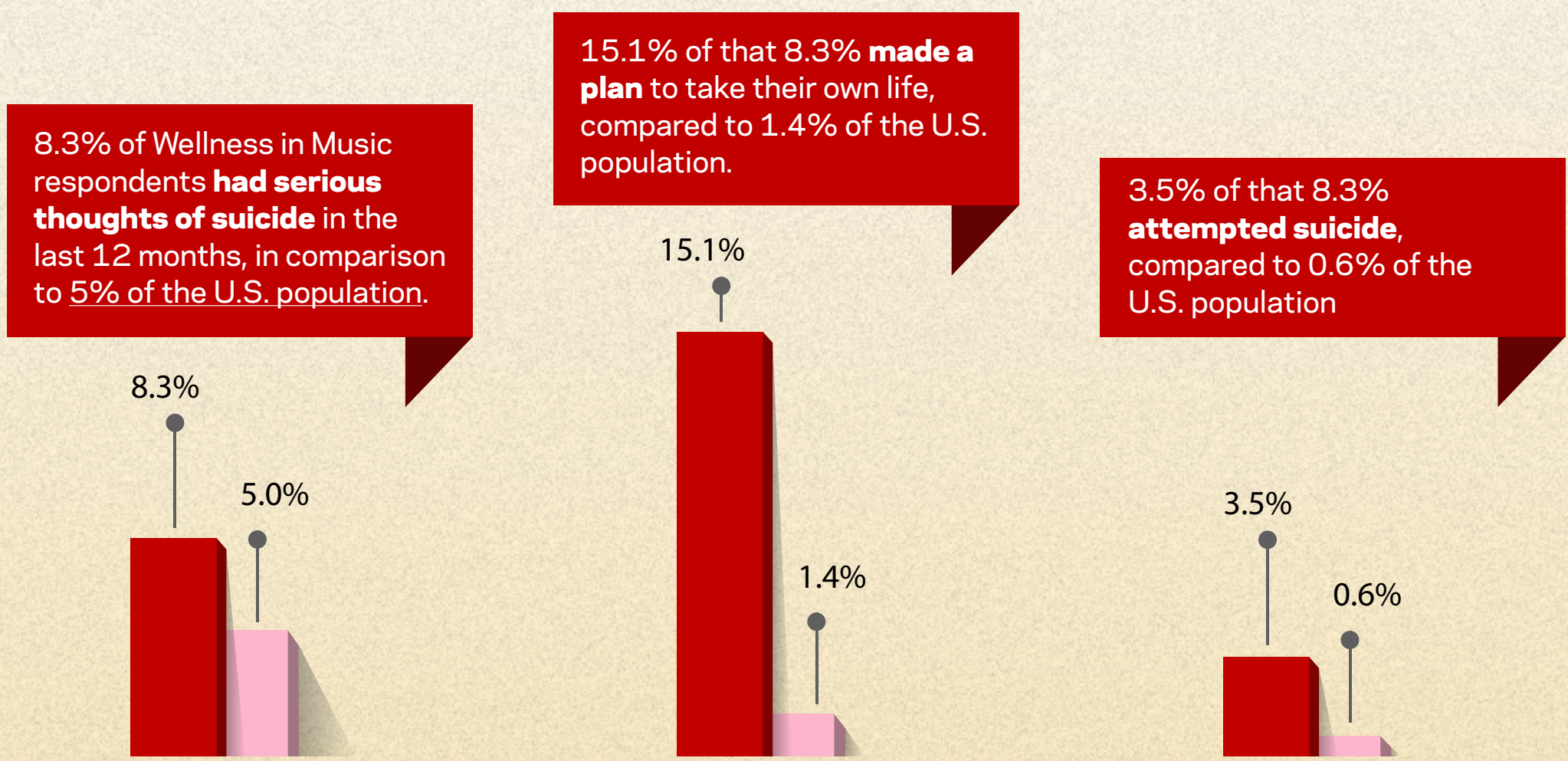
While 87% of Wellness in Music survey respondents reported having health insurance (compared to 93% of the U.S. population), only a little over half (54%) have dental insurance. Affordability remains a major barrier to insurance coverage, with most respondents stating they do not have health or dental insurance because they cannot afford it.

Subsequently, respondents are not sufficiently accessing age and gender appropriate preventive screening and care services, with some communities reporting even lower access rates than general respondents. The below findings further emphasize the need for and impact of MusiCares’ preventive care clinics.



KEY FINDING #3: URGENT NEED TO INCREASE AWARENESS OF SUICIDE PREVENTION

Survey respondents were asked whether they had serious thoughts of suicide in the last 12 months. Those who answered yes were then asked if they had made a plan or attempted suicide in the same time frame.

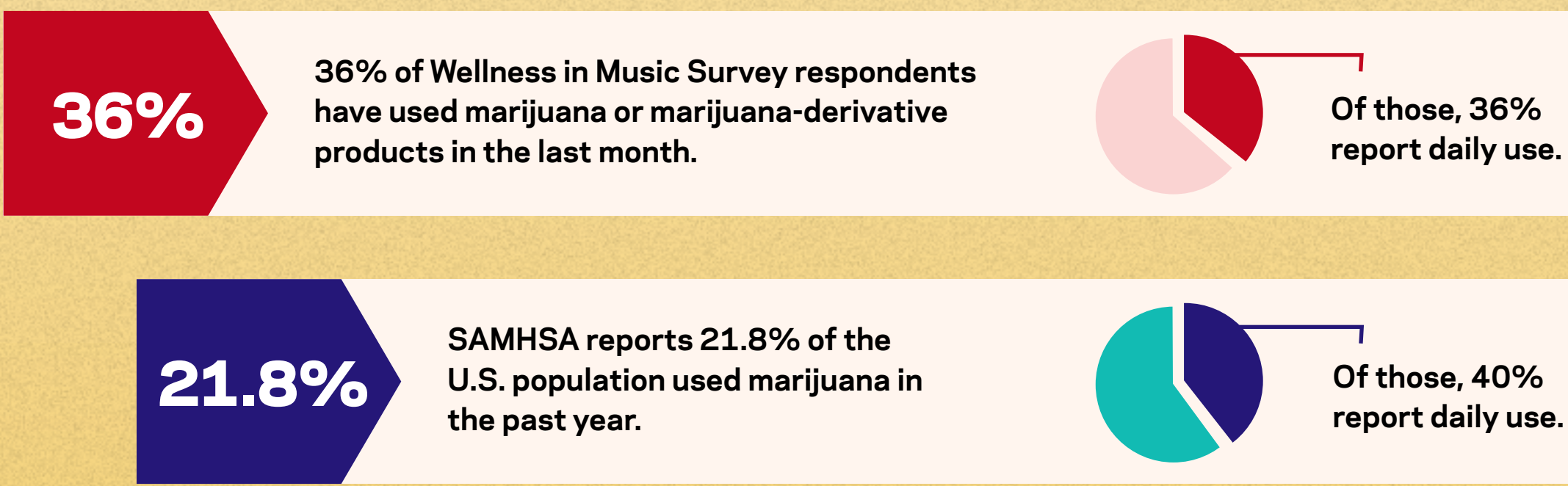


While our survey data is an important data point and aligns to additional evidence, the rates of suicidal ideation within the music community is an urgent and essential area for additional research.

MusiCares is not a crisis nor suicide prevention hotline organization. However, MusiCares is committed to increasing awareness of suicide prevention through education, access to mental health support, and amplification of efforts by crisis response organizations.

KEY FINDING #4: MARIJUANA USE IS GROWING

One of the key findings of the 2024 Wellness in Music Survey reflected similar shifts seen in the U.S. population: significant growth in marijuana usage.



Although the frequency of marijuana usage among Wellness in Music survey respondents is lower than the US population, the proportion of respondents using marijuana is 14% higher than the general population.

Extensive evidence demonstrates that marijuana users do not recognize addictive patterns in the same way they are seen with other substances. While more people still drink alcohol than use marijuana, secondary analysis of SAMHSA’s U.S. population survey data finds marijuana usage patterns have shifted in similarity from alcohol to cigarettes. MusiCares recognizes opportunities for increased education on marijuana usage and associated programming initiatives.

“ I received treatment for alcohol, and it saved my life. One thing missing from that experience is not just a MusiCares issue, but a treatment issue in general. Getting sober is one thing, getting your life back together is another.

My taxes were completely out of whack, I had medical debt from detoxes, no job history for a little while...etc. The hallmarks on paper of a person who went through a traumatic experience. However, post treatment, there is little to no help for regaining structure in these areas of life.

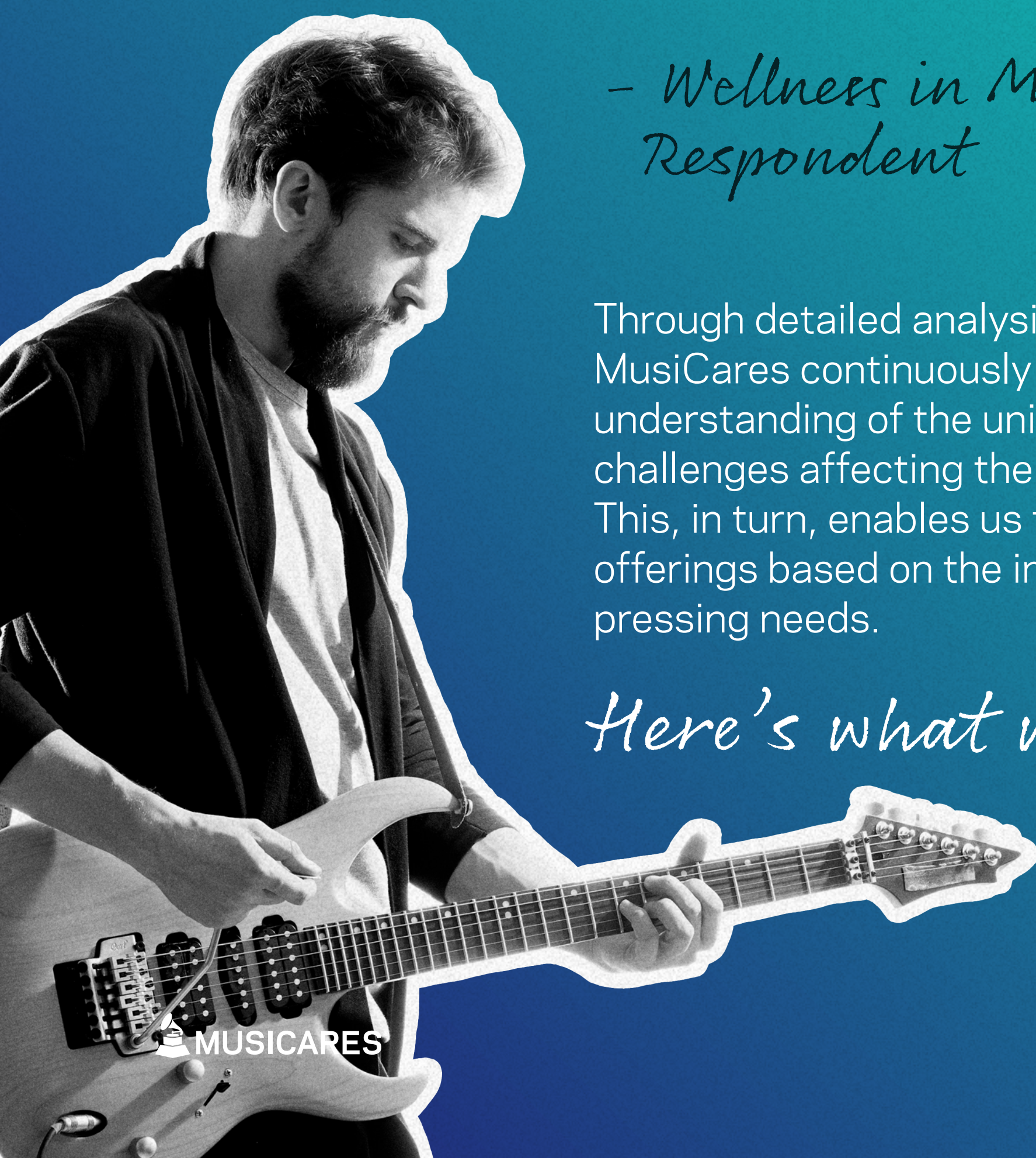
How do you get a job again if addiction destroyed your contacts?

Who do you [contact to] settle years of tax debt with the IRS?

– Wellness in Music Survey Respondent

Through detailed analysis of the results, MusiCares continuously develops a better understanding of the unique blend of challenges affecting the music community. This, in turn, enables us to adjust our service offerings based on the industry's most pressing needs.

Here's what we did...



NEW SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: FINANCIAL WELLNESS

With nearly seven in ten survey respondents noting they do not believe they can comfortably cover their expenses through their work in music alone, MusiCares recognized the significance of financial strain on the lives of music makers. To further empower our community through topical initiatives, we launched two new programs focusing on money management, in addition to our ongoing Tax Tips for Musicians webinar series.

1:1 FINANCIAL COACHING ➔

In collaboration with Life’s Jam, eligible music professionals can access two free, one-on-one financial coaching sessions with a certified financial coach. During the sessions, individuals will identify pain points and develop a manageable plan to reach their specific financial goals, thereby increasing their confidence in their overall financial health.

YNAB APP SUBSCRIPTION ➔

In partnership with YNAB, (You Need A Budget), eligible music professionals can receive a free, one year subscription to the simple and accessible money management tool. YNAB guides spending decisions through a simple set of habits, and has taught millions of people to spend, save, and give without guilt or second-guessing. Individuals can also access free blogs, workshops and community groups that further support their goals to empower and sustain financial health.

TAX TIPS FOR MUSICIANS: FAQs

MusiCares partnered with tax expert Keila Hill-Trawick, founder of Little Fish Accounting, to host a virtual seminar providing tax tips to music professionals. Keila helped music professionals understand the complexities of business taxes by answering some of the most frequently asked questions she receives from music professionals during tax season.

Watch
now



“I wish there was a way for touring personnel to get health insurance that covered us in all states without paying hundreds of dollars a month. I’m lucky, I can afford it, but I know so many touring people who just don’t have it because it’s so expensive.”

– Wellness in Music Survey Respondent

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: PREVENTIVE CARE CLINICS

Even as most survey respondents reported having some form of health insurance, the subsequent actual uptake in preventive screenings and care were extremely low. Recognizing the ongoing need for greater access to these services, MusiCares facilitated more than 100 clinic activations during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, enabling over 3,300 music professionals to prioritize their physical well-being at no cost to themselves.

BI-ANNUAL CLINIC CALENDAR

MusiCares offers preventive care clinic services throughout the year, operating on a bi-annual clinic model so eligible individuals have at least two opportunities to access care.

Spring Offerings

- **March:** Vision
- **April:** Music Pros As Athletes
- **May:** Dental

Fall Offerings

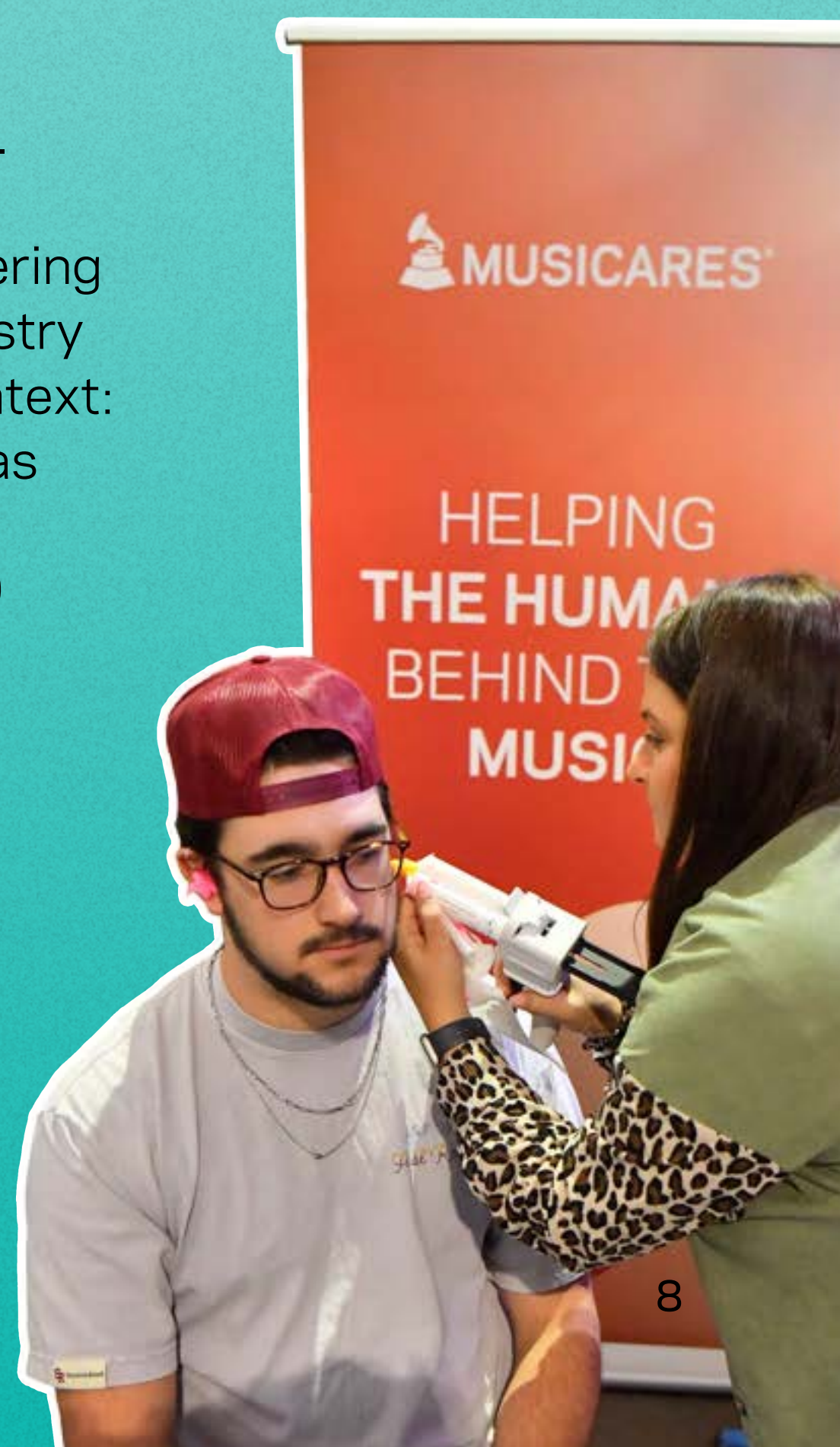
- **September:** Vision
- **October:** Music Pros As Athletes
- **November:** Dental

HEARING HEALTH INITIATIVES

Over three quarters of survey respondents did not receive a hearing screening in the last year.

These findings, while concerning when considering the impacts on career longevity for music industry professionals, are even more frightening in context: nearly twelve percent of the U.S. population has permanent hearing loss, and the World Health Organization estimates by 2050 1 in every 10 people will have disabling hearing loss.

From offering custom ear-molds at festivals across the country, to access to specialized audiology services through our partnership with Tuned, MusiCares is at the forefront in the fight to dial down the decibels and preserve our community’s hearing health.



SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: MENTAL HEALTH CARE

When we talk about the well-being of the music community, we don't just mean their physical or financial wellness. Mental health is another form of preventive care. With financial assistance grants available to supplement costs for therapy as well as weekly virtual support groups, MusiCares ensures music professionals can prioritize their mental health.

IN-PERSON ACTIVATIONS

With the launch of new in-person activations like Mindful May and Breakroom Oasis, MusiCares is providing unique opportunities for our industry to connect and build community, regardless of an individual's location.



Watch
now



Watch
now

Thank you to our sponsor, Sweetwater, whose generosity made Mindful May possible.

SERVICE SPOTLIGHT: ADDICTION RECOVERY SUPPORT

As the only organization that can provide 30 days of in-patient care and detox, MusiCares is proud to consistently offer quality, comprehensive recovery options to the music community. However, recovery is a journey best not walked alone; it requires a robust support system comprised of people who can celebrate your successes and lift you up in moments of struggle. To strengthen the system for our community, MusiCares increased access to in-patient addiction recovery treatment and sober living options, as well as virtual accountability coaching.

**GAMBIT RECOVERY
SOBER LIVING**

Gambit Recovery takes a holistic approach, focusing on treating the whole person—mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually—while fostering a sense of community and connection to minimize the risk of relapse. Tom Fay, the co-founder, is consistently helpful in assessing whether our clients would be a good fit for their program. Referring our clients to Gambit ensures they receive a supportive and comprehensive recovery experience.

**YOU ARE ACCOUNTABLE
COACHING**

You Are Accountable's services bridge the gap between treatment and long-term recovery, empowering our clients while offering support without making them feel monitored or controlled. You Are Accountable provides peer support, drug and alcohol monitoring using Bluetooth-enabled breathalyzers, and random video-observed drug testing, ensuring accountability while reducing stigma within families.

A COMMUNITY IN CRISIS: LONELINESS & FOSTERING CONNECTION

Data from the Tour Health Research Initiative's Touring Health and Wellness Survey 2020 found touring professionals “demonstrated elevated levels of suicidality, risk for clinical depression, stress, anxiety and burnout.” Results also indicated the suicide rate for musicians is on par with that of the military.

Furthermore, the U.S. Surgeon General reported in 2023 the United States is already in the midst of a loneliness epidemic, which only serves to exacerbate the risk of suicide. While it is far from the only cause, extensive research has drawn clear links between social isolation and death by suicide.

“Social isolation is arguably the strongest and most reliable predictor of suicidal ideation, attempts, and lethal suicidal behavior among samples varying in age, nationality, and clinical severity.”

– 2010 Study, “The Interpersonal Theory of Suicide”

THE HIGH NOTES: DOING GOOD TOGETHER

In light of the above data, fostering connection and community has been a particular priority for MusiCares. The Tour Health Research Initiative highlighted protective factors against suicide for music professionals could include enhancing mindfulness and emotional/social well-being. Similarly, the Surgeon General emphasized that by simply finding ways to connect with our community, we can slowly begin to turn the tide against loneliness.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: THE DAY THAT MUSIC CARES

On April 26, 2024, the music community embraced the second annual Day That Music Cares. More than a campaign, this movement mobilizes music professionals and fans to come together and volunteer for a cause close to their hearts. MusiCares knows one of the best ways to combat loneliness is through connection and community. Through our outreach, we shared the importance of service with our communities and emphasized its mental and social health benefits.



**Over 2,500
volunteers
worldwide**



**Over 1,000 social
media posts &
videos shared by
volunteers**



Thank you to our supporter:



And thank you iHeartIMPACT for in-kind media support.

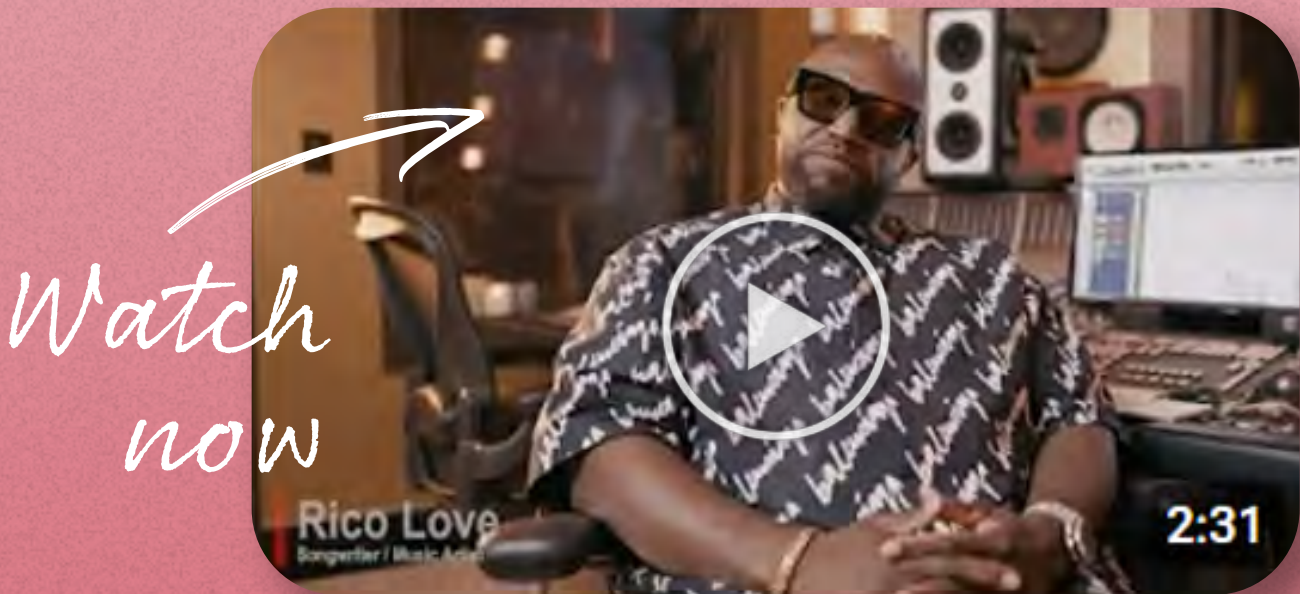
PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT: HUMANS OF HIP HOP (H3)

MusiCares’ flagship initiative, Humans of Hip Hop (H3) supported by Vivid Seats and Amazon Music Rotation, has seen enormous success in its first year. Launched to increase our reach and support to the hip hop community, H3 has served as a springboard for connection and dialogue.

During our most recent fiscal year, more than **700 Hip Hop professionals** across the country have joined H3 events in Atlanta, Washington D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago, Los Angeles, Oakland, and Detroit. Featuring panelists such as Common, Saweetie, Lupe Fiasco, Rico Love, Young Dro, and so many more, conversations have covered a variety of topics from mental health and trauma to iconic women and the legacy of the genre.

Additionally, MusiCares provided more than **\$1.3 million in financial assistance** through H3 in FY 23-24.

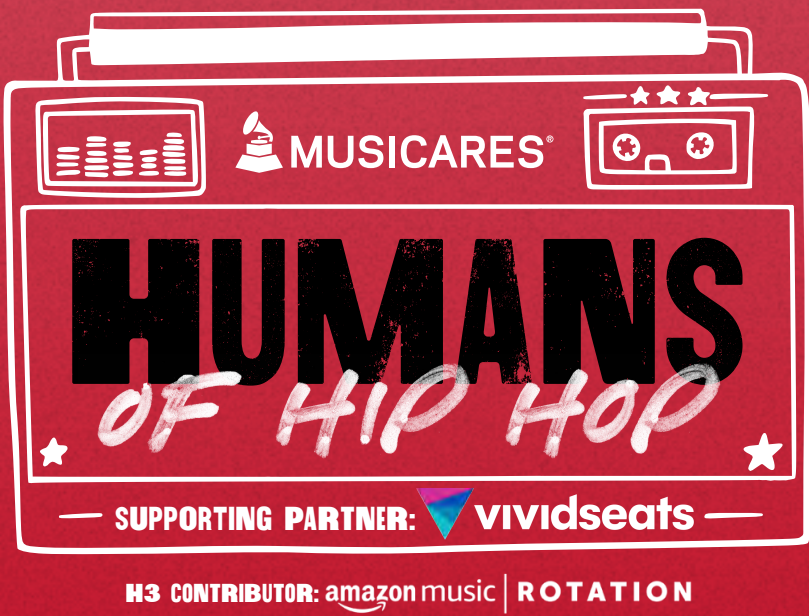
RICO LOVE AND FRENCH MONTANA ON THE IMPORTANCE OF MUSICARES' HUMANS OF HIP HOP INITIATIVE



Our incredible H3 Artist Advocates, Rico Love and French Montana, sat down with MusiCares to discuss the importance of our Humans of Hip Hop initiative and MusiCares’ critical support for the hip hop community.

UPHOLD 31:8 & HUMANS OF HIP HOP PRESENT: GOODFELLAZ

One of the critical services MusiCares offers is free, inclusive, virtual resources and opportunities to connect with others in the music community who uniquely understand your wellness concerns. In partnership with Gary Taylor, LCSW, Goodfellaz is a virtual, safe communal space for Black men working in music to connect, vent, and heal.



“ At Vivid Seats we understand how shared experiences connect people and strengthen communities, especially through the power of live music. And as a longstanding supporter of MusiCares, we have seen just how critical their work is to support the humans behind that music. ”

– Stan Chia, CEO of Vivid Seats

MUSICARES + AMAZON MUSIC SHOWCASE: LIVE ON THE LAWN

MusiCares partnered with Amazon Music to put on three free showcases this summer, bringing together artists, creatives, music professionals, and fans.

Performers included Ayoni, Grace Bowers, Lee DeWyze, Kenyon Dixon, Ferg, Sinead Harnett, TA Thomas, Toosii, and Jordan Ward.

Not only did Live on the Lawn showcase the wide array of services MusiCares provides to the music community to hundreds of guests, but also served as a space for the MusiCares community to come together through their shared love of music.





\$5.2 MILLION

distributed to music professionals

681 ACTIVATIONS

supporting music professionals

30,384

total services to the
music community

1,762

customized care
cases



25,262

served through
education and
support groups

3,324

preventive care
clinic visits

FINANCIALS

\$14.0M

TOTAL DOLLARS
RAISED

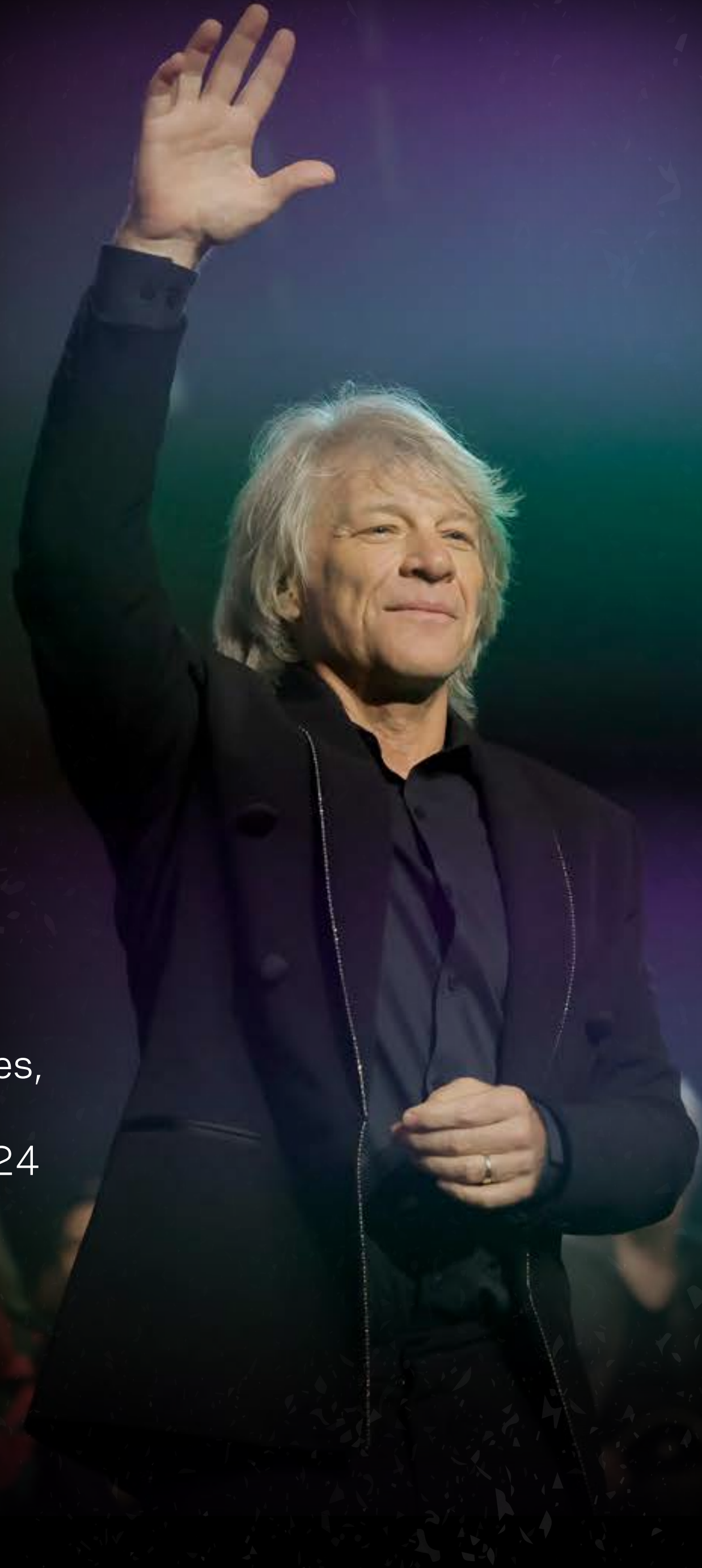
\$4.8M

PERSON OF THE YEAR
NET SURPLUS

Fundraising activities related to sales,
sponsorships, and contributions
connected with the February 2, 2024
gala honoring Jon Bon Jovi

\$8.8M

SPENT ON PROGRAM
SERVICES



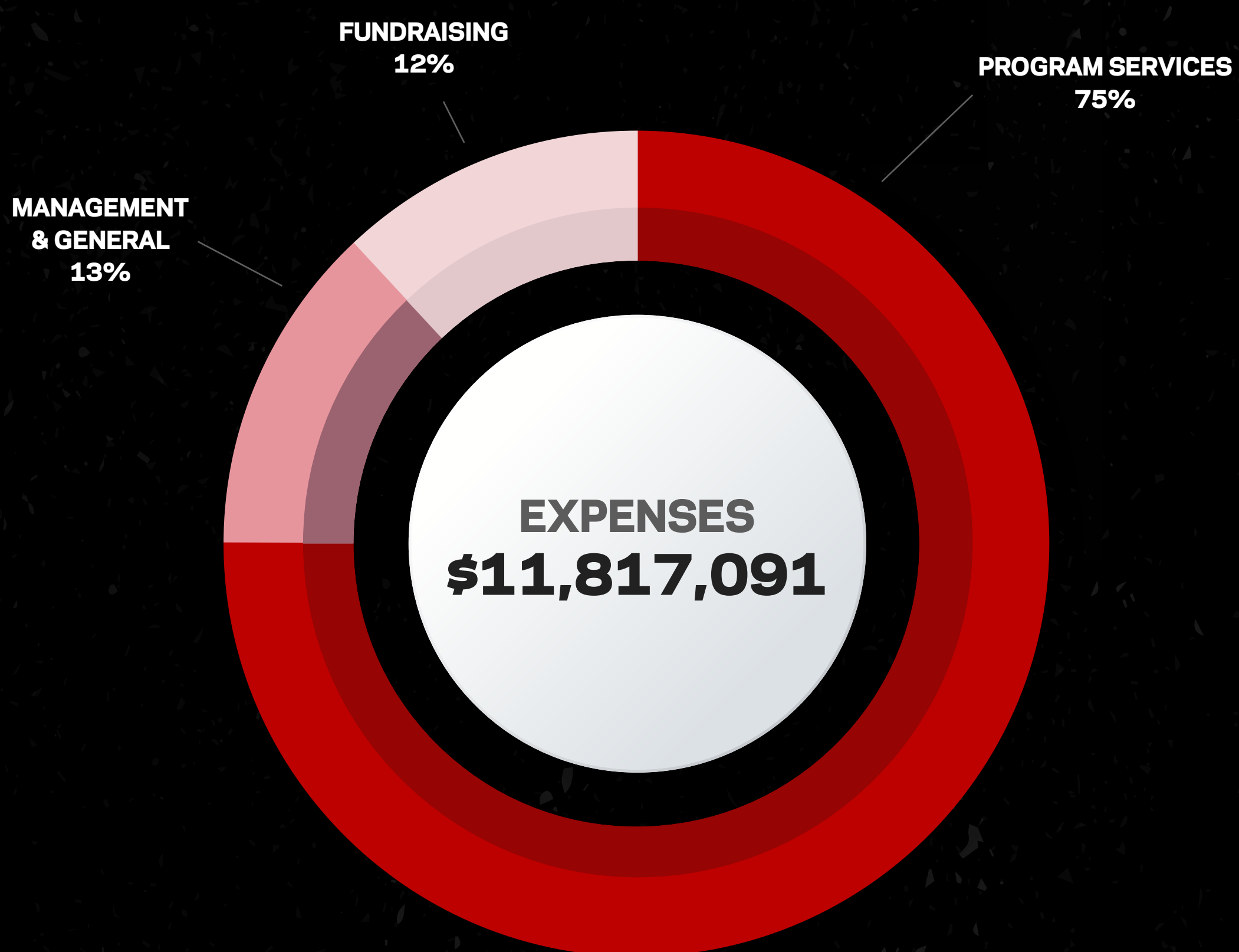
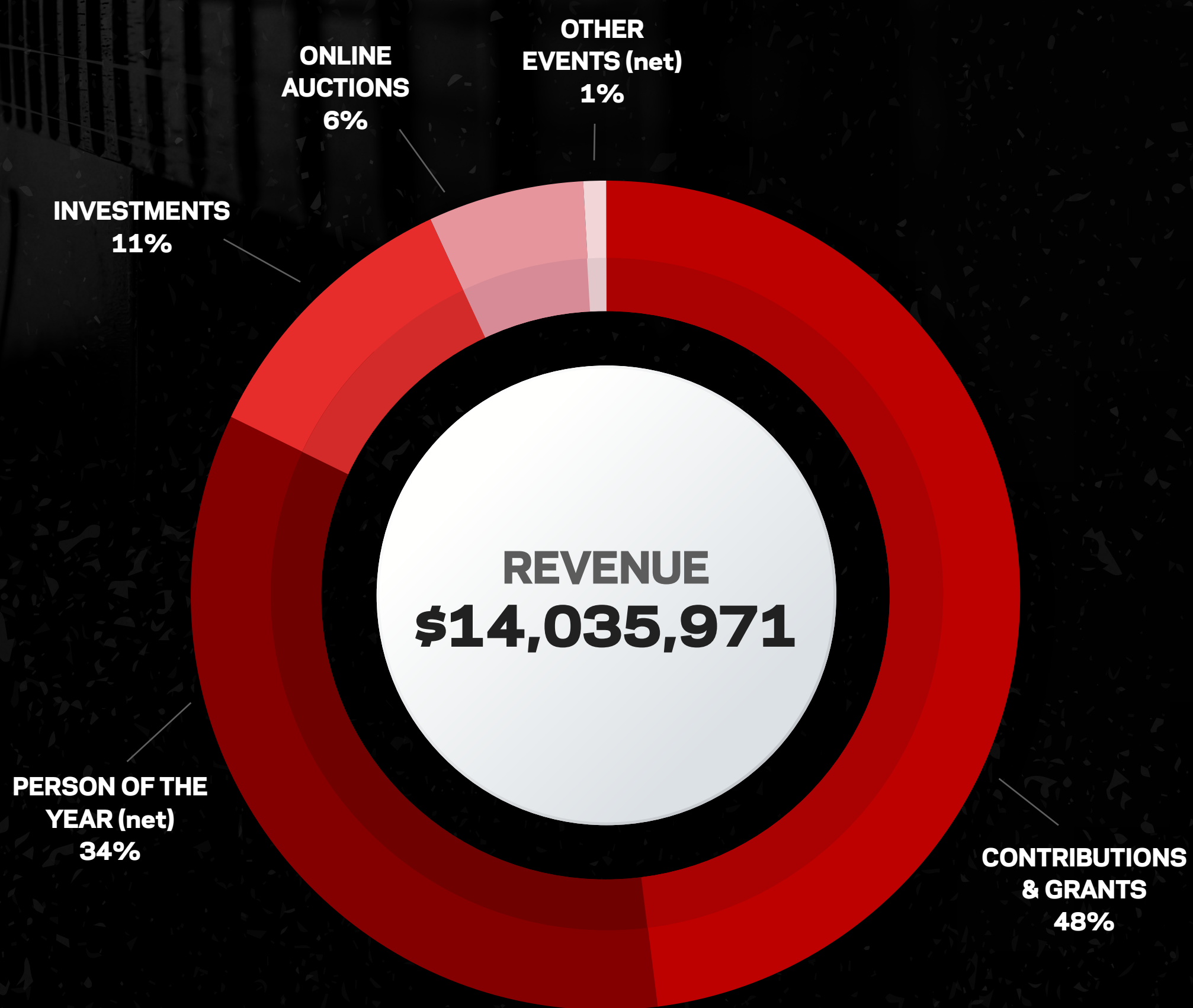
MusiCares’ 35 years of integrity and transparency has earned the trust of donors around the world. All external charity-rating organizations confirm that MusiCares operates a direct philanthropy model, and that supporters may rest assured their donations are used wisely.



Charity Navigator gives MusiCares a 4-star rating and encourages donors to give with confidence.



MusiCares is a Platinum Candid/GuideStar participant, demonstrating the highest level of transparency.



OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the MusiCares Coalition who champion our mission. This united and diverse group of benefactors is made up of leading philanthropists and corporate partners who believe in the healing power of music. The Coalition believes we need to do more than celebrate music. We need to support those who make it.

COALITION

LEADERSHIP LEVEL

- Recording Academy

VISIONARY LEVEL

- Amazon Music
- Sony Music Group
- Universal Music Group
- Warner Music Group

ILLUMINATOR LEVEL

- ASCAP
- Julien's Auctions

CHAMPION LEVEL

- City National Bank
- Hipgnosis Songs Fund
- Ray and Vera Conniff Foundation
- Starbucks
- Vivid Seats
- Rita Wilson & Tom Hanks

PERSON OF THE YEAR 2024 SPONSORS

- AEG
- City National Bank
- ELS STUDIO 3D Premium Audio
- Hilton
- The Kraft Group
- Meta
- Starbucks
- Wasserman Foundation

HUMANS OF HIP HOP SUPPORTERS

- Amazon Music
- Vivid Seats

OUR LEADERSHIP

Harvey Mason jr.
President/CEO

Steve Boom
Chair

Ambrosia Healy
Vice Chair

Jeff Harleston
Secretary/Treasurer

Manuel Abud
Director

Christine Albert
Director

Irving Azoff
Director

Coran Capshaw
Director

Donna Caseine
Director

Phylicia Fant
Director

Ali Harnell
Director

Marty Hom
Director

Tamara Hrivnak
Director

Tammy Hurt
Director

Jeff Jones
Director

Rob Light
Director

Carianne Marshall
Director

Paul “PJ” Morton
Director

Rita Wilson
Director

OUR TEAM

Halen Anderson
Coordinator, Mental Health & Addiction Recovery Services, Health & Human Services

Paul Baker
Manager, Development

Angela Bilkic
Client Manager, Health Services, Health & Human Services

Shannon Bowman
Executive Assistant

Lindsey Burris
Senior Managing Director, Development

Jessica Carmona
Communications Manager, Marketing & Communications

Patrick La Coter
Director of Production, Development

Stefanie Curtiss
Managing Director, Health Services, Health & Human Services

Ryan Donahue
Senior Managing Director, Finance & Operations

Vincent Drushella
Finance Manager, Finance & Operations

David Enos
Staff Accountant, Finance & Operations

Virginia Faddy
Managing Director, Marketing & Communications

Kate Ferber
Digital Communications Manager, Marketing & Communications

Mikaela Freeman
Data & Impact Manager, Administration, Health & Human Services

Jennifer Heaton
Director of Sponsorships, Development

Stephanie Henderson
Client Manager, Health Services, Health & Human Services

Chloe Herbrand
Coordinator, Health Services, Health & Human Services

Sol Iriarte
Social Media Manager, Marketing & Communications

Marshai Iverson
Managing Director, Mental Health & Addiction Recovery Services, Health & Human Services

Kyra James
Content Producer, Marketing & Communications

Wade Johnson Jr.
Director, Community & Outreach, Health & Human Services

Hannah Kulis
Operations Manager, Finance & Operations

Kelly Lamb
Systems & Database Manager, Finance & Operations

Jennifer Leff
Managing Director, Human Services, Health & Human Services

Harvey Mason jr.
CEO

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Myte Sosa
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Emanuel Tekle
Senior Accounting Coordinator, Finance & Operations

Theresa Wolters
Interim Executive Director

Wynn Wynn
Senior Director, Development

Nana Yip
Coordinator, Human Services, Health & Human Services

OUR VISION

MusiCares helps the humans behind music because music gives so much to the world.

Offering preventative, emergency, and recovery programs, MusiCares is a safety net supporting the health and welfare of the music community. Founded by the Recording Academy in 1989 as a U.S. based, independent 501(c)(3) charity, MusiCares safeguards the well-being of all music people through direct financial grant programs, networks of support resources, and tailored crisis relief efforts.

OUR VALUES



Service

We lead with compassion using expertise to offer customized assistance. We believe empathy and kindness within the music community heals all involved.



Integrity

We are committed to our values and follow through on our promises – clients and donors know they are safe with us.



Empowerment

We uplift the voices of those facing their own challenges, creating a safe space to get advice, access resources, and be heard. We want the music community to thrive, not just survive.



Inclusivity

We provide a sense of belonging in a meaningful community, not just an industry. We unify all people behind music with the people who support them.



MUSICARES[®]

