

Celebrating Est. 1970 50 Years & Counting

RHD was founded in 1970 as an organization that would be an agent for social change and guided by its Values. From one program, two employees and a budget of \$50,000, RHD has grown into a national human services organization that has the great privilege of providing care, resources and compassionate services to more than 50,000 people each year in person-centered, trauma-informed programs across the country.

This year we celebrate RHD's remarkable journey, with an eye toward what the next 50 years might bring. What helped build RHD's long and rich history will guide RHD's bright future — a steadfast commitment to upholding the RHD Values and the RHD legacy of excellence in service delivery, by treating people with respect and dignity, and by tailoring services to best meet the needs of the people we serve.

For 50 years and counting, RHD's clients achieve the highest level of independence possible and build their most successful lives; RHD's donors, funders and partners have the greatest impact on their communities; our employees build careers they can be proud of. And when our partners, donors, funders, caring staff, and the individuals we serve all come together to create a community called RHD, we can work together to change people's lives.

Find out more about how RHD is celebrating 50 years of creating and delivering the highest quality services to people of all abilities, and planning for an amazing future, at www.rhd.org/50-years.



'70s



- RHD is founded in 1970 as a single mental health outpatient clinic (Lower Merion Counseling Services) with a \$50,000 grant. RHD has two full-time employees.
- Bert Wolfson, RHD's first Board Chairman, incorporates RHD on April 22, 1970. Wolfson hires Bob Fishman as CEO, and RHD positions itself as an organization that would be an agent for social change and guided by its Values.
- RHD launches New Beginnings Nonprofit Incubator, helping create the world-renowned Please Touch Museum.
- At the forefront of the movement to transition people from institutions into congregate care and eventually into independent living, RHD launches Residential Service Systems (RSS).



'80s



- With the creation of Family House, RHD expands to provide women & children's services, and begins to support a continuum of services for people experiencing homelessness.
- The movement to end institutional settings produces RHD's most aggressive expansion. RHD becomes a leader in providing person-centered services grounded in autonomy, independence and choice for each individual, assisting clients as they work toward meaningful, successful lives in their communities.
- RHD crafts The Bill of Rights and Responsibilities for employees and consumers that will serve as the framework for the culture we strive to create and maintain within RHD.
- By the end of the decade, RHD is trusted as stewards of more than \$10 million in contracts from our government partners.

“
RHD SAVED MY LIFE.
I LOVE IT HERE.”



'90s



- RHD formally establishes the RHD Values that guide the organization. Recognizing that the Values cannot simply exist on paper, RHD begins celebrating its annual Values Day.
- RHD expands to its first state outside Pennsylvania, launching its first program in Louisiana.
- Expansion continues across the nation, as RHD starts programs in Connecticut, Florida and Massachusetts.
- Responding to severe health challenges in underserved communities, RHD creates the Family Practice & Counseling Network and begins to deliver quality health care services. FPCN is recognized as an innovator and a model for integrated care.
- RHD changes the face of its day services by launching creative arts programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.



'00s



- RHD establishes itself as a national human services nonprofit with expansion to Delaware, Missouri, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, and Tennessee.
- By the end of the decade, RHD is entrusted with \$180 million in contracts from federal, state and local government partners. RHD has more than 4,000 employees.
- The Department of Housing and Urban Development lauds RHD's innovative home ownership programs as “among the most distinguished performing programs in the nation.”

“
I DON'T KNOW WHAT
I'D DO WITHOUT RHD.”



'10s



- RHD opens the nation's first residential recovery program offering comprehensive services specifically for the transgender community, starting RHD Morris Home.

“
I'M SO GRATEFUL
THAT RHD EXISTS.”

- RHD's broad service mission produces the country's most diverse array of services. RHD's revenue tops \$250 million.
- RHD expands to Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota.
- Michael Denomme becomes chairman of RHD's Board of Directors, just the second board chair in RHD's history.
- Marco Giordano is named the third CEO in RHD's history, replacing Dyann Roth.
- RHD opens the nation's first residential recovery program specifically serving the transgender population.
- RHD opens its first Shared Living program, an innovative approach to residential services.