



Rising: The Unfolding Story of The Missing Piece

Honoring Two Year's of Impact with The Missing Piece, under the leadership of Randolph W. Ricketts, IV

Introduction:

The Missing Piece was never just about filling a gap. It was about rising—lifting each other, empowering those who needed a second chance, and cultivating a community that believes in growth through every obstacle. As we celebrate two years of this mission, it's clear that this is only the beginning. Like a phoenix, we are rising, evolving, and building a future where everyone can thrive.

Rising Through Challenges:

When The Missing Piece was founded, the mission was simple: to offer guidance, mentorship, and second chances. But over the past two years, it's become more than that. TMP has faced challenges head-on and turned them into opportunities to grow, proving that resilience and adaptability are at the core of our work.

From providing mentorship to individuals seeking a new path to expanding partnerships with key community organizations, each obstacle has become a stepping stone. Our founder's vision was not just to solve problems but to create a space where people could rise beyond them.



Growth, Resilience, and Community Impact

Randolph W. Ricketts, IV, Founder & Executive Director:

"The Missing Piece started as a vision to create a space where second chances weren't just given—they were earned through growth, mentorship, and support. Seeing it come to life, watching our team rise to meet the challenges and build something meaningful, has been the most rewarding part of this journey."

The Power of Rising Together



No journey is made alone. One of the most beautiful aspects of The Missing Piece has been the collective effort of every team member, partner, and client. We've risen together, each person playing a critical role in shaping the direction of our work.

To our team members—those who have been with us since day one and those who've just joined—you are the reason we rise. Your passion, creativity, and dedication are the heart of this organization. Each of you has brought something unique, and together, we've built something extraordinary.

And to our partners, your trust and belief in TMP have fueled our progress. You've helped us extend our reach and amplify our impact, and together, we've made a difference in the lives of those we serve. This journey would not be possible without your unwavering support.

“Rising together is about more than just progress—it's about building a foundation of trust, support, and shared purpose. That's how we create lasting impact.”



Kairsten A. Johnson

Director of Operation,
Innovation Specialist at TMP



Looking Ahead: A Future of Endless Possibilities

What excites us most about this anniversary is not what's behind us, but what lies ahead. TMP isn't just celebrating a milestone—it's preparing for new heights. Our vision is to continue rising, to embrace new challenges, and to remain committed to empowering the youth and adults we serve.

As we look to the future, the story of The Missing Piece is one of resilience, compassion, and an unstoppable drive to keep rising. The next chapter will see new programs, deeper partnerships, and a continued dedication to making our community stronger.

Publisher's Note from Kairsten A. Johnson

As the Director of Operations and Innovation Specialist here at The Missing Piece, I've had the privilege of witnessing our journey from an idea to a living, breathing mission. What began as a vision to create pathways of opportunity for those needing a second chance has blossomed into a community where each person—whether a team member, participant, or family—rises together.

This article, "Rising," isn't just a reflection of our first two years. It's a statement of our ongoing commitment to growth, resilience, and impact. Every story shared here is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and belief that change is possible. We are not complete yet, and that is where the beauty lies. We are always growing, learning, and finding new ways to rise together.

Thank you to our founder, Randolph W. Ricketts, IV, for leading with passion and vision, to the team for their unwavering dedication, and to the families and participants who place their trust in us. Together, we are rising, and the future holds even more promise.

Sincerely,

Kairsten A. Johnson

Director of Operations & Innovation Specialist

The Missing Piece

Voices of Rising

Echoes of hope, strength, and the unstoppable spirit of renewal.

“
I learned that even though you make mistakes, you can still recover and end up being successful.
”



Diego Hurtado

'24 CQC Summer Youth Intern



CareerQuest Camp 2024
Final Presentation

