# The **Behavior Change** Agency

# WHO WF ARE

We're on a mission to make healthy behaviors easier and more appealing for everyone, everywhere. We do this by helping government agencies and nonprofits implement groundbreaking campaigns that increase knowledge, change policy, and shift norms.

20 YEARS

We have focused exclusively on positive social change through behavior change research and marketing since 2001. 6 OFFICES

We serve clients from offices throughout North America and field staff in 20 states and provinces.

180+

CHANGE AGENTS

Our team lives and breathes health behavior change marketing, accumulating hundreds of years of combined experience. 100+

CAMPAIGNS

We develop, implement, and evaluate campaigns for youth and adults, across diverse populations and distinct health behaviors

# **OUR EXPERTISE**

There is no one-size-fits-all strategy to changing health behaviors. We approach every challenge through a data-driven lens, bringing together topic research and audience insights to develop tailored behavior change campaigns based on theory and expertise.

### We focus on health behaviors like:















### Among populations that include:

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

LOW SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS

AMERICAN INDIAN
/ ALASKAN NATIVE

MULTICULTURAL

PREGNANT AND BREASTFEEDING WOMEN LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER

# WHO WE WORK WITH

\*Select Current & Active Clients as of April 1, 2020

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
California Department of Social Services
Connecticut Department of Health
Indiana State Department of Health
New Mexico Department of Health (TUPAC)
Peace Health
Southern Nevada Health District
Special Olympics
Vermont Department of Health

California Department of Public Health
Colorado Department of Human Services
Food & Drug Administration - Center for Tobacco Products
Louisiana Public Health Institute
Oklahoma Tobacco Settlement Endowment Trust
San Diego Unified School District
South Carolina Department of Health & Environmental Control
UCSF Center for Tobacco Control Research & Education
Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth

## **OUR** APPROACH

# WE PUSH HEALTH COMMUNICATIONS FORWARD

We've pioneered new approaches by defining the differences between behavior change marketing and commercial marketing.

### WE SEGMENT BY VALUES

We go beyond demographics to segment populations based on their identities, lifestyles, and values.

# WE STRATEGIZE FOR BEHAVIOR CHANGE

We develop unique strategies that align with each audience segment to change behavior.

# WE TAILOR & TARGET

We tailor messages to those at highest risk and target our media to minimize waste.

# WHAT WE DO



### Research & Strategy

FORMATIVE RESEARCH
AUDIENCE INSIGHTS
SEGMENTATION RESEARCH
CREATIVE & MESSAGE TESTING
MEDIA TRACKERS
STRATEGIC PLANNING

We achieve behavior change through groundbreaking strategies that increase knowledge, change policy, and shift norms. We are a full-service marketing agency that provides clients with everything they need to implement behavior change campaigns, including:



### **Creative Development**

BRAND DEVELOPMENT
GRAPHIC DESIGN
COPYWRITING
VIDEO & BROADCAST
PRODUCTION
WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT
APP DEVELOPMENT



### Media

DIGITAL & SOCIAL MEDIA
MOBILE MARKETING
TRADITIONAL MEDIA
(TV, RADIO, PRINT, OUT OF HOME)
SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGEMENT
EARNED MEDIA & PR
MEASUREMENT & OPTIMIZATION



### **Community Engagement**

EVENT MARKETING
BRAND AMBASSADOR
PROGRAMS
INFLUENCER PARTNERSHIPS
YOUTH ENGAGEMENT
VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS
ADVOCACY & OUTREACH



# Our research and campaigns have been published in peer-reviewed journals including: Health Communication, Addictive Behaviors, American Journal of Preventive Medicine, American Journal of Public Health, Health Education and Behavior, Health Promotion Practice, Journal of Adolescent Health, and Tobacco Control.







# **RESEARCH** FOR EVIDENCE-BASED CAMPAIGNS

Rescue's Peer Science™ research methodology reveals the underlying factors that drive behavior to ensure every campaign strategy is evidence-based. We put aside the reasons why a healthy behavior is desirable from a government perspective, and instead look at it from the perspective of the audience, incorporating both their individual and social needs.

### IDENTITY-BASED SEGMENTATION

Self identity and social structures are powerful factors when making behavioral decisions. By understanding how those engaging in healthy behaviors are different from those who are not, we create meaningful audience segments that guide research, strategy, and message development.

### THE BEHAVIOR'S FUNCTION

There's no such thing as a "bad" or "useless" behavior. Every behavior has a function, even the unhealthy ones. By understanding those functions, we can demonstrate how behavior change is possible.

### **VALUE-DRIVEN BEHAVIORS**

The target audience often ignores behavior change campaigns because their messages "preach to the choir" and are not relevant to them. We unpack the unique values of the target audience to present behavior change messages from a new and relevant perspective.

**Peer Science™** is our proprietary research process that uses qualitative and quantitative methodologies to segment populations based on psychographics to better understand why a risk behavior is being performed and how we can change it.



# HOW WE DO IT

To change behavior, we must change something that affects behavior, like knowledge, policy, or norms. Each pathway to behavior change requires a different strategy. We start with formative research to identify how we can have the greatest impact. From there, we implement

Decision Blocks™,
Policy 360™, or
Social Branding™, our
proprietary strategies to
achieve the desired
behavior change.

### **FORMATIVE RESEARCH**

WE NEED TO:
CHANGE
KNOWLEDGE

DECISION BLOCKS WE NEED TO:
CHANGE
POLICY

POLICY 360°

WE NEED TO: CHANGE

NORMS

SOCIAL BRANDING

Knowledge can drive change when it is new and relevant. Our Decision Blocks strategy identifies which pieces of knowledge could lead our audience to reconsider their unhealthy behaviors, and ensures we deliver tailored messages to change knowledge in a relevant and memorable way.

Policies can make unhealthy behaviors more difficult to perform, or healthy behaviors easier to perform. We build grassroots advocacy campaigns, often including youth engagement, to demonstrate support for legislative or voluntary policy change through a cycle of education and community engagement.

Norms can sustain unhealthy behaviors even when people know the risks. We change these norms with culturally-targeted campaigns to associate healthy behaviors with the values of high-risk audience segments.

# **OUR PROGRAMS & CAMPAIGNS**

### **CUSTOM PROGRAMS & CAMPAIGNS**

These are a few examples of the dozens of programs and campaigns that Rescue develops and manages for government agencies and other health organizations to achieve tangible behavior change outcomes.

### FRESH EMPIRE

A national Social Branding™ campaign to reduce tobacco use among teens who identify with the Hip Hop peer crowd.

### **LET'S TALK CANNABIS**

A comprehensive marijuana education campaign for multiple priority populations: youth, parents/mentors, and pregnant and breastfeeding women.

### 24/7

A Policy 360<sup>™</sup> campaign that promotes comprehensive, 24/7 tobacco-free school policies in VA and NM, including over 40 policy wins.

### **CHECK YOURSELF**

A high-risk binge drinking prevention campaign for young adults built on a harm reduction framework.



# TWENTY-FOUR-SEVEN



Don't be that friend.

### CALFRESH HEALTHY LIVING

A nutrition education campaign for low income Californians using Rescue's proprietary framework for complex health behaviors like healthy eating.

### THIS FREE LIFE

A national Social Branding™ campaign to reduce tobacco use among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender young adults.

### **COMMIT TO QUIT**

A smoking cessation campaign working to boost enrollment in Connecticut's cessation programs.

### **EVOLVEMENT**

A youth engagement model used in NM, LA, and VA that empowers youth to work on tobacco education and policy change.



### **READY-MADE MEDIA CAMPAIGNS**

Our exclusive focus on positive behavior change means that we have the unique opportunity to bring together organizations with similar goals to create licensable programs, such as these, that reduce costs and expand the reach of their messages.

### **BEHIND THE HAZE**

A vaping prevention campaign designed for teenagers. Campaign has run in 9 states.



# PEOPLE'S OPIOID PROJECT

A campaign to reduce opioid misuse, reduce stigma, and promote treatment options for Substance Use Disorder.



### **DOWN & DIRTY**

A rural teen tobacco prevention campaign designed to shift cultural norms with Country teens. Campaign has run in 5 states.



# **OUR TEAM**

We are a diverse team of over 180 change agents throughout the U.S. All of our change agents focus exclusively on behavior change programs that contribute to positive social change and bring a diverse expertise including marketing, public health, psychology, sociology, anthropology, advertising, media, and community engagement.

Our Mission: To make healthy behaviors easier and more appealing.



# WHERE TO FIND US

### **Rescue Headquarters** 2437 Morena Blvd. San Diego, CA 92110

Rescue Albuquerque 400 Gold Ave. SW, Ste 880 Albuquerque, NM 87102

**Rescue Los Angeles** 6430 Sunset Blvd., Ste 504 Los Angeles, CA 90028

### **Rescue Sacramento**

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### Rescue Washington D.C.

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