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► Sponsoring organizations of donor advised funds, organizations that operate one or more hospital facilities, and certain controlling organizations as defined in section 512(b)(13) must file Form 990 (see instructions)

All other organizations with gross receipts less than \$200,000 and total assets less than \$500,000 at the end of the year may use this form

▼ *The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements*

D Employer identification number	26-0591013
E Telephone number	(651) 387-3121
F Group Exemption Number	

H Check ☒ if the organization is **not** required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

J Tax-exempt status (check only one)— ☒ 501(c)(3) ☐ 501(c)() (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527

L Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b, to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, line 25, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$ 57,067

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I ☒

Form **990-EZ** (2012)

Part II

Balance Sheets

(see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	1,817	22	708
23 Land and buildings	0	23	0
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	3,834	24	0
25 Total assets	5,651	25	708
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	0	26	0
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	5,651	27	708

Part III

Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

(see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?
To engage and educate young people to become involved in their communities through volunteerism and stewardship

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

28 For 5 years Rock the Cause has been making an impact in our community by educating, empowering and inspiring others to make a difference. Our initiatives are not just one-off events. Our work is based in ongoing engagement that combines concerts, new media, digital music downloads, volunteer and funding drives for our partner causes. We can also be found in high schools and colleges across our region working one on one with students to create a future generation of community-minded citizens. In 2012 Rock the Cause produced over 24 concert events and volunteer drives in our region, and we participated in 3 national level music festivals, and we conducted a 10 day volunteer drive and music showcase with Cities 97 at the Minnesota State Fair. We enrolled over 2500 new members for over a dozen nonprofit organizations like Free Arts Minnesota, Rock Star Supply Company, People Serving People and more. Some of our partner organizations are reporting as high as 30% conversion rate on the members we help them to enroll. This helps our community by creating a new base of awareness, donor and volunteer support for our partner causes. Rock the Cause records also released two internationally acclaimed music releases in 2012. Through our partnership with The Orchard, the world's largest digital music distributor, we were able to put on sale in 36 countries, the charitable compilation Minnesota Remembers Vic Chesnutt, and the viral hit single Clouds by Zach Sobiech. Both releases have raised thousands of dollars for local and national charities like Children's Cancer Research Fund, Sweet Relief Musicians Fund and Lifeworks Services. They have helped create new audiences for emerging musicians. Our Social Media program communicates the needs of our community to thousands of people on a daily basis. Nonprofit organizations contact us weekly asking for help getting their messaging in front of an ever expanding, and engaged audience. Our Social Media program is staffed by interns from colleges across the region. Many of our internships are paid, helping to provide employment and critical job skills to students. In fact our Social Media driven "Like" for "Music Download" program has created hundreds of new Facebook fans for organizations like People Serving People, Free Arts Minnesota and others. A recent survey was conducted by Rock the Cause on 1000 constituents. We received a 33% response rate. Here is what our audience told us about themselves: 46% Female 4 aged 25 to 45 earning between \$27K and \$80K per year 34% Male Aged 25 to 45 earning between \$25K and 75K per year 72% follow us on Facebook
(Grants \$ 7,099) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

29
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

30
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O)
(Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here

32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)

Expenses

(Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others)

28a62,011

29a

30a

31a

3262,011

Part IV

List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

List each one even if not compensated (see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV.

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
See Additional Data Table				

Part V

Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	No
35a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	No
b	If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	35b	
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	35c	No
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions	37a	0
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	No
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	No
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations Enter		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911, section 4912, section 4955		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	No
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization		
e	All organizations At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed MN		
42a	The organization's books are in care of Scott Herold Telephone no (651) 387-3121 Located at 1715 Bush Ave Saint Paul, MN ZIP + 4 55106		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts.	42b	No
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country	42c	No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041—Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year	43	
		Yes	No
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44a	No
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d	If "Yes," to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	No
45b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	No

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) organizations only

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI ☐

		Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		No
48	Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		No
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		No
49b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?		

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "				
(a) Name and title of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
NONE				
f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000				

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "		
(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

d	Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000.	
52	Did the organization complete Schedule A? NOTE: All Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A	☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here			2013-05-16		
	Signature of officer		Date		
Paid Preparer Use Only	Lee Herold CEO				
	Type or print name and title				
	Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check ☐ if self-employed	PTIN
	Firm's name			Firm's EIN	
	Firm's address			Phone no	
May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions					☐ Yes ☐ No

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Public Charity Status and Public Support

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public Inspection

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

Name of the organization
ROCK THE CAUSE INC

Employer identification number
26-0591013

Part I

Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1

☐

A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**
- 2

☐

A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E)
- 3

☐

A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**
- 4

☐

A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5

☐

An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II)
- 6

☐

A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**
- 7

☒

An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).** (Complete Part II)
- 8

☐

A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9

☐

An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III)
- 10

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety See **section 509(a)(4).**
- 11

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h

a

☐

Type I

b

☐

Type II

c

☐

Type III - Functionally integrated

d

☐

Type III - Non-functionally integrated
- e

☐

By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)
- f

☐

If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box
- g

☐

Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

(i)

A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?

(ii)

A family member of a person described in (i) above?

(iii)

A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
- h

☐

Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1 - 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of monetary support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	25,926	20,562	39,442	56,856	57,067	199,853
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	25,926	20,562	39,442	56,856	57,067	199,853
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						0
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						199,853

Section B. Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	25,926	20,562	39,442	56,856	57,067	199,853
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Other income Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)	0	0	0	0	0	0
11 Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						199,853
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc (see instructions)					12	0
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here					▶	

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage				
14	Public support percentage for 2012 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	<table><tr><td>14</td><td>100 %</td></tr></table>	14	100 %
14	100 %			
15	Public support percentage for 2011 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	<table><tr><td>15</td><td>100 %</td></tr></table>	15	100 %
15	100 %			
16a	33 1/3% support test—2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐		
b	33 1/3% support test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐		
17a	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2012. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐		
b	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization	☐		
18	Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions	☐		

Part IIISupport Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Section B. Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2008	(b) 2009	(c) 2010	(d) 2011	(e) 2012	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support. (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12.)						
14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here ▶						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage		
15 Public support percentage for 2012 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	
16 Public support percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage		
17 Investment income percentage for 2012 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	
18 Investment income percentage from 2011 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	
19a 33 1/3% support tests—2012. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
b 33 1/3% support tests—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶		
20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶		

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Complete this part to provide the explanations required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; and Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Explanation

SCHEDULE O

(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

OMB No 1545-0047

2012

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization ROCK THE CAUSE INC	Employer identification number 26-0591013
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Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
F99Z_P01_S00_L16	Form 990-EZ, Part I, Line 16	Misc program and operating expenses - marketing, operations, etc

Additional Data

Software ID: 12000197

Software Version: v1.00

EIN: 26-0591013

Name: ROCK THE CAUSE INC

Form 990EZ, Part IV - List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
Scott Herold CEO	40	1,000	0	0
Adam Gislason Board Member	5	0	0	0
Mark Schwandt Board Member	1	0	0	0
Rurik Hover Board Member	1	0	0	0
Lily Troia Board Member	1	0	0	0
Darin Lynch Board Member	1	0	0	0
Robert Bitzan Board Member	1	0	0	0
Betsy Butwin Board Member	1	0	0	0
Andy Butwin Board Member	1	0	0	0
Joe Christenson Board Member	1	0	0	0