



# COLORADO YOUTH FOR A CHANGE

## End of the Year Report 2019-2020

Colorado Youth for a Change (CYC) was established in 2005 in response to more than 18,000 students dropping out of Colorado schools each year, and the lack of resources in school systems to prevent youth from dropping out and reenroll those who had. Since that time, CYC has significantly contributed to the Colorado dropout rate being cut in half.

CYC is a recognized leader in dropout prevention and student reengagement, providing youth with academic support, evidence-based interventions, family engagement, and wraparound support services to address non-academic barriers to education. CYC programs address early warning signs of dropping out (low reading proficiency, chronic absenteeism, and course failure), as well as reengage disconnected, out-of-school youth, getting them back on a path to graduation and post-secondary opportunities.

Colorado's transition to remote learning as a result of COVID-19 in March 2020 caused great disruptions for students and families, and experts fear that graduation gains made over the last few years will be reversed as a result. In transitioning CYC's work to virtual platforms through the pandemic, staff and AmeriCorps members saw increased barriers for students: disruption in access to basic needs, loss of the structure and social-emotional supports that schools provide, and increased household and financial instability. The organization remains committed to children and youth from Kindergarten through age 21, helping to close opportunity gaps in education in partnership with caring staff and committed AmeriCorps members.



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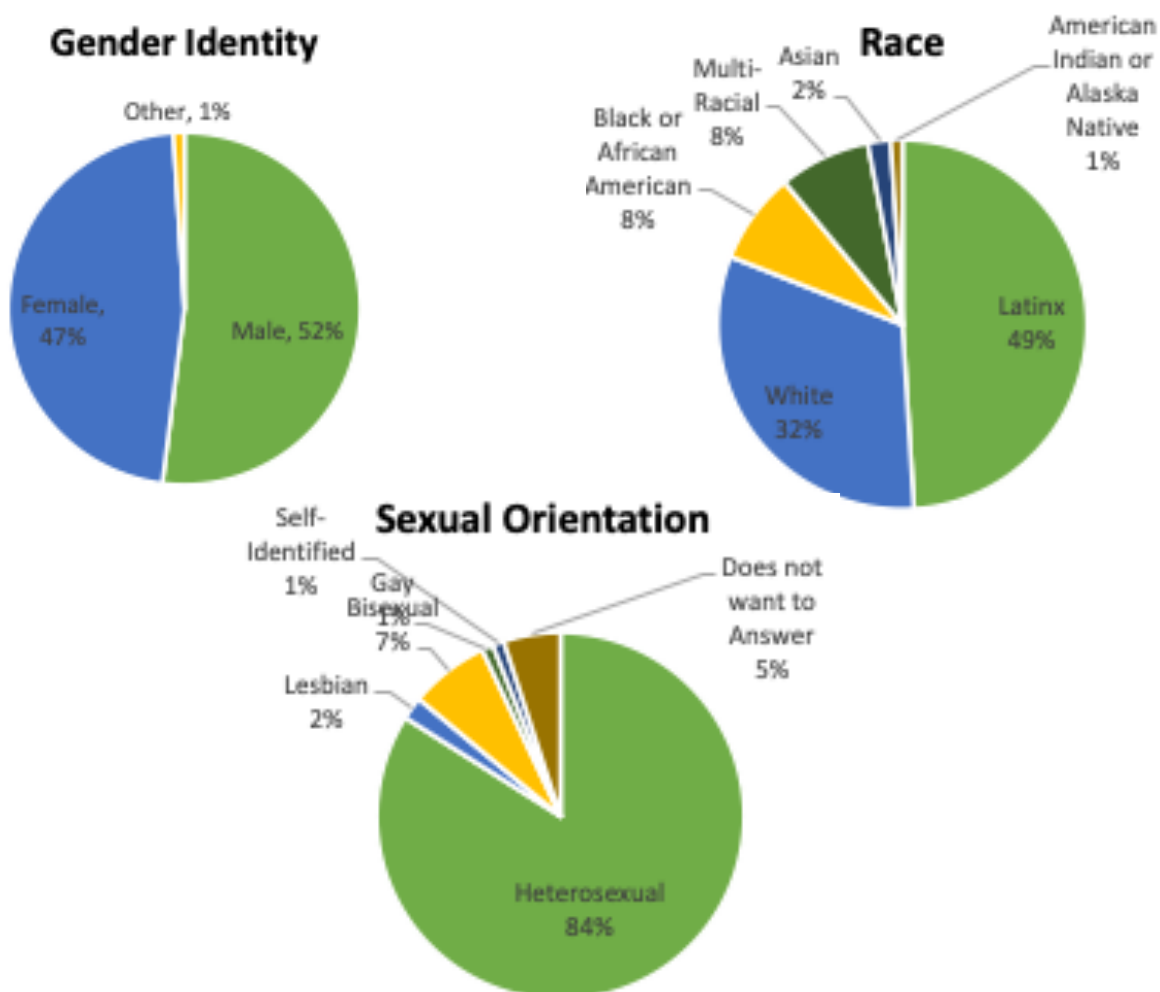
## End of the Year Report 2019-2020

**2,722 Students were Served by CYC in the 2019-2020 School Year**

### Identities and Life Events

At Colorado Youth for a Change, we support and respect our students, and our team understands that identities and life experiences have helped shape students into who they are.

Through our intake process, we ask our students about their identities and life events to better understand how their personal identities and experiences may have affected their relationship with school. We collect this information so that, when combined with other student data, we can tell the broader story of how the identities and life events of all students impact them within the education system. This information can lead to better overall support and services for future students.



Gender identity responses listed as other included: Transgender Male, Transgender Female, Non-Binary Transgender, & gender not listed.

Gender identity and race information tracked on all students, and life events tracked on older youth.



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## End of the Year Report 2019-2020

### Life Events

- **33%** of CYC Students are currently or formerly involved in court
- **5%** of CYC Students are currently or formerly in foster care
- **17%** of CYC Students are currently or formerly experiencing homelessness
- **9%** of CYC Students are parenting or pregnant
- **84%** of Students were eligible for free or reduced lunch



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### Colorado Reading Corps

*Helping students become strong readers by the end of third grade*

- **1,268 students** were served by the Colorado Reading Corps program
- **68 percent** achieved more than a full year of academic growth in reading
- **118 students** were reading at grade level and exited from the program (lower than usual because benchmarking stopped in March as a result of COVID, even though tutoring continued remotely)
- **18,333 tutoring hours** were provided with 97 percent program fidelity
- Students were served in 8 districts, 61 schools, and by 63 tutors





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### COVID-19 RESPONSE

AmeriCorps members continued to support students virtually beginning in March 2020, with some districts pivoting to virtual tutoring online. Others got creative in different ways. From recording themselves reading books and then sharing with students, to putting together reading packet information for parents and students to share, AmeriCorps members persevered. In order to provide extended support across local communities, AmeriCorps members also helped at food banks or made masks from home.

### Students Above Target Growth by School District 2019-2020

School District	# Schools	Above Target
Englewood Schools	1	79%
Estes Park School District R-3	1	84%
Thompson School District	17	75%
Adams 12 Five Star Schools	8	53%
Jeffco Public Schools	18	67%
Aurora Public Schools	1	50%
Greeley-Evans Weld County School District 6	13	67%
Brighton School District 27J	1	79%

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### Corps for a Change

*Maintain or increase student attendance within the year*

#### 2019-20 PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- **467 students** were served by the Corps for a Change program
- **391 students** were served in the program for 15 weeks or more meetings and contacts were made by AmeriCorps Members
- **39 percent** of students within the target group increased their attendance
- Total number of student meetings: **7,876**
- Number of remote student meetings during COVID-19: **1,218**
- Total number of hours served: **21,818.75**

#### PRE AND POST ASSESSMENT RESULTS

- **43%** of students who took post-test improved in Commitment to Learning
- **40%** of students who took post-test improved on Constructive Use of Time

#### COVID-19 RESPONSE

The Corps for a Change AmeriCorps members continued to support their caseload of students virtually with individual meetings as well as sitting in on virtual classes. Members also assisted with ensuring students had access to technology and basic needs like food, internet, etc. Members supported connecting students to resources around mental health and also provided social emotional support for students by still conducting virtual clubs.

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### Educational Intervention

*Help 9th graders get on track to graduation by passing core classes*

#### 2019-20 PROGRAM OUTCOMES

- **200 students** were served by the Educational Intervention Program
- **73 percent** of students raised at least one core failing grade
- **359 failing classes** were recovered and became passing
- **56 students** passed all their core classes
- **48 percent** of the students finished the year on-track to graduation
- Students were served in 2 school districts, 4 schools and by 4 staff members

#### COVID-19 RESPONSE

The Intervention Program continued case management as the school year shifted to remote learning. Interventionists continued to connect with their students and families to encourage engagement and raising Fs to passing. Students were also provided with supportive service support to connect students and families with resources outside of school.

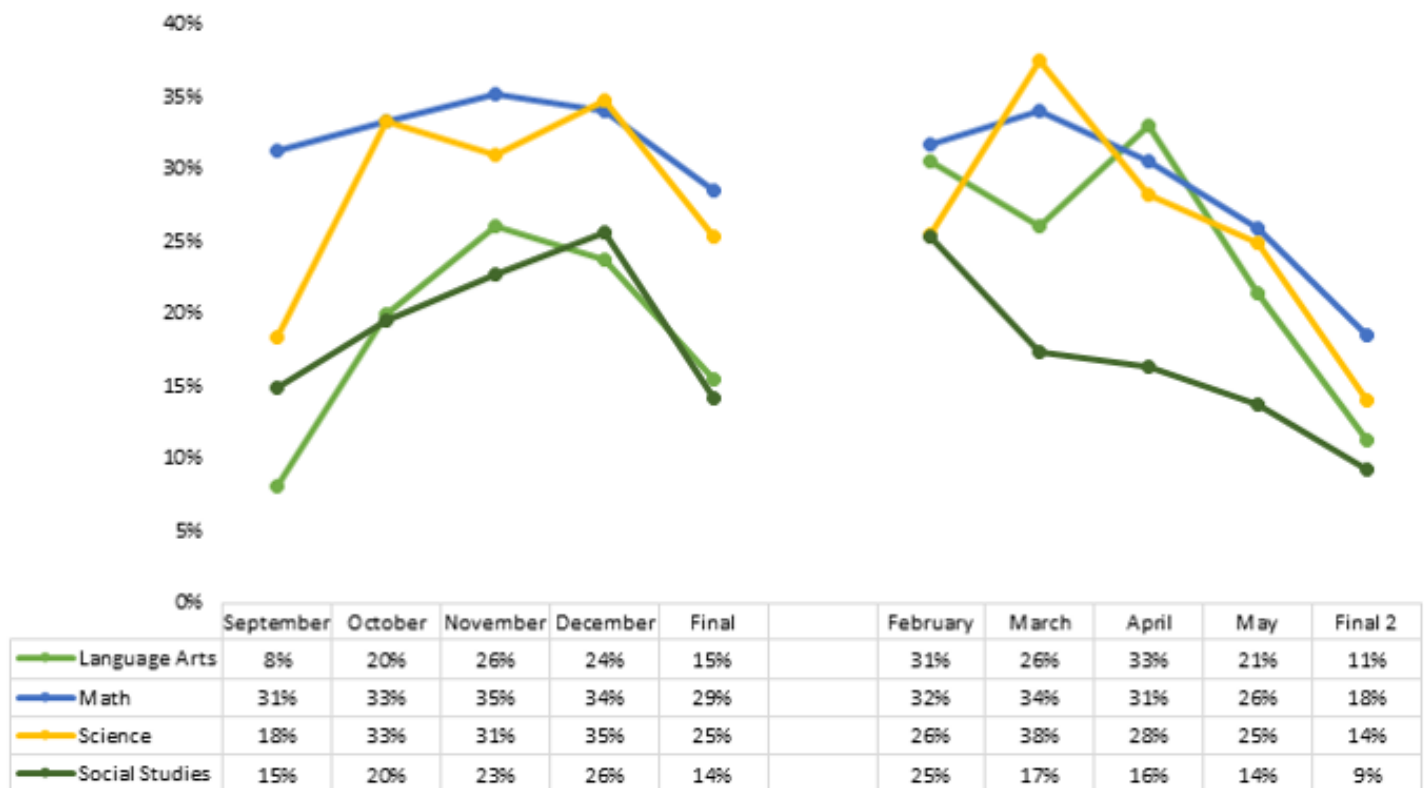
The Intervention Program continued to track data and provide data to schools pertaining to 9th grade class recovery throughout remote learning.

The Intervention Program developed new data reports for all 9th grade students for the 19-20 school year. This data analysis provided a month by month snapshot of grades in core classes and provided opportunities for school wide intervention. These reports served as a 9th grade on track early warning system. The graph below is an example of data shared with schools to monitor the 9th grade failure rates by month and core subject. This graph also shows recovery rates by subject throughout the school year.

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## End of the Year Report 2019-2020

Percent of 9th Grade Students with an F by core Subject



## Reengagement

*Reenroll students who have left school without graduating*

- **3815 students** were on Outreach Caseloads
- **370 students** were served by the Reengagement program
- **203 students** were enrolled back into school or a GED program
- Students were served in 2 school districts by 5 staff members



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Outcome Status	Reengagement Outcome	Student Count	Outcome Percent
Positive	Enrolled in District at End of Year	123	78%
Positive	Graduated with GED Certificate	0	
Positive	Graduate with High School Diploma	15	
Positive	Transferred to Another School District	11	
Positive	Transferred to Community Based GED	9	
Neutral	Corrections or residential programming	1	8%
Neutral	Repeat dropout - with contact	16	
Negative	Repeat dropout - no contact	28	14%
Student Totals		203	100%

### Futures Academy

*Students earn their GED while co-enrolled in post-secondary options*

- **235 students** took a Pre-GED or GED Test over the course of the year
- **44 students** earned their GED
- **79 students** co-enrolled in post-secondary
- Students were served in Aurora Public Schools by 13 staff members

### COVID-19 RESPONSE

CYC Futures Academy staff shifted to online GED instruction in April, along with virtual support to those enrolled in post-secondary. Student advisors continued to provide students with technology, internet access, mental health resources, and basic needs. They also coordinated with GED testing centers outside of Aurora to support students in passing their final tests later in the spring.

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Secondary and Post-Secondary Outcomes	Actuals
Number of students to take a Pre-GED or GED Test*	235
Number of students to improve a test score	163
Number of students to pass at least 1 GED Test	107
Number of students who earned a GED	44
Number of students enrolled in Pickens Technical College	35
Number of students enrolled in CCA	44
Number of students who earned credit from Pickens Technical College	24
Number of students who earned a certificate from Pickens Technical College (many programs are two years so continued enrollment is required)	12
Number of classes passed at the Community College of Aurora	33
Number of students enrolled in CYC's College & Careers class	180
<b>Total Number of Students Served</b>	<b>383</b>

*\*Also called the Academic Cohort. The numbers of students to receive intensive academic support. This is demonstrated by having taken a pre-GED or GED test. Other students are working on skills, being provided supportive services, or are being re-engaged by student advising staff.*

