



## Colorado Reading Corps End of Year Report 2021-2022



Thank you for supporting one-on-one reading tutoring for Colorado students! Here's what your support helped make possible this school year.

## By the Numbers

- **1,831** students were served across **74** school sites.
- **33,333** hours of one-on-one tutoring and **99,990** individual tutoring sessions were provided.
- **73%** of students served are exceeding target growth rate, meaning they are catching up with grade-level peers.
- Across all five of CYC's programs, **4,183** students were served this school year. An additional **2,806** young people received individualized outreach to reenroll in school.

## Stories and Snippets from Colorado Reading Corps

"When first tutoring one of my students he was very adamant that he would never read. We worked on letter sound correspondence and once those letter sounds became easy for him we switched to blending words. This was VERY difficult for him at first. I would help by writing out the blending word at the bottom of the sheet in bigger letters. The more we practiced the more he caught on. Finally we got to a place where he did a whole blending words page without errors and also super speedy. He looked over at me grinning ear to ear and shouted, 'I'm reading! Oh my gosh I'm reading!'" I told him I was so proud of him for sticking with it even when it was frustrating. He said, 'I am so proud of myself too.'" *-Bailey, Colorado Reading Corps member in Aurora Public Schools*



"I started tutoring James in the second half of second grade. At that time, he was reading at a Kindergarten level and had a stammer that affected his ability to read quickly or accurately. Every day, we worked on Word Construction to build up his foundational skills and confidence, yet at grade level, the data showed very little progress. After a month or two I was worried he just wasn't getting it! But a few weeks later, I opened up his Read at Home folder to find a Thank You note from his mom. Apparently, James had started reading to her at the grocery store. Not just sentences from his folder, but he was reading labels on food, sounding out signs; anything he could find.

I am still meeting with James as a third grader. He's about to graduate from Word Construction and into connected text. Watching him learn to read has been like seeing his entire world unfold before his eyes. He is confident in his ability to read and is comprehending so much more than he ever thought was possible!" *-Tyler, Colorado Reading Corps member in Adams 12*

# Building Colorado's Teacher Pipeline

Colorado Reading Corps doesn't just foster literacy—it also cultivates a pipeline of individuals who are inspired by their service to pursue education careers long-term. In fact, in an end-of-year survey of our AmeriCorps members, **40%** confirmed that they are **considering a career in education** upon the completion of their service term.

"Through Colorado Reading Corps I learned a great deal about reading strategies and interventions. I witnessed elementary students with little confidence in themselves become great readers and risk takers. I am proud of the work I have done with AmeriCorps. I am proud of the story I can write here at [her school]." -Barbara, Reading Corps alumna and English Language Development teacher

## Amplifying Student Voice

This year Colorado Youth for a Change assembled a small group of students to address the question, **"What would you change about school in order to better fit your needs?"** Students were invited to respond in any media or format of their choice. Submissions included two call-to-action speeches, a podcast interview, an original rap song, a painting, and more. Though each project was beautifully unique, submissions shared common themes:

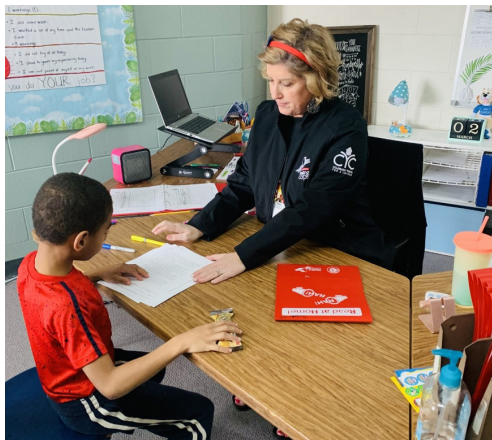
- **A desire to have adults validate and respect their experiences:** "I definitely want [adults] to view us as people and that our experiences and connections are just as important and valuable as theirs." -Youmna, Poudre School District, in her podcast
- **Seeing themselves and their generation as the root of change:** "We are the future and that should give us the right to also grow the ways of our school—changing it for the good." -Nyo, Poudre School District, in her call-to-action speech
- **Appreciating the chance to explore themselves and their opinions:** "I've had a lot of realizations while writing this song, I liked it a lot because I got to put my voice out there and I know a lot of people stand for what I stand for." -Jeremiah, Grand Junction, about his rap song



*Jeremiah recording his song*

Read more and view some of the submissions [on our blog!](#)

## Looking Ahead



Colorado Youth for a Change is excited to continue this year's expansion into the 2022-2023 school year. On May 3, the Colorado Department of Education and Governor's Office announced an additional \$2 million in funding for our AmeriCorps programs across the state. Your support remains critical in helping us place tutors and engagement specialists in schools across Colorado.