

COLORADO YOUTH FOR A CHANGE

# IMPACT REPORT

2024/25



COLORADO YOUTH  
FOR A CHANGE



# COLORADO YOUTH FOR A CHANGE

## VISION

Colorado Youth for a Change envisions an equitable education system where each student has access to the resources they need to maximize their own learning and growth.

## MISSION

Colorado Youth for a Change addresses barriers to learning by providing individualized supports throughout pivotal stages of students' education journeys.

**"I feel like it's important for kids like me to  
have at least one person to support you."**

-Student receiving CYC services in Aurora Public Schools



# CYC WORK AT A GLANCE



## EARLY LEARNING CORPS

- \* Boosted Kindergarten readiness by placing 10 Early Learning Corps AmeriCorps members in 6 school sites to provide early literacy and numeracy tutoring.
- \* Early childhood education and kindergarten readiness positively impact students throughout their school years and beyond, leading to increased school success and likelihood of graduation.

Students  
Served

227

Average Tutor  
Fidelity

96%



## READING CORPS

- \* Supported grade level reading by placing 79 Reading Corps AmeriCorps members in 57 school sites to provide 20 minutes per day of individualized, high dosage tutoring during the school day to kindergarten - 3<sup>rd</sup> graders.
- \* Research shows that not reading at grade level by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade makes children four times more likely to not complete high school. Reading Corps gets students' reading on track!

Students  
Served

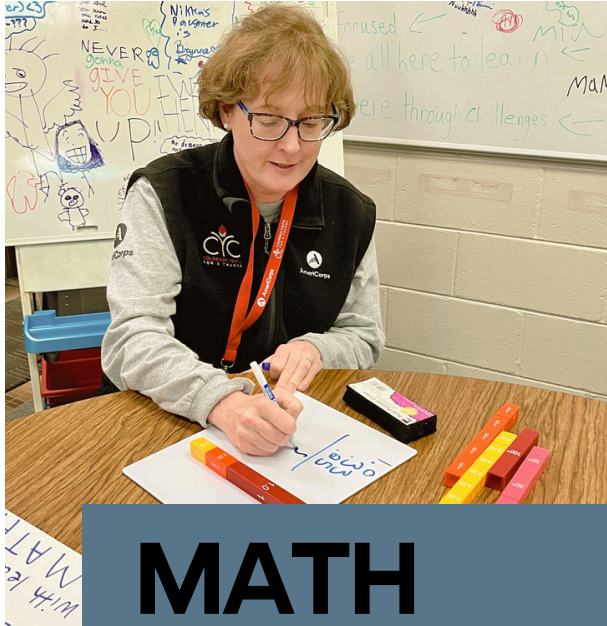
1,890

Exceeded target  
growth

71%

# "Our students know they can count on her, that kind of trust is invaluable."

-School Partner, Boulder Valley School District



- \* Increased algebra readiness for kindergarten - 8<sup>th</sup> graders by placing 33 Math Corps AmeriCorps members in 27 school sites to provide small group math tutoring at least three times a week during the school day.

- \* Large bodies of research show that math proficiency by 8<sup>th</sup> grade is highly predictive of high school graduation. Math Corps interventions are evidence-based and aligned with core curriculum to support with building strong math identities in students.

## MATH CORPS

Students  
Served

986

Improved  
benchmark growth

84%



- \* Supported school engagement and youth mental health by placing 39 Corps for a Change AmeriCorps members in 28 middle and high schools across the Denver Metro area to provide one-on-one support and resource navigation.

- \* Research shows that high levels of school engagement and attendance are key indicators of graduating from high school. Corps for a Change members are caring adults who ensure academic, attendance, and social-emotional support for students.

## CORPS FOR A CHANGE

Students  
Served

775

Increased school  
engagement

91%



**“They have really helped me a lot this year; academically, mentally, and emotionally because they really understand me and never judged me despite my grades and attendance.”**

-Student receiving CYC Services in Denver Public Schools



- \* Helped youth get back into school by completing outreach to over 4,236 youth disengaged from school. Six CYC Reengagement Specialists supported students with school exploration, enrollment, and retention efforts.
- \* Last year, nearly 9,000 Colorado students were unenrolled from school before completing a diploma. CYC's Reengagement team provides critical reenrollment support to Denver, Englewood, and Aurora youth.

	<b>Youth reenrolled in school</b>	<b>Graduated or continued enrollment</b>
<b>REENGAGEMENT</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>66%</b>



- \* CYC leads the Denver Opportunity Youth Initiative to expand education and employment opportunities for young people ages 16-24 in partnership with the Aspen Institute Forum for Community Solutions, K-12 and higher education, and community-based organizations.
- \* Nearly 13,000 16-24 year olds in Denver and Aurora are disconnected from high school, post-secondary, or the workforce, so collective action is critical to build a stronger economy for all.

	<b>Dollars leveraged</b>	<b>Youth Served</b>
<b>DENVER OPPORTUNITY YOUTH INITIATIVE</b>	<b>\$750K</b>	<b>6,000</b>

**“Earning my GED represents a significant milestone—  
an essential first step that opens the door to  
higher education and sets the foundation for  
achieving my future goals.”**

-CYC Reengagement Student

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2025**



**“TRANSPORTATION  
WAS A HUGE  
DIFFICULTY FOR ME  
AND CYC HELPED ME  
WITH GETTING TO  
SCHOOL EASIER.”**

- HEAVYN



**“GRADUATION MEANS  
PERSEVERANCE. IT  
MEANS THAT I CAN  
PUSH THROUGH. IT  
MEANS THAT I AM NOT  
A QUITTER.”**

- HANNAH



**“[CYC] SUPPORTED  
ME BY REGULARLY  
CHECKING IN ON  
MY PROGRESS AND  
ENCOURAGING  
ME.”**

- DANELY





**“They did everything amazingly. They helped me improve my grades, and helped me with school related things, it was such a great feeling knowing they were there for me.”**

-Student receiving CYC support



# HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

- 2025 marks the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of CYC as a nonprofit!
- Expanded our Reengagement team to include supports in Aurora Public Schools.
- CYC's Executive Director, Mary Zanotti, was recognized with the “Outstanding Service Program Staff Member” award by America's Service Commission.

## LAUNCH OF THE YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CORPS

**\*** CYC's Corps for a Change program was an integral part of the launch of the national Youth Mental Health Corps (YMHC). Colorado was one of four states to start programming in 2024.

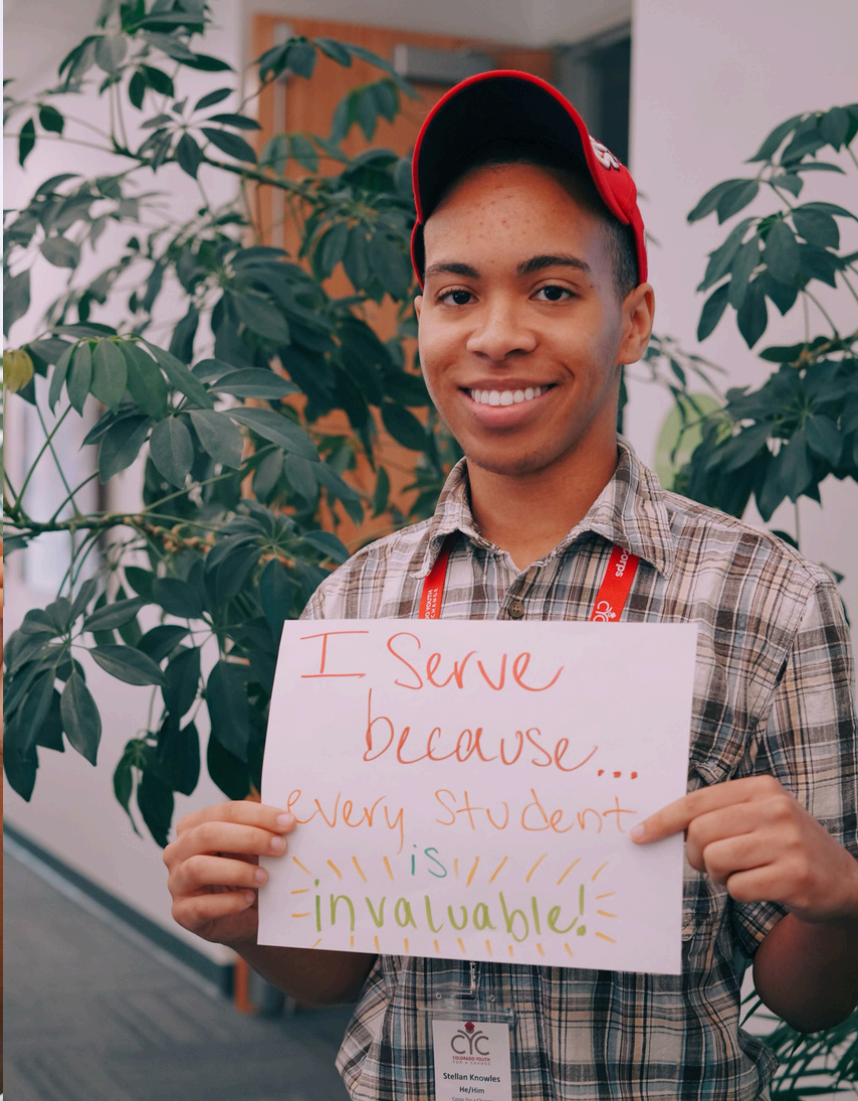
**\*** YMHC places AmeriCorps members in schools to support students with near-peer mental health support while providing workforce experience and Behavioral Health credentialing for the members.

# 23

Corps for a Change members completed the full Behavioral Health I Credential

**“I had a student sign up for therapy through iMatter and found a provider that they really like. They now have open conversations with their family about mental health.”**

-Corps for a Change Member



# THANK YOU TO OUR AMAZING & SUPPORTIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERS

Adams 12 Five Star Schools  
Alamosa School District, No. RE-11J  
Aurora Public Schools  
Boulder Valley School District RE-2  
Charter School Institute  
Denver Public Schools  
Douglas County School District RE-1  
East Grand School District  
Englewood Schools  
Estes Park School District R-3  
Greeley-Evans School District 6

Gunnison Watershed School District RE1J  
Jeffco Public Schools  
Littleton Public Schools  
Mapleton Public Schools Re-1  
Mesa County Valley School District 51  
Poudre School District R-1  
School District 27J  
Thompson School District  
Weld County RE-5J School District  
Westminster Public Schools  
Widefield School District 3

# 22

SCHOOL DISTRICTS  
SERVED ACROSS  
THE STATE