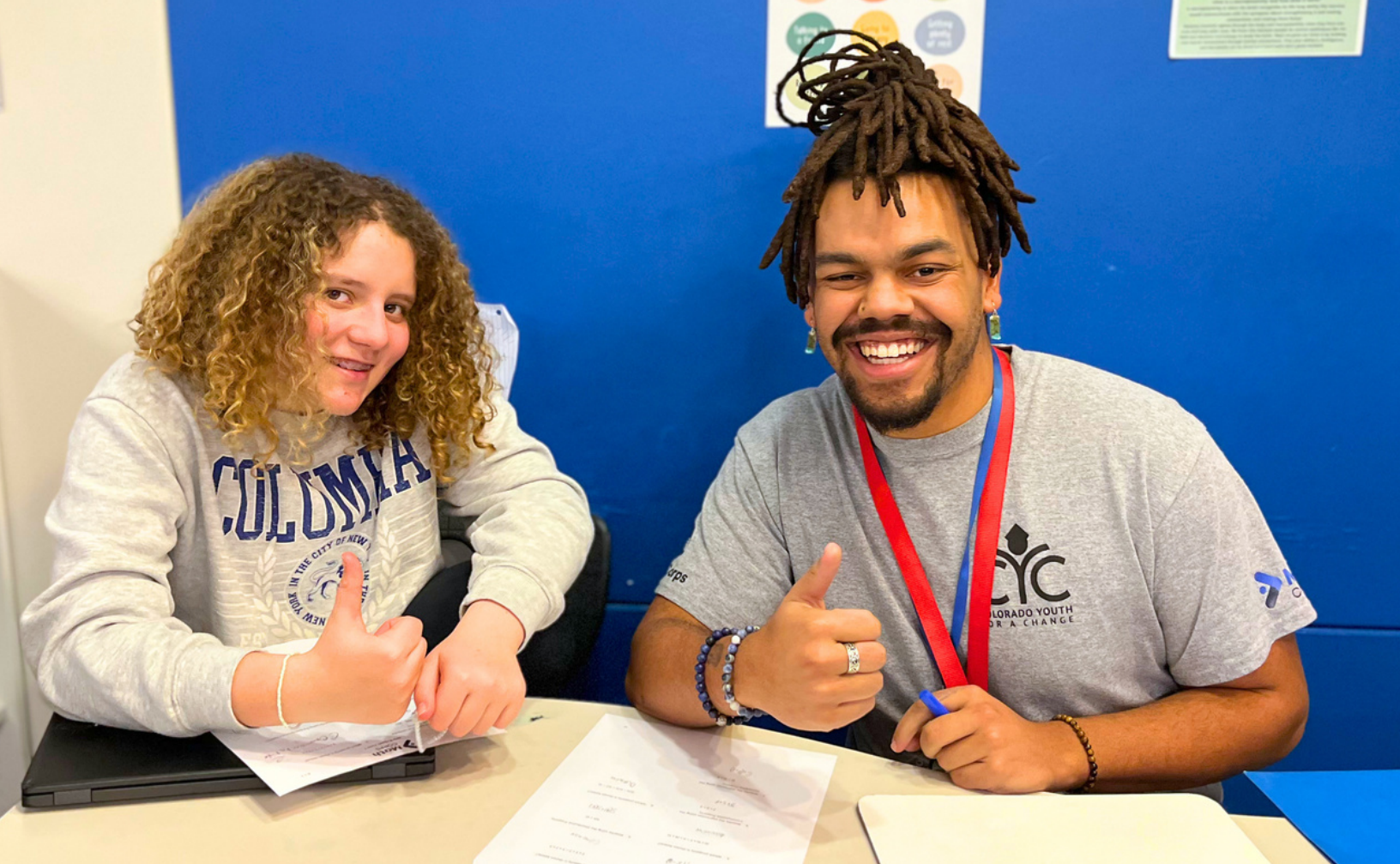




IMPACT REPORT 2025/26



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.

PROGRAMS AT A GLANCE



READING CORPS

Students
Served

1,607

Made Literacy
Gains

97%

Exceeded Target
Growth

66%

- Students who are strong readers by 4th grade are prepared to be strong learners throughout their lives. They are far more likely to stay in school, graduate, and have thriving careers, and they are far less likely to experience poverty, unemployment, and poor health as adults.
- The Reading Corps program **placed 63 AmeriCorps tutors at 48 school sites to provide targeted tutoring during the school day to get kindergarten – 3rd grade students up to grade level in reading** and on track for long-term school success.



MATH CORPS

Students
Served

532

Exceeded Target
Growth

88%

- Math proficiency before high school is highly predictive of high school graduation, college readiness, and economic opportunity in adulthood.
- As one of the **most effective math tutoring programs in the country**, Math Corps placed 20 AmeriCorps tutors at 17 school sites to support kindergarten – 8th grade students in catching up to grade level.

“I recommend Math Corps because tutors are able to get students excited about math, something that can be very difficult to do.”

–Math Corps School Partner



CORPS FOR A CHANGE

Students Served

755

Increased School Engagement

91%

- In our 2nd year as part of the national Youth Mental Health Corps initiative, this program placed 31 AmeriCorps members in 22 schools to support youth mental health, boost school engagement, and improve belonging and connectedness.
- These caring adults supported 6–12 grade students in more than 9,000 one-on-one support sessions, and provided nearly 1,000 connections to mental health and basic needs resources.
- This innovative program is also training the next generation of behavioral health leaders. While supporting students, 21 AmeriCorps members earned Qualified Behavioral Health Assistant credentials, giving them on ramps to behavioral health careers.

“My AmeriCorps member gave me a space where I was able to talk about how I feel without feeling judged or misheard, and made sure I met my goals.”

–Student receiving CYC services in Aurora Public Schools



“Our AmeriCorps member helps students secure stable housing and complete educational milestones such as their GED, graduation, and maintaining stable attendance. Through these efforts, she empowers students to overcome barriers, gain stability, and succeed academically.”

–School Partner in Denver Public Schools



REENGAGEMENT

Youth Reenrolled
in School

206

Graduated or
Continued Enrollment

75%

- Last year, more than **7,500 Colorado students left school before completing a diploma or GED.**
- **Our 6 Reengagement Specialists fill this gap in 3 school districts** by providing individualized reenrollment support, coming alongside young people to build education plans, match them with school options that meet their individual needs, and connect them to a network of community resources to reduce barriers and **ensure that they stay in school and graduate.**
- **Young people in CYC's Reengagement Program are far more likely to stay in school after reenrollment (75%) , compared to all Colorado students who reenroll (48%).**

“Reengagement specialists lend a hand when someone is struggling. They know what we need and how to talk to us in a way so we don’t feel ashamed or embarrassed. They make us feel a part of the community that we all need and want.”

–Student receiving Reengagement Services



DENVER OPPORTUNITY YOUTH INITIATIVE

Dollars
Leveraged

\$700K

Youth Served

5,000

- 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.
- The Denver Opportunity Youth Initiative **delivered 12 Belonging, Meaning, Well Being, and Purpose workshops to 172 people and created an interactive Workforce Investment Opportunity Act (WIOA) guide** made to support WIOA referrals for community-based organizations.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2026



“My Corps for a Change member helped me by being someone I could go to talk to when I was at my lowest or just someone for help at school.”

-Jasmine

“My CYC Reengagement Specialist always checked up on me, gave me very important resources and supported me through my whole schooling.”

-Omayra



“My Corps for a Change member showed up everyday with a positive attitude always encouraging me to keep going.”

- Jesus



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR



Corps for a Change member Marissa Garcia was featured on The Jennifer Hudson Show, where she shared her experience supporting students through the Youth Mental Health Corps. We are proud of Marissa for representing Colorado Youth for a Change and advocating for youth mental health. Following her service, she joined CYC's team supporting the Corps for a Change program as a full-time staff member. Her journey demonstrates the lasting impact of national service!

This year, 12 Reading Corps members completed their fourth and final term of AmeriCorps service. Collectively, they provided more than 1.4 million minutes of tutoring, helping students build foundational reading skills and confidence. We are grateful for their years of dedication and the lasting impact they have made on students, schools, and communities across Colorado.



We are so grateful to the sponsors and supporters of Colorado HB26-1418 for their leadership and commitment to expanding mental health services for young people across our state. We especially recognize Representatives Sean Camacho and Yara Zokaie and Senators Judy Amabile and Dylan Roberts for championing this effort, along with the many legislators, advocates, partners, and community members who helped elevate the urgent need for stronger youth mental health supports and programming. Special thanks to our coalition members: Gary Advocacy, Boys & Girls Clubs in Colorado, Colorado Children's Campaign, Disability Law Colorado, Alpine Achievers, Inc, Children's Hospital, and Youth Healthcare Alliance.

THANK YOU TO OUR 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

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
Weld Re-8 School District
Widefield School District 3



21 School Districts Served
Across the State