



Serving Colorado's Families Since 1998

friendsforyouth.com

303-756-9285



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

IT HAS BEEN

MY PRIVILEGE

to serve another year as Friends for Youth's Chairperson. Adapting to the changing opportunities in our partnership with Colorado Social Services has been challenging. I am pleased to report that our Board and Staff have been meeting these challenges. We have maintained our commitment to be involved with at-risk youth and their families. We continue to see success as the individuals we work with make positive decisions to become responsible members of our community and pursue constructive paths to achieve the goals they have established.

We hope you will enjoy reading this Annual Report. Behind every number is a life that has been impacted by a caring adult. For many young people, this relationship is the first time anyone has helped them see their potential and shown them the first steps of a path that will lead them to becoming the person they desire to be. Join us by being a volunteer who can extend love and hope to those we serve.

Karl Bruce
Chairperson
Friends for Youth



2023 POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT



320

Youth &
Families
Served



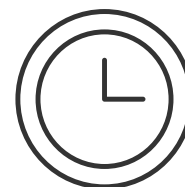
50

Middle School
Classes
Provided



180

Individual
Sessions
Completed



120

average hrs
spent per
individual

PROGRAMS OFFERED BY FRIENDS FOR YOUTH:

The One-to-One Community Mentoring Program provides youth with an engaged and supportive relationship with a caring adult mentor. Friends for Youth follows best practices of mentoring through quality volunteer training, matching, close supervision and personalized case management. The commitment is for matches to meet a min. of 2X per month, for a min. of 4 hours per month, for one year.

The Family Advocates & Mentors (FAM) program is funded by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Core Services Program and is designed to provide youth and families with life skills services, youth mentoring, community resources, parenting skills training, advocacy, and a variety of other services. The goal of the FAM program is to keep families together by giving them the tools and support needed to be self-sufficient and positively attached. Services are provided by trained and caring adults from the same communities as the families being served.

Through the Colorado Department of Education we teach young people about Healthy Relationships under the Sexual Risk Avoidance Education umbrella. The Colorado Title V State Sexual Risk Avoidance Education (SRAE) Grant Program is part of a comprehensive approach to adolescent well-being that seeks to support Colorado youth in developing and navigating healthy relationships and in making decisions that result in reduced rates of teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STIs), including HIV. SRAE programs use a Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework as part of a risk avoidance strategy to help participants develop healthy life skills, increase individual protective factors that reduce risks, make healthy decisions, engage in healthy relationships, and set goals that lead to self-sufficiency and marriage before engaging in sexual activity. SRAE programs teach youth personal responsibility, self-regulation, goal setting, healthy decision-making, a focus on the future, and the prevention of youth risk behaviors such as drug and alcohol use without normalizing teen sexual activity.



Our mentors are caring adults from the community who want to be a valuable resource to young people in our community. We strive to build healthy relationships with all people that we interact with. Please contact us if you are interested in becoming a volunteer with Friends for Youth.

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS OF MENTORING IN 2024!



2023 Board of Directors

All Friends for Youth Board of Director Members serve for a three-year term.

Chairperson: Karl Bruce

Secretary: John Greene

Treasurer: Cj Bower

Executive Director: Kent Moe

Members:

Charles John

Zachary D'Argonne

Paul Poole

Sadjo Sadiko

Sally Warren



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