



PARTNERS
Mentoring Youth

2018 Annual Report





Patrick McMeekin
Board Chair



Heather Vesgaard
Executive Director

Greetings Partners Mentoring Youth Community!

Though a busy 2019 is already underway, the goal of this letter is to lead you in reflecting on our 2018 annual report. It's always nice to take a step back and recognize the successes of the previous year, as well as learn from the challenges it brought. The year 2018 brought both!

Our biggest accomplishment was yet again serving a record number of youth in our mentoring programs, exceeding the record set in 2017. A total of 540 youth in Northern Colorado benefitted from our programs through the awesome work of over 600 committed volunteers and staff members. This commitment shows in the over 15,000 hours of volunteer time contributed! Our Junior and Senior Partners have a major impact on one another, and our program allows them the opportunity to grow and experience so much together. The stories of their journeys together are truly inspiring, and we've shared some of them with you on the other pages of this report. In addition to our traditional one-to-one

mentoring programs, we had the opportunity to implement group curriculum for youth. We piloted this work with a few of our community partners and are excited to continue that work in 2019. Program quality and enhancement continues to be top priority, and we are proud of the work we're doing.

Our commitment to achieve and surpass our youth-served goals and maintain high-quality programming also took priority in our financial decision-making in 2018. Though there were successes in revenue generation for 2018, serving more youth costs more money, and in the end we were not quite able to raise revenue as budgeted. In response to funding shortfalls in special event revenue and foundation giving, we minimized expenses as much as possible. While we ended 2018 with a small financial loss as compared to budget, our strong financial reserves allowed us to absorb that loss and still grow our program. We have started 2019 with many positives, both in youth served and in resource development, and we look forward to a successful year! I hope you enjoy the highlights from the past year in this report.

We could not do what we do without our community of supporters. Thank you for being a part of that community!

Heather Vesgaard
Executive Director
Partners Mentoring Youth

Patrick McMeekin
Board Chair, Partners Mentoring Youth
Vice President of Land Development and
Partner at Hartford Homes

Activities Across Northern Colorado

As part of our vision of enriching lives and building community, we host activities for our partnerships and youth in our Nexus program. These activities allow our youth to spend time bonding with other participants in the program, while also learning life skills, giving back to the community, and having a fun time. Thanks to all of the local businesses, organizations, and individual donors who provide funding and special access to our kids and volunteers. Here are some of our favorites from 2018:

Archery Lessons

We teamed up with the Big Thompson Bow Hunter's Society for our annual archery activity. All participants received instruction on how to shoot a bow safely, and then got time to practice shooting at various targets. This is one of our most popular activities, so we arranged for both a morning and afternoon session so more of our partnerships and waiting youth could learn about archery.



Horseback Riding

Several of our partnerships and waiting youth got the opportunity to go horseback riding at YMCA of the Rockies in Estes Park. The wranglers showed them how to mount their horses and led them on a beginner's ride with scenic views. It was a beautiful day and everyone had a great experience.

Bowling and Laser Tag

Our Greeley team hosted a recreational activity for local partnerships and waiting youth. They all had so much fun bowling and playing laser tag at Chippers Lanes. They also enjoyed pizza, veggies, and drinks for all.



Christmas for Kids

Every year we invite the youth in our mentoring programs across Northern Colorado to an activity that allows them to celebrate the holiday season while learning life skills. In 2018 165 youth received donated gift cards to purchase gifts for their loved ones. This activity gave them the opportunity to be thoughtful and giving, while also honing their budgeting skills—they all tried to use every last cent! We finished the activity with a wrapping party and breakfast all together.

Finding the Bright Side Together



From the start of their partnership over two years ago, Janeen and Olivia felt connected and eager to spend time together. They had similar interests and a shared love of giving back to their community. Both were interested in participating in the Partners program for different reasons--Janeen wanted to volunteer in a role she knew would have a big impact on a local kid, and Olivia was excited to get some time of her own and to have the opportunity to try new activities.

Since then, Olivia has gotten her wish as she and Janeen have had all kinds of outings together. Their favorites have been horseback riding, swimming, and playing card games. They have also completed several service projects together, which is a passion for both of them. Olivia particularly wants to help provide comfort to kids who are ill, and she has created a large-scale project to create fleece blankets for hospitalized children. Janeen has supported her as this project has grown and has also introduced other volunteer opportunities, like making valentines for seniors.

Janeen's primary goal is to give Olivia a chance to act her age. *"A big part of what I do is help Olivia remember that she is a kid, because she is asked to be a grown up in some other parts of her life. So we just relax and have fun."* Even so, Olivia has been keen to make goals. For 2019, Olivia decided she wants to hike at least 25 miles with Janeen. They have both enjoyed spending time outside, which is something that is new for Olivia. She said her family doesn't spend much time in nature, and she's grateful to get the opportunity through her mentoring relationship.

They both feel that they've learned a lot from one another. Olivia said Janeen has given her



a hopeful perspective: *“Even though some things are hard, there’s always a way to think on the bright side. That’s something she taught me that’s really helped me get through a lot the last couple of years.”* Olivia has helped Janeen remember that there is joy in the little things and that finding time to laugh together is important.

To anyone considering becoming a volunteer with Partners, Janeen says: *“Stretch yourself a little bit and do it. It’s a wonderful experience, and I’ve thoroughly enjoyed it. It has added a lot to my life. Take a chance—Partners will have your back and hopefully you’ll find someone like Olivia.”*



2018 Program and Impact Statistics

540

Youth Served

In 2018, we served a record number of youth in Northern Colorado! We surpassed our goal and served 540 youth in our community- and school-based mentoring programs.

After a year in the program, these kids experience:

70%

increase in self-esteem

55%

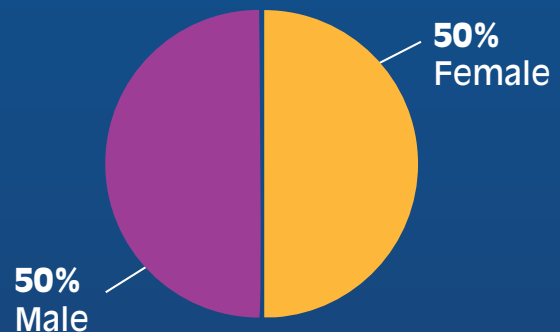
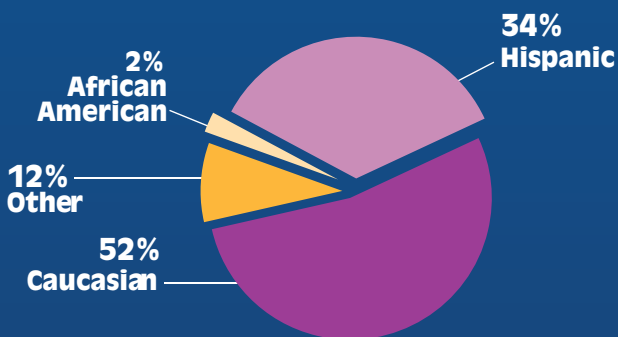
better bonding with adults

50%

improvement on social and communication skills

45%

improvement on decision-making skills



84% of our youth face mental health issues either themselves or within their immediate family

82% of our youth live in low income or poverty level homes

67% of our youth have been victims of some type of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence

63% of our youth struggle academically

34% of our youth were affected by substance abuse

49% of our youth lived in single parent households

100% of our youth have the potential to succeed in life

100% of our youth deserve to have a Senior Partners who invests in that potential

2018 Financial Information

Expenses:

Program Services

Youth Programs: \$719,415

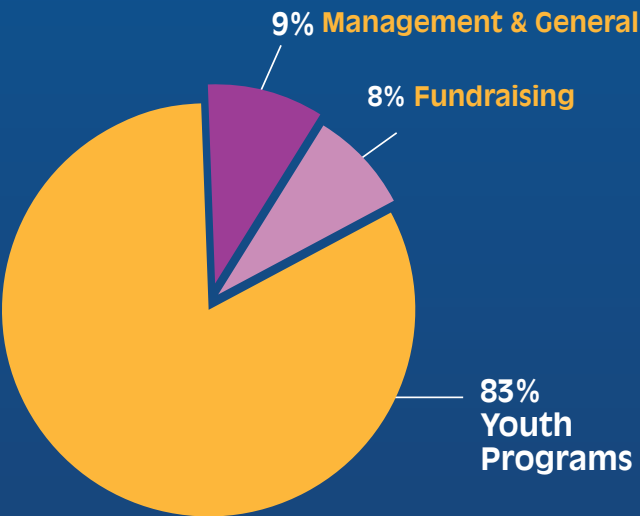
Support Services

Management and General: \$79,174

Fundraising: \$69,934

Total Expenses

(including Depreciation): **\$868,523**



Net Assets:

Net Assets – beginning of year: \$420,577

Net Assets – end of year: \$385,844

Change in Net Assets: -\$34,733

Revenue:

Grants and Contracts: \$420,665

Contributions: \$206,168

In Kind Donations: \$26,664

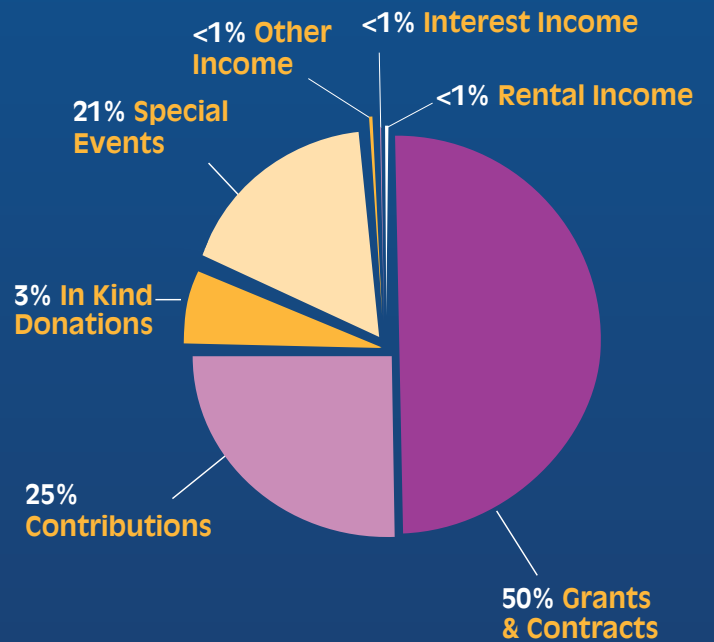
Special Events, net: \$183,046

Rental income, net: \$1,200

Other Income: \$1,194

Interest Income: \$129

Total Revenue: \$839,066



Support Partners Mentoring Youth

Partners strives to serve more northern Colorado youth every year. As a social service nonprofit, our programming depends on support from local community. We are grateful for the generosity we have received from individuals, companies, and foundations that has allowed us to expand the reach of our mission to better serve local youth.

You can become a donor. There are several ways you can get more involved in making sure the next generation has the role models they need to succeed. By providing Partners Mentoring Youth with a financial gift, you sustain our program and make growth possible. Please consider if any of these channels are a good fit for you:

Pivotal Partners: Join our Giving Society and create a deeper relationship with Partners by contributing at least \$1,500 annually, which supports one youth in the program for one year.

Legacy Partners: Ensure your legacy makes an impact on future generations by listing Partners as a beneficiary in your estate.

Supporting Partners: Directly support our mentoring programs by giving a personally significant one-time or monthly gift.

Learn more and contribute at
www.partnersmentoringyouth.org



Every contribution makes an impact.

- **\$1,500** supports one partnership for a full year and helps a youth develop self-esteem, improve their academic performance, and build on their future potential
- **\$500** supports one youth in our Nexus Program and gives them opportunities to attend fun activities, meet friends, try new experiences, and gain adult support
- **\$250** supports a monthly life-skill activity that prepares our program youth to handle real life situations, exposes them to future opportunities, and helps them develop new skills
- **\$100** supports a Senior Partner Training, which teaches mentors how to relate to their Junior Partner, address potential challenges, and thrive as mentors
- **\$50** pays for a Senior Partner Background Check and supports our process of finding positive, reliable, and safe mentors
- **\$25** provides snacks for our youth, helping to keep them focused on connecting and learning during our activities



Community Events

Part of our vision at Partners is building community in Northern Colorado. Our annual community events give us the opportunity to connect with our supporters, volunteers, families, and those who want to learn more about our youth mentoring services. Join us at one of our events throughout the year!

Sharin' O' the Green — Fort Collins

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day, this 5K run/walk in Fort Collins kicks off the running season in Northern Colorado. It's our largest community event and a great way to promote the importance of mentoring.

Party for Partners — Fort Collins

Party for Partners is our premier leadership event in Fort Collins, featuring an inspiring program, a live auction, photo booth, music, delicious refreshments, and many ways to give to our mission.

Be the Difference — Greeley

Be the Difference is our annual giving event in Weld County. Local businesses and individuals gather to socialize, learn about our Greeley mentoring programs, and support our efforts in Weld County.

Christmas for Kids Campaign

Our annual year-end appeal is centered on giving 100 kids in northern Colorado the gift of mentoring by raising \$150,000 to support our programs. We pair this with our annual life-skill building activity, where youth and their mentors budget and shop for holiday gifts for their loved ones, so they can experience the gift of giving for themselves.

Stay in the know!

Subscribe to our newsletter at www.partnersmentoringyouth.org



Major Donors, Sponsors and Foundations

4Rivers Equipment
A.V. Hunter Trust, Inc.
Air Comfort
Anadarko Petroleum
Angela, Walter
Anschutz Family Foundation
Anthem, Inc.
Art & Johnna Bavoso
Aspen Dental Center
Associates in Family Medicine
Bank of Colo Investment Services
Bank of Colorado
Basin Electric Power Cooperative
Bentley's Liquor
Big Al's, LLC
Big Grins
BigHorn Restaurant
Bohemian Foundation
Brent & Justine Hopton
Brett & Stephanie Kemp
Burt's Logo Apparel
Cache Bank & Trust
Carrico Family Foundation
Charles Shoop
Chris & Julie Otto
City of Fort Collins
Coan, Payton & Payne, LLC
Columbine Health
Compas Bank
Condon Family Foundation
Constant Contact, Inc.
Curacore
Curt Burgener
Cynthia Krumme
Daniels Fund
David Lerner
Dawn Paepke
DBE Manufacturing & Supply LLC
Deborah & Dennis Murphy Sullivan
Delaware North
Dellenbach Motors
Dennis E Hernandez
Dohn Construction
Don & Jan Jorgensen
Donald & Martha Bender
El Pomar Foundation
Elevations Credit Union
Elizabeth Woods
Encompass, LLC
Eric & Ali McDowell
Estes Area Lodging Association
Estes Park Community Thrift Shop
Estes Park Mountain Shop
Estes Park Rotary Foundation Inc.
Estes Valley Sunrise Rotary Club
Eye Center of Northern Colorado
Families for Estes
Farmers Bank
Fast Freddy Foundation
Fiona's Deli
FirstBank
Fish's Liquor
Flood & Peterson Insurance, Inc.
Fort Collins Heating & Air Conditioning
Fort Fun
Galloway US
Gerard & Pennie Nalezny
Grace & Jason Taylor
Grant Sunderland
Great Western Bank
Greg & Sarah Soffe
Gregory and Stefanie Rittner
Group Publishing, Inc
Hartford Homes, LLC
Hebert Inc.
Hensel Phelps Construction
Horner Painting
Howard Fitz
Jared A, Powell
Jeannine Machon
John & Kathleen Nicol
John R. Charitable Trust McCune
Junior League of Fort Collins
Justin & Deb Morrison
Kaiser Permanente
Kathryn Higgins
KCOE CPA's
Kevin & Mary Ward
Lakeside Mechanical Service
LAMB Bookkeeping
Lamp, Rynearson & Assoc
Laurie Sunderland
Lee & Karlin Gray
Lind's Plumbing & Heating
Lindsay Chacon Homes, LLC
Lisa Butler
LJ & Jen Houska
Lucille Irwin Middle School Give Next
Madwire
Mama Rose's
Matt & Heather Vesgaard
Maximum Painting, LLC
Menan & Dianna Bergman
Micah Whitacre
Michael & Lisa Bergerson
Microbial Research, Inc.
Mike & Nomie Ketterling
Mike Clark
Morales, Luis & Noelia
Mountain N Plains
National Christian Foundation CO
New York Life Foundation
Nordson Corporation Foundation
North Range Behavioral Health
Northern Engineering
Odell Brewing Company
Office of Behavioral Health
OneSeven Advisors, LLC
Orthopaedic & Spine Center of the Rockies
OtterCares Foundation
Pat & Kate McMeekin
PDC Energy, Inc.
Payback Foundation
PFS Insurance Group
Phelps-Tointon, Inc.
Pioneer Press
Poppy's Pizza & Grill
Poudre Valley REA
Randy & Katie Zwetzig
Realities for Children, Inc.
Richard Klein
Ride-A-Kart
Ripple Effect Martial Arts
RJC Family Foundation
Roche Constructors, Inc.
Rollerland
Rotary Club of Estes Park
Runlimited
Sage Benefits Advisors
Sage Marketing
Sandy & Sam Aldern
Scheel's Sporting Goods
Scott Gillan
Shane & Tori Brown
Shirazi Benefits
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Steven and Heidi Lovass
Taylor's Financial Planning, Inc.
TGYS State of Colorado
Thomas & Brooke Sunderland
Thompson Valley High School
Give Next
Tico's Roofing
Tom & Beth Hoogendyk
Town of Estes Park
Transpro/Burg Trucking
Travis Gillmore
Trois Coeurs Foundation
Unify Payroll (CPA)
United Way Larimer County
United Way of Weld County
US Bancorp Foundation
US Bank (Estes Park)
Vanessa Dominguez
Verified Volunteers
Victim Assistance VALE - Larimer
Victim Assistance -Weld
Village Thrift Shop
Wal-Mart Foundation
Wash Depot Car Wash, LLC
Waterwise Land & Waterscapes
Waypoint Real Estate
Windermere Foundation
Women's Fund of Weld County
Woodward Charitable Trust
Xcel Energy Public Serv Co
Zoe's Café and Events

We deeply thank all donors who chose to remain anonymous.

We sincerely apologize if we inadvertently left any contributors off this list.



Shape the Future, Be a Mentor

The number of youth in need of extra support is growing, and we consistently have youth waiting for mentors. If you have 1-3 hours per week to volunteer, you can be the difference in the life of a child. Learn more and sign up at www.partnersmentoringyouth.org

2018 Partners Board of Directors

- Pat McMeekin, *Chair*
- Dawn Paepke, *Incoming Chair*
- Kevin Ward, *Past Chair*
- Nicholas Hoogendyk, *Treasurer*
- Devon Beitzel, *Secretary*
- Beth Hutchinson
- Stephanie Dohn-Augusto
- Grace Taylor
- Celeste Smith
- Julia Crawmer
- Mike Ketterling
- Dawn Paepke
- Jeremy Ehardt
- Menan Bergman
- Kim Johnson

2018 Partners Staff

- Heather Vesgaard, *Executive Director*
- Tami Roskamp, *Program Director*
- Shayna Kefalas, *Program Manager*
- Bailey Dutko, *Program Manager*
- Kathy Whitacre, *Estes Park Program Coordinator*
- Gail Shatz, *Greeley Program Coordinator*
- Erik Acosta, *Greeley Program Coordinator*
- Brandon Lagunas, *Greeley Program Coordinator*
- Christina Powell, *Program Coordinator*
- Abby Rains, *Program Coordinator*
- Bethany Fisher, *Program Coordinator*
- Vanessa Lewis, *Community Engagement Manager*
- Kylie Massman, *Development Coordinator*
- Kim Tarka, *Business Manager*

Learn How You Can Become A Mentor:
www.PartnersMentoringYouth.com

"It's super fun to hang out with someone who is wiser than me."

- Junior Partner

"Our weekly hangouts are the bright spot on my calendar. I love having time carved out of my schedule to hang out with my Junior Partner."

- Senior Partner



"From previous experiences with adults who let them down, my kids were taught how NOT to be. But after spending time with their mentors from Partners, my kids learned how TO be."

- Parent of Junior Partner



PARTNERS
Mentoring Youth



www.PartnersMentoringYouth.org

Fort Collins/Loveland Office | 530 S. College Ave. Unit 1 | Fort Collins, CO 80524 | 970-484-7123

Estes Park Office | P.O. Box 484 | Estes Park, CO 80517 | 970-577-9348

Greeley Office | 710 11th Ave., Suite 106 | Greeley, CO 80631 | 970-378-6501