

Douglas County Youth Initiative Report



The Douglas County Youth Initiative

Working hard, so DC YOUTH and families are involved, valued, protected, and healthy

What do we do?

- *Educate
- *Interact with families
- *Help
- *Act as a resource
- *Recognize and grow youth leaders
- *Help youth who are struggling, via our WrapAround program
- *Support parents with their at-risk youth

Who is our audience?

- *Youth 5-21
- *Families
- *DCSD
- *DHS and Child Welfare
- *Court involved youth
- *At-risk youth
- *Law Enforcement involved youth
- *Mental Health Professionals

How do we do the above?

- *WrapAround
- *Truancy Project
- *Youth Related activities
- *La Liga
- *Juntos/4H
- *Youth Awards
- *Youth Congress
- *Connections: mental health action
- *Communications, Vlogs, trainings and emails

What issues do we work on?

- *Mental Health of family and youth
- *Sub Abuse
- *Truancy
- *Making sure kids go to school
- *Youth Leadership
- *Transportation
- *Pro-social/mentoring
- *Parenting
- *Kids with disabilities
- *Family dysfunction
- *Blended families
- *Imprisoned parent
- *DV
- *Child Welfare involvement
- *GED help
- *Homelessness

Kirsten Manley
Castle View High School's
Outstanding Youth in 2021



KIRSTEN HAS OVERCOME SEVERE TRAUMA IN HER LIFE, BUT HAS FLOURISHED AND NOW HAS A 4.0 IN HER SENIOR YEAR.

Kirsten has inspired many from difficult backgrounds with her spirit of perseverance.

Nominated by Dr. Throuty Sumnerin, School Counselor



Founded by Douglas County elected leaders in 2005, DCYI is a collaborative program, assisting the County-at-large with issues pertaining to youth and families.

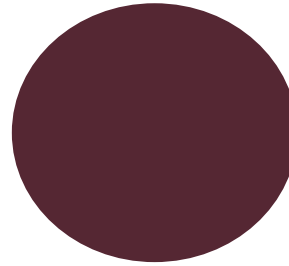
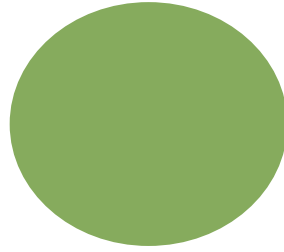
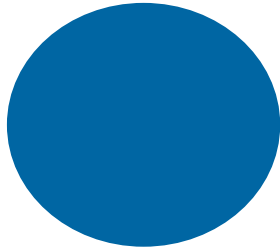
Vision

The Douglas County Youth Initiative envisions a community in which youth are involved, valued, productive, protected and healthy.

Mission

Our mission is to unite the Douglas County community, including youth, parents, agencies, governments, schools, nonprofits and other adults, in our mutual efforts to:

- Collaborate effectively as a seamless continuum of services.
- Advocate for system improvements that will better serve youth and families of Douglas County.
- Support youth and encourage their contributions to the broader community.
- Effectively intervene with youth who are endangered by their decisions and/or situation.
- Support and expand opportunities for youth to express viewpoints.
- Support parents with resources, education and unconditional care.



The Youth Initiative is funded and overseen by the following members of the Partnership of Douglas County Governments. The 2023 Youth Initiative Advisory Board:

- City of Lone Tree, Council Member Marissa Harmon
- Douglas County Government, Commissioner, and DCYI Chair, Abe Laydon, Deputy County Manager, Barbara Drake, and Maureen Waller, Project Manager
- Douglas County Libraries, Trustee, Zach McKinney, Jamie Gotlieb, Youth Librarian
- Douglas County School District, Director Becky Meyers, and Dr. Stephanie Crawford
- Highlands Ranch Metro District, Director, Andy Jones
- Town of Castle Rock, Council Member, Tim Dietz
- Town of Parker, Councilmember, Brandi Wilks
- City of Castle Pines, Council Member, Chris Eubanks

2023 DCYI Special Events

Outstanding Youth Awards

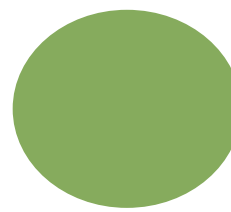
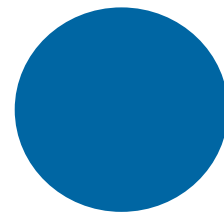
Each Spring, DCYI selects 10 outstanding youth who have overcome personal adversity and created positive change in their lives. The awards program provides business, community and civic leaders an opportunity to actively demonstrate their belief and support for the young people in our community.

Youth Congress

Each Fall, students are invited to work with community and elected officials in a Youth Congress that allows them the opportunity to share their ideas and give feedback on issues pertaining to them. Held at the State Capitol, 9-12 graders, hear from subject matter experts on a variety of issues, and then tackle solving these complicated problems. From unifying the teen curfew, to working on the prevention of bullying, these students learn how challenging it is to govern and how they can make a difference by working together.

Educational Series

DCYI hosts quarterly Lunch-n-Learns presenting a variety of topics. When DCYI learns of a topic or issue that the community may be interested in, we invite speakers to present to our community. We have offered presentations on, Autism, Mitigating Negative Behaviors, Prevention of Teen Suicide, and Drugs in our Community. Well attended and well received, DCYI is proud to offer these trainings to the community.



QUICK REMINDER: WHAT IS OUR LARGEST PROGRAM, WRAPAROUND, ALL ABOUT?

- Free
- Voluntary
- Work with families with youth, ages 5-21
- Work in the home, for 12-24 months
- Trying to keep kids, safe, healthy, and remain in the home
- Get to know the whole family PLUS their neighbors, friends, relatives, teachers, doctors, etc.
- Clients: Self-referral or from an agency; mostly DCSD schools and Human Services/Child Welfare
- Review each family on a scale of 10 life domains, calculated, via their needs

Example:

- Grandparents raising two girls, 5th and 7th grades
- 5th grader in Social Emotional Learning classroom, part of Special Ed
- 5th grader has been hospitalized numerous times; out of control behaviors
- Family has Kaiser
- WRAP:
- Meets with family 1 a week
- Meets with school to help
- Coordinates services
- Arranges for services
- Listens
- Family has stated that we have done more for them than any other service
- Working with the family on how to parent children coming from a very dysfunctional setting
- Their domain number: 6, or 60%



TEN LIFE DOMAINS

1. SCHOOL	2. MENTAL HEALTH DX	3. CHILD WELFARE	4. COURT	5. POLICE/DCSO	6. GEN	7. HEALTH	8. BASIC NEEDS	9. PARENTING	10. FINANCES
TRUANT	HOSPITAL	OUT OF HOME RISK; LOW, MED, HIGH	CHARGES	GENERAL INVOLVEMENT	DV	SUB-ABUSE	HOUSING	LACK OF PARENTING SKILLS	LACK OF RESOURCES
DISRUPTIVE	MH DIAGNOSIS	DHS INVOLVEMENT	PROBATION	REPEAT VISITS	TRAUMA	DISABLED	TRANSPORTATION	BEYOND CONTROL	UNDER EMPLOYED
EXPELED	BIPOLAR		DYC	KNOWN TO PATROL AS HIGH RISK	ADOPTED	ILLNESS	FOOD	PARENTAL CONFLICT	UNEMPLOYED
SUBSTANCE ABUSE	SUICIDE / SUICIDAL IDEATION		PRE TRIAL		FOSTER CHILD	OBESE	NO HEALTH INSURANCE	LACK OF RESOURCES; TRAININGS, EDUCATION	UNDER INSURED/NOT INSURED
BULLIED	CUTTING		OPEN NEGLECT CASE		INCARCERATED	TBI		LACK OF SUPPORT	CAN'T AFFORD DEDUCTIBLE
IEP/SSN/BEHV PLAN	PTSD		DIVERSION		HI CONFLICT DIVORCE	MS		LACK OF RESPITE	

Is WrapAround helpful? We were amazed at the contacts, analysis and services that Marsha, Patsy and Tena were able to introduce to us. After getting to know us and our challenges, they were able to identify the need for Trauma Therapists and help us get our 2 granddaughters into better individual therapy as well as Family Therapy. **Different from other services?** Yes. They provided weekly high touch follow up and made great recommendations as our family issues evolved. It was nice not feeling like we were on a 45 min. clock with a provider. **Did you enjoy working with Marsha, Patsy and Tena?** Definitely. When the school suggested Wrap Around services, I was a little skeptical that we would get a significant benefit, but these women certainly are knowledgeable, caring and spot on with their recommendations. We can definitely see improvement in our granddaughters' behavior at home.

Marsha also facilitated a conference call with the 4 therapists from 3 different organizations who work with our granddaughters to provide a forum for sharing their insights and therapy focus. It was an excellent session and everyone found value in the collaboration and suggestions.



DCYI WrapAround Program and Referral Form

- WRAP is a free and voluntary program helping families solve difficult issues. A child must be between ages of 5-21 to be referred. Most meetings take place in the home, and the process can last up to 12 months.
- A family can be referred to the program via self-referral, schools, Juvenile Assessment Center, or any number of agencies or community programs.
- A WrapAround family facilitator meets the family to explain the process and highlight the voluntary and family-friendly nature of the process. The facilitator listens to the family's take on their situation and conducts a strengths-based assessment.
- Based on the needs and strengths assessment, the family and facilitator will identify people to be invited to a WrapAround team meeting; the majority of people invited are friends, relatives, doctors or whomever.
- With support from the WrapAround team, the family implements an action plan. The Facilitator continues to provide advocacy, referrals, and support services.

Thanks in advance for completing this form thoroughly to assist us in contacting the family!
 WRAP will keep you posted about your referral. Fax to 303-484-5728 or email to malston@douglas.co.us Questions? Call WrapAround at 303-660-7424. Thank you.

Date _____

Referred by:

Name: _____ Agency: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Family Referred: _____ Primary Phone _____

Mother/Legal Guardian: _____ Home #: _____

Address: _____ Work #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email _____

Father/Legal Guardian: _____ Home #: _____

Address: _____ Work #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email _____

Other Emergency Contact: _____ Home #: _____

Address: _____ Work #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Email _____

Relationship to Client: _____

Ethnicity: African American Caucasian Hispanic Native American Asian Other

Interpreter Needed? Yes No **Special Accommodation Needs, if any:** _____

Who Lives in the Home? _____

Children Living in the Home:

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: M F

School: _____ Grade: _____ Not Attending Not Enrolled

Special Education: Yes No Medications: _____

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: M F

School: _____ Grade: _____ Not Attending Not Enrolled
Special Education: Yes No Medications: _____

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: M F
School: _____ Grade: _____ Not Attending Not Enrolled
Special Education: Yes No Medications: _____

Name: _____ DOB: _____ Age: _____ Gender: M F
School: _____ Grade: _____ Not Attending Not Enrolled
Special Education: Yes No Medications: _____

Strengths/Interests (Family & Individual): _____

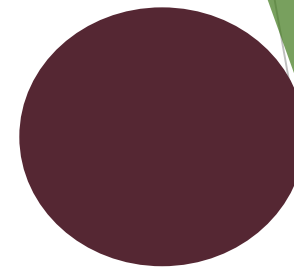
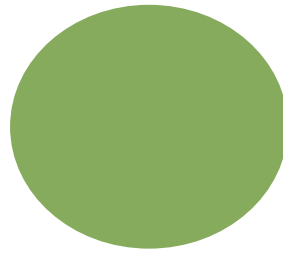
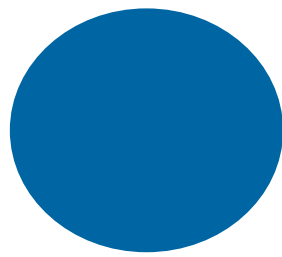
Needs/Reason for Referral: _____

Safety Concerns? Yes No Please Describe: _____

Current / Pending Legal Proceedings: _____



<https://www.douglas.co.us/community/partners-and-providers/youth-initiative/wraparound-referral-form>



DCYI Goals 2024:

- Continue assisting students in graduating from High School
- Continue to increase attendance to DCYI events
- Work on Teen Suicide Prevention with DCSD and community members
- Work on promoting Sources of Strength - helping develop a community promotion plan with DCSD
- Teen Court Collaboration
- Continue developing a strategic plan focusing on the seven topics selected at our most recent Youth Needs Summit:
 - *Parent Education and resources*
 - *Coordination of mental health services and resources*
 - *Substance Use Prevention*
 - *Youth Mentorship*
 - *Developing youth leadership*
 - *Transportation*