

Douglas County Youth Initiative 2022 Overview

SPECIAL EVENTS

Annual Youth Congress: Held at the State Capitol. 150 youth attend, working with elected officials on pertinent youth issues.

Annual Youth Awards: Recognizing youth who have overcome various hardships and difficulties.

NEW Monthly “Youth Connections” program; held at local high schools, where officials meet with youth. Three were completed in 2022.

Lunch-n-Learns for the adult community in 2023; topics include: Sex Trafficking, Fentanyl dangers, and others as needed.

WRAPAROUND; DCYI’s largest program, working with families throughout the County

- Free
- Voluntary
- Work with families with youth, ages 5-21
- Work in the home for up to 12-18 months
- Working to keep kids, safe, healthy, and remain in the home and attend school

WRAP works with families who have very complex needs.

WRAP families have gone from a 60% involvement rate to a 70% rate, showing an increase in complexity of family issues

DCYI PROJECTS

Truancy

Serve on Truancy Prevention Cmte. Attend Court, receive referrals from Family Magistrate, work with youth on obtaining GED’s, work with youth via WrapAround

Juntos/Connexion

Collaboration with CSU Extension and DCSD; program for families who do not speak English in the home, helping develop leadership skills and post secondary education.

Teen Courts

Working with Towns supporting their Teen Courts. NEW: Researching a County-wide Teen Court Program

La Liga Jr and Sr: Coordinate, promote and help fund free soccer games

Implementation of ideas from Youth Congress

A need that has been clearly identified as a priority

DCYI PROJECTS, continued

New: Forming a **Douglas County Youth Commission.** To act in an advisory capacity to the Douglas County Board of County Commissioners on matters pertaining to the youth and teen population in the County.

New: Discussing adding a position to serve as a **WrapAround Truancy Facilitator.**

New: Adding a youth Advisory Board member

Note: Funders have not been asked for an increase since 2015, and that was for 5%.

