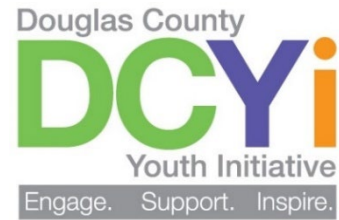


DCYI MID-YEAR REPORT

July 31, 2025



La Liga: The Douglas County Championship was held on July 19 of this year. The winner was, Castle Rock! This was an exciting year for La Liga, there were 120 kisses had one weather related cancelation. We had LOTS of fun.



CASTLE ROCK WON!



THEY CAME! THEY SUPPORTED! THEY BUILT COMMUNITY!

THEY GOT MOVES!



THEY GOT HEART!
DCYI – connecting,
inspiring and loving our
children!

Youth Congress: Oct 7, 2025, Legacy Campus – TOPICS DISCUSSED WERE THE FOLLOWING:

- **SCHOOL I: MIDDLE TO HIGH SCHOOL TRANSITION, WORKLOAD, GRADES, PRESSURE OF EXTRA CURRICULARS**

- Pre-TEEN VS TEEN PEER PRESSURE, THERE IS A DIFFERENCE
- Pre-teens need to be more prepared for HS
- School counselors need to normalize talking about the transition from MS to HS
- Social media is changing teens, they are affected much younger
- More parent informational meetings
- Lack of support and guidance from teachers and counselors in middle school
- Youth should be given a better idea of the high school workload and then resources to manage; they are having problems with scheduling and unaware of classes
- Unfamiliar with reaching out, or scared to ask for help
- It would be beneficial to implement MS Advisors in 8th grade to help
- Peer connection with upper classmen
- Bigger opportunity to switch out classes
- Work on self-advocating in MS
- Parent education on teen issues
- Need mental health
- Advisements: set a standard
- Seminar: positive changes

SCHOOL II:

- Schools lagging behind with 21st century tools, and learning
- Make passion project boards
- Counselors' role; college? mental health?
- Smaller schools: discuss taxes needed to pay for more schools, teachers being trained, smaller assemblies
- Bathrooms: vaping, not clean, no doors, closed down. Paint them black, color-coded bathroom passes for entering
- Log into bathrooms with school ID
- Restorative Justice: cleaning, painting
- Establish a peer-tip-line
- admin support
- More sources of strength
- Teachers need to go the extra mile
- Lack of community in school
- Lack of future motivation



- Counselor access can be difficult
- Support and communication are lacking in school and lack of understanding at home; increase access to a variety of support systems

- **BEING A TEEN: PEER PRESSURE, SOCIAL STIGMAS, NOT FITTING IN, YOUTH AGENCY AND INDEPENDENCE**
 - Show what peer pressure looks like, give examples
 - Normalize mental health
 - Teach independence
 - Poor mental health causes: Work, time, lack of support, extra curriculars, school/life balance
 - Expectations, fear of failure is too great
 - Need more support
 - Need more flexibility in assignments, and due dates, more consideration from teachers
 - Take accountability and learn balance
 - Help with self-advocating, help with organization, time management
 - Structured time in class and during school to get work done
 - Smaller classes, hands-on-Learning
 - Need more support with counselors
 - Better communication
 - It is ok to say no, need to see examples of this

- **MENTAL HEALTH: MENTAL HEALTH STIGMAS, ANXIETY VS ANXIOUS, SELF ESTEEM, UNHEALTHY COPING, WHAT IS ALREADY GOING ON AT YOUR SCHOOL RE: MENTAL HEALTH CLASSES, CLUBS, WELLNESS?**
 - Need more positive social connection
 - Awareness Campaigns
 - Apps needed for counseling
 - NAMI access
 - Why do adults seem angry all the time?
 - More mindset and focuses classes
 - Assemblies, smaller, more focused
 - Posters in bathrooms
 - More trusted adults
 - Many students define success with grades and expectations, which can be overwhelming, instead it should be based on self-fulfillment and overall connection
 - A Seminar on mindset and focus
 - "That one teacher"

WRAPAROUND FOR OUR DOUGLAS COUNTY FAMILIES

WRAPAROUND SERVICES OVERVIEW • Definition: A team-based method providing personalized, comprehensive support. • History: Started in the 1980s to improve traditional services. • Uses: Applied in child welfare, juvenile justice, mental health, education, substance abuse, developmental disabilities, community support, elderly care, transition services, and trauma response.

CORE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES • Collaborative Team: Involves a team that designs and delivers services. • Care Coordinators: Help create and follow personalized plans. • Comprehensive Care Plan: Updated continuously to fit individual needs. • Outcome-Based: Focuses on measurable success.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES • Phases: Engagement, plan development, implementation, and transition. • Training and Certification: Necessary for effective implementation. Useful resources are available from the National Wraparound Initiative and others. • Partnerships: Important for providing a full range of services.

EXAMPLES OF WRAPAROUND SERVICES • Douglas County, Colorado: Supports at-risk youth through coordinated services. Uses a comprehensive approach to reduce truancy

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS 1. POLICY AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT • Utilize existing programs that support wraparound services. • Develop agreements and service teams. • Ensure ongoing staff training and certification.

PARTNERSHIP BUILDING • Partner with experienced organizations. • Expand networks to offer comprehensive support. • Engage community stakeholders for better service coordination.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT • Use metrics to track progress and adjust plans. • Participate in research to improve services. • Share best practices with other organizations. Wraparound services provide a flexible and comprehensive way to support individuals with complex needs, aiming to create stability and improve lives through coordinated efforts.



2025 Outstanding Youth Awards were held April 28, 2025



2025 Douglas County Youth Initiative Advisory Board

Jay Carpenter, City of Lone Tree Council Member

Dr. Stephanie Crawford Goetz, Douglas County School
District Director of Mental Health

Tim Dietz, Town of Castle Rock Council Member

Chris Eubanks, City of Castle Pines Council Member

Andy Jones, Highlands Ranch Metro District Director

Abe Laydon, Douglas County Commissioner

Zach McKinney, Douglas County Libraries Board Trustee

Becky Myers, Douglas County School District Director

Brandi Wilks, Town of Parker Council Member

*"Every kid is ONE caring adult away
from being a success story."*
- Josh Shipp



Douglas County Outstanding Youth Awards

— Monday, April 28, 2025 —



*"You do not just wake up and become the butterfly.
Growth is a process."*
- Rupri Kaur

Welcome and Emcee

Douglas County Commissioner and DCYI Chair Abe Laydon
Pledge of Allegiance

Ceremony

2025 Outstanding Youth Awards and
the 2025 Outstanding Youth Led Organization

Dessert Reception

Adjoining Room

The Outstanding Youth Awards recognize the Douglas
County Youth Commission for its hard work this year!

The Aspen Effect hosts an *adult-mentored* Teen Advisory
Board who counsel the agency on how to improve youth
programming. They also volunteer for other programs and
help promote services in the community. Only 12 high
school teens are chosen each year to serve on The Aspen
Effect. This group acts as a *critical youth voice* in Douglas
County for local schools, civic leaders and organizations
that focus on youth mental health.

Congratulations to The Aspen Effect's Teen Advisory Board
for their dedication, hard work and outstanding commit-
ment to Douglas County.



2025 Outstanding Youth and Their Nominators

Youth	Nominators
Mishika Bhatia	Susanne Petri
Karoline Barksdale	Lara Dyer-Jones Jess Leitch
Makenna Carvey	Christy Schultz Marjorie Carvey
Demitrius Chacon	Jason Strong James Greaney Anne Chacon
Nicholas Cisneros	Sarah Bailey
Easton Coleman	Linda Brooks
Alex Kilbourn	Elizabeth Bouchard Isabella Sajdak
Parker Owen	Alicia Morgan
Kyra Phetnongphay	Linnea Dobosz Madelyn Tieman
Victoria Tricamo	Krystin Martin Justin Martin Lindsay Robinson Brad Johnson
Christopher Young	Crystal Metzger Colleen Campbell