



Youthentity

Annual Report

2022-23



SKILLS FOR THE
FUTURE



Dear Friends & Supporters,

This year – the 2023-24 academic year – marks a significant time for Youthentity. We anticipate serving almost 8,000 students, and have added exciting new programs to our youth development offerings. This coming year will be the culmination of both groundwork laid over time and an unwavering mission to help young people plan the next steps toward successful futures. Of course, our future success is determined by the building blocks laid throughout the past year, including:

- ▶ **HIGH5 BREAKS OUT OF PILOT MODE AND COMES INTO ITS OWN**
With the High5 career planning program, we hope to help students plan for their post-high school life with a blend of financial education and career exploration. We had the good fortune to connect with several donors who believe in this program and have helped give it life by funding a lead staff position for High Five. This educational and career planning program holds expansion potential and we can't wait to facilitate its continued growth. *High5, page 4*
- ▶ **FINANCIAL LITERACY CONTINUES ITS STATEWIDE GROWTH**
After several years of high-speed expansion, we slowed our roll to catch our breath. But as teachers continue to bring the I am Financial Knowledge program into classrooms, that doesn't mean we're standing still in our quest to make Colorado the most financially literate state in the nation. *I am Financial Knowledge, page 5*
- ▶ **CAREER EXPO TAKES FLIGHT**
Last year, the annual high school career event known as GlenX transitioned to Youthentity's stewardship and is now known as the Youthentity Career Expo. We have future-forward plans for this career exploration event, including using tech to tailor this experience to each student's career interests. *Career Expo, page 6*
- ▶ **THE 2023 PIG ROAST**
After three years of hosting virtual events we were thrilled to bring everyone back together for an in-person fundraiser – and it was better than we could have hoped for. We hope you'll join us for next summer's fundraiser on Saturday, August 3rd, 2024.

Of course, we would not be able to accomplish this work without our donors and supporters. From our dedicated financial literacy workshop facilitators to our event volunteers, in-kind donors, and those who commit and invest their financial resources in Youthentity, we thank you. Our youth and community will be stronger for it.

Thank you,
Kirsten



KIRSTEN MCDANIEL
Executive Director

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HIGH FIVE YOUR LIFE

Salary growth. Student loans. Retirement plans. Education costs. Health insurance. How does it all work?

At Youthentity, we know that careers and financial choices are connected. That's why we developed our newest program, High5. High5 aims to teach high school students not only about career choices but also how to plan for successful financial futures. Through this guided program, we hope students will enter adulthood with the critical information necessary to achieve stability and happiness.

ABOUT THE PROGRAM:

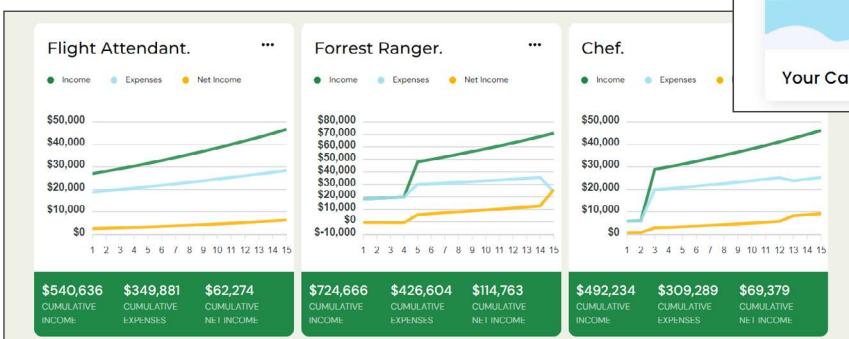
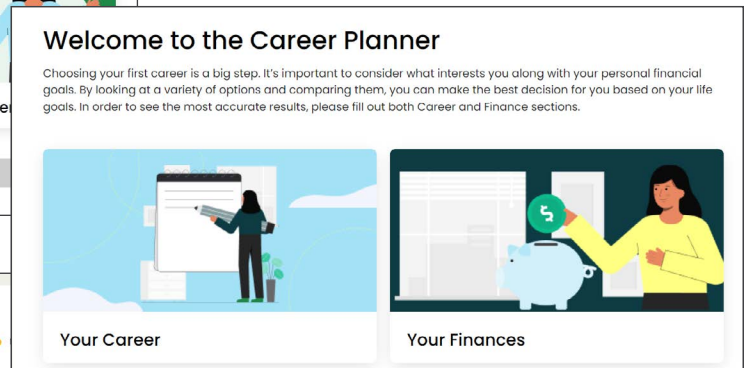
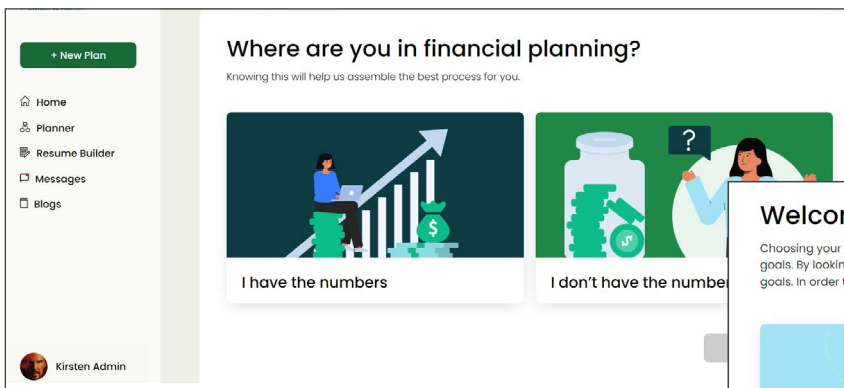
High5 is delivered in extended school workshops and half-day sessions. In-school workshops cover weeks of information and exercises aimed at helping students compare and consider career choices and educational paths, and the financial decisions that come with each. High Five workshops are offered in Spanish, with an emphasis on first-generation college students.

We are near completion of a High5 planning tool – a platform students can use to plan their futures by comparing different career paths and mapping out the steps toward their individual

goals. The platform offers resources such as industry salary projections, college tuition rates, cost-of-living calculators, household budgeting tools, and more.

THE FUTURE OF HIGH FIVE

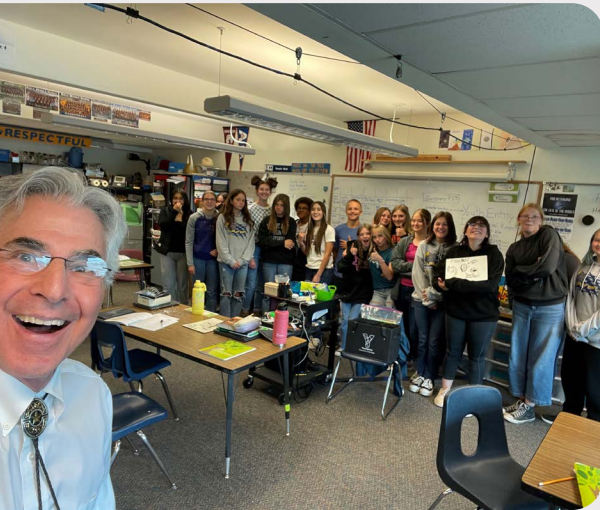
We hope to provide High5 in a parent-student workshop format in the future. For many parents, the collegiate system is unfamiliar; teaching parents how to navigate it helps both students and their parents make decisions together, and gives college-bound students a more robust support system.



The platform guides students through a self-discovery and career interest exercise to plan their futures.

I AM FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

I am Financial Knowledge is a classroom program that provides 5th and 8th graders with the knowledge and skills to make informed financial decisions.



Financial literacy facilitator Ron Pickman with IAFK students.



IAFK Program Director Stephanie Stahle with the Consumers United Association award for program excellence.

The class - which utilizes hands-on, engaging activities to teach financial concepts - opens a dialogue for students to have financial conversations that will enable them to identify resources and ask the right questions as adults.

Students learn about topics such as banking, budgeting, investing, insurance, and more. In our interactive IAFK workshops, they earn their first “paychecks” when they take a knowledge test at the end of the course. Students then receive a check of \$.50 per correct answer that prompts them to make the financial decision to spend or save, and to visit a bank to cash or deposit their check.

The IAFK footprint spans from Colorado’s easternmost to western borders, serving 5,229 students during the 2022-2023 academic year. That number is projected to grow to 6,250 in the 2023-2024 academic year. One-fifth of our IAFK students are English Language Learners and more than a quarter identify as Hispanic or Latino. In all, 48% of our students identify as multiracial or a race other than White.

As we grow, we will continue to include students from across the state, and expand our reach to schools that may not otherwise have access to financial literacy education. Whether they attend a small, rural community school or a large urban school, all Colorado students deserve access and knowledge of the financial concepts that will surely factor into their futures.

—STEPHANIE STAHLE, FINANCIAL LITERACY PROGRAM DIRECTOR

IAFK at a Glance:

5,229 Students during the 2022-2023 academic year

6,250+ Estimated number of students that will be served in the 2023-2024 academic year

20% IAFK students are English language learners

25% + IAFK students identify as Hispanic or Latino

48% Students identify as multiracial or a race other than White

16 / 77 counties/schools served during the 2022-2023 academic year

Career Expo



In early 2023 Youthentity made the exciting move to acquire GlenX – a long-running event series that connected high school students with businesses and organizations in the valley. Though it is now known as the Youthentity Career Expo, the mission remains: to encourage local students to connect with industry professionals, and to learn about jobs and career paths.

WHAT IS CAREER EXPO?

- Career Expo events are specifically tailored to high school Juniors and Seniors.
- Students are encouraged to complete a pre-event exercise to discover their individual career interests and “work personality”.
- Students are then directed to participating organizations at each Expo with the purpose of learning more about the fields and industries that most interest them.
- The new Career Expo website and mobile app enable students and exhibitors to see the event in real-time, navigate the floor map, and share information.
- Career Expo is held twice a year, in spring and fall.
- The keynote speaker for both spring and fall 2023 events was Kayleen McCabe, and DIY TV personality and general contractor from Denver.

WHAT TO EXPECT FOR THE 2023-24 ACADEMIC YEAR:

- Career Expo is expected to host over 2,500 students in the 2023-24 school year.
 - The Spring 2024 event will be held at Colorado Mountain College’s Spring Valley campus.
-

Career Academy

Youthentity Career Academies provide high school students with an introductory look at jobs and career paths. By participating in Career Academy, students can gain hands-on experience in an industry through the academy of their choice, allowing them to prepare and consider their futures as they decide on careers and post-secondary education.

Currently, four career academies are offered under the Career Academy umbrella: **Culinary Arts & Hospitality, Construction & Building Industry, Animal Care, and Health Occupations.** Classes are open to all high school students, and classes are taught by industry professionals with the help of a network of local industry mentors.

The 2022-2023 school year was a time of transition for the Career Academies. While we did not have the enrollment to run the Construction or Health Occupations classes, both the Culinary Arts & Hospitality and Animal Care classes were full. We took this time to re-evaluate our programs to meet the needs of students and industry partners; as a result, some exciting changes were made for the 2023-2024 school year, including offering these classes during the school day to increase accessibility for many students.

CULINARY ARTS & HOSPITALITY

- 3 college credits from Metropolitan State University
- 3 college credits from Colorado Mountain College
- 20 high school credits
- ServSafe FoodHandler certification
- Scholarships are available through ProStart competitions and industry partners; to date, Youthentity's culinary students have won nearly \$1 million in scholarships.

CONSTRUCTION & BUILDING INDUSTRY

- 8 college credits from Colorado Mountain College
- 10 high school general credits
- 10 high school math credits
- Opportunity to earn OSHA 10 Construction certification, NCCER CORE certification, and Western Colorado Independent Electrical Contractor New Worker industry credentials.



We are excited to share the news that three culinary program alumni and 2023 graduates – Finn Windmueller, Diana Aguilar, and Cynthia Jimenez (pictured above with teammate Izel Miranda – have decided to pursue further education in the culinary arts. Finn (far right) is in his freshman year at the Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, New York, while Cynthia (second from left) and Diana (far left) are attending Johnson and Wales University in Rhode Island. Cynthia was awarded one of 12 James Beard National Scholarships in 2023 which comes with a \$20,000 scholarship. Congratulations to all!

STAFF + BOARD

Kirsten McDaniel, *Executive Director*
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PROGRAM STAFF

Dr. Oneal Bogan, *Animal Care Career Academy Manager*
Joe Daboul, *Lead Chef Instructor*
Ben Kite, *Construction Instructor*
Matt Maier, *Chef Instructor*
Gail Shannon & Cheryl Turpin, *Financial Literacy Program Managers*

2022-23 Financial Literacy Program Facilitators

Front Range

Brian Palmeri
Jonathan Howard

Grand Junction

Michelle Krug

Roaring Fork

Ellie Kershow
Ron Pickman
Patti Cummings

Summit & Eagle

James Thomason

SAVE THE DATE

Pig Roast 2024

Thanks to all our supporters who made this summer's Pig Roast the best yet! Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 3rd, 2024 as we look forward to gathering for the 16th annual Pig Roast Fundraiser. We hope you'll join us for next summer's celebration of youth financial literacy and career readiness.





CONNECT WITH YOUTHENTITY

Get to know our students, alumni, supporters and staff. Youthentity's YouTube channel, Facebook and Instagram feeds tell our story in real time.

YouTube Search

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Recently uploaded

- Cynthia Jimenez at the 2023 Pig Roast
Youthentity
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Grid of photos showing various activities, including group photos, food, and people working.

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Money Smart. Career Ready.

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1K likes · 1.1K followers

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Sign up for the monthly Youthentity newsletter!



Donors & Grants 2022

\$200,000 +
Daniels Fund

\$100,000 - \$199,999
Aspen Community Foundation

\$50,000 - \$99,999
Alpine Bank
Peggy & Doug Briggs
El Pomar Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999
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\$10,000 - \$24,999
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\$5,000 - \$9,999
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Rebecca Donelson & Robert Blattberg
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Caring for Community Fund of Aspen
Skiing Company
City of Aspen
Lydia & Phil Clay
Cordis Foundation
David S. Baum Foundation
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Commissioners
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Slifer Smith & Frampton
The Summit Foundation
Western Colorado Community
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Nan & Hugh Williamson

\$2,500 - \$4,999
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Bank of Colorado
Jerry Beinstein
Coda Incorporated
Joe Daboul
Ent Credit Union
Barb & Asa Jones
Tammy & Tom Kenning
Mason Parson Family Foundation
Matt Maier
Christy & Steve Nilsson
The Gallegos Corporation
The Little Nell
The Thrift Shop of Aspen
Town of Carbondale
Town of Frisco
Umbrella Roofing
Wealth By Design
Jonathan Lewis & Mark Zitelli

\$1,000 - \$2,499
Aspen Glen Golf Club
Aspen Snowmass Sotheby's
Wendy & Jack Bergstrom
Mark Blodgett
Colorado Restaurant Foundation
Consumers United Association
Credit Union of Colorado Foundation
Dalby, Wendland & Co., PC
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Nina & Richard Stumpf
Town of Breckenridge
Nadine Asin & Thomas van Straaten
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Morgan & Lucas Warth

\$500 - \$999
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Aspen Rotary Club
Astra Electrical Technologies
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Belmont Clean & Restore
Dr. Oneal Bogan
Stephanie & Allen Brunner
DM Neuman Construction
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Meghan Grabow & Jay Wright
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Alterra
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Vicky Blake
Blazing Adventures
Bonfire Coffee Company

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Corin Brucker
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Amy Dorsey
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Jennifer Engel
Amelia Estrella
Paul Freeman
Jill Fink
Fishpond USA
Free Range Kitchen
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Jessica Garcia
Lauren Garrity
Barbara Gerber
Arlene & Philip Goetz
Dawn Grabow
Gabrielle Greeves
Grind
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Woody Creek Distillers
Alexandra Yajko
Margaret Young

Smoke Modern BBQ



Youthentity is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit that empowers youth to succeed at life through financial education and career readiness.

We encourage kids to discover and unlock their potential by providing real-world learning experiences, and hope that every young person in the communities we serve enters adulthood financially literate, with applicable work experience, through our career development programs.

PROGRAMS

- Career Academy
- Career Expo
- High Five Your Life
- I Am Financial Knowledge I
- I Am Financial Knowledge II

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572 HIGHWAY 133

PO BOX 1989

CARBONDALE, COLORADO 81623

970.963.4055

