



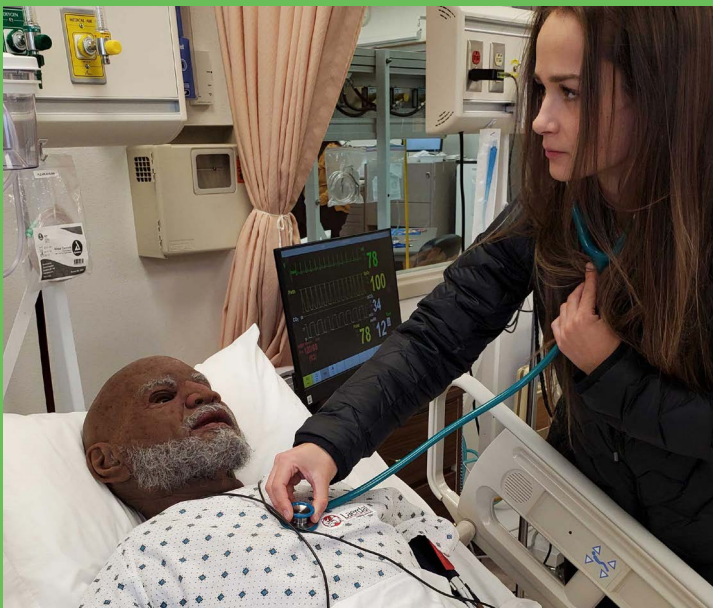
PLANNING FOR SUCCESS

“

Youthentity teaches you how to get a career, how to save, spend, and invest...all that you need for the future that is truly important.

Youthentity helps students discover their own personal journey. It did for me.

The level of expertise that you can gain through these programs is unmatched...it will set you up for success.



Youthentity gave me the experience I needed to start developing my career earlier than my peers.

As a parent, the most valuable aspect of the program was seeing my children learn to budget.

”

“Failing to plan is planning to fail”

The truth in this adage shows up in our everyday lives. It’s true for all of us: without a well-thought-out plan, our ambitions often lack that concrete quality that turns them into reality.

Planning is a learned life skill and one that takes practice. It is a skill in our organizational toolbox that is transferable to all facets of life and the situations we meet along the way. At Youthentity, not only do we ask students to consider their futures in relation to careers and finances, we also ask students to plan for their futures.

Our Annual Report is a reflection of our successes, and a look into the future. During the 2021-22 school year we successfully launched two new Career Academy classes, Animal Care and Health Occupations, available to all high school students throughout the Roaring Fork Valley. Our culinary students returned to the State ProStart competition in Denver, earning an esteemed second place. The list doesn’t end there, as the year brought a host of accomplishments:

- The addition of Colorado Mountain College credits (Introduction to Business) to hospitality and construction programs - this is on top of various industry certifications students in these two academies earn. Statewide less than 4% of high school students graduate with industry certifications or college credits; 100% of our career academy students do. Not only does this build their self-confidence but it increases the likelihood of pursuing post-secondary education and training.
- The development of High Five Your Life, a life planning platform that provides students with the opportunity to match careers to their work personalities and interests, and to develop a budget for their first 10-15 years after high school. This will allow them to compare a variety of options and make informed decisions about their first careers as responsible consumers.
- I Am Financial Knowledge flourished statewide, serving over 6,000 students throughout Colorado including a virtual program that allows us to reach remote areas of the state while maintaining a face-to-face instruction approach locally.

Our ultimate vision is for youth to achieve happy and productive lives with clarity and purpose. Our role is to assist them to become connected to industry, make educated financial decisions, and be ready for life after high school through a comprehensive plan and budget for their training, education, and work. Our programs work together toward this end and we have you to thank, our supporters and donors.

Thank you,
Kirsten



KIRSTEN MCDANIEL
Executive Director

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CAREER ACADEMY

Career Academy is back in full swing, post-pandemic, and we could not be prouder of its continuing evolution.

During the 2021-22 school year, two new classes were piloted: Animal Care and Health Occupations. Offered to all high school students throughout the Roaring Fork Valley, the response was enthusiastic as both classes filled up quickly. Our students were able to learn about the opportunities in each field.

- **Animal Care** students learned about jobs and careers in veterinary medicine, animal control and training, among other animal-related occupations.
- **Health Occupations** explored physiotherapy, nursing, dentistry, emergency medical technicians (EMTs), and other career paths.

Through Career Academy, we aim for students to receive as much real-world training as possible, including earning concurrent enrollment and industry certifications where possible. This year, culinary students earned concurrent enrollment credits with Metropolitan State University, and both culinary and construction students earned credits through Colorado Mountain College. *See the full list of credentials on opposite page.*

We have also provided students with digital badges for completion of certifications, training programs, college credit programs, and completing our career academies. These digital badges enhance resumes and personal portfolios, and are easily integrated into the digital world we live in. To date, 98 credentials in 11 different categories have been issued to Career Academy students.



Competition Resumes for ProStart Students

Our ProStart culinary team returned to action at the 2022 ProStart State Competition in Denver. The ProStart team - comprised of Izel Miranda, Finn Windmueller, Cynthia Jimenez and Diana Aguilar, all from Glenwood Springs High School - worked weekends and evenings to perfect the menu and elevate their skills for this intensely competitive event, as the team was judged on the timed execution of a three-course meal, including presentation, the complexity of dishes, technique, and of course, taste.

Their hard work paid off, earning them second place among the 17 schools in attendance. Congratulations to this group of exceptional students - we are so proud of you!



INDUSTRY CERTIFICATIONS

- ServSafe FoodHandler [CULINARY]
- ServSafe Manager [CULINARY]
- ProStart Certificate of Achievement [CULINARY]
- OSHA 10 Construction [CONSTRUCTION]
- NCCER Core [CONSTRUCTION]
- IEC New Worker [CONSTRUCTION]

CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

- 3 class credits, Metropolitan State University [CULINARY]
- 3 class credits, CMC [CULINARY & CONSTRUCTION]



MANY THANKS TO OUR CAREER ACADEMY INSTRUCTORS:

Joe Daboul & Matt Maier [CULINARY ARTS & HOSPITALITY]

Dr. Illene Pevec [HEALTH OCCUPATIONS]

Dr. Oneal Bogan [ANIMAL CARE]

I AM FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

The 2021-22 academic year was a significant one for the I Am Financial Knowledge program as teachers welcomed us back to their classrooms after two years of primarily virtual learning, and new schools signed up for IAFK.

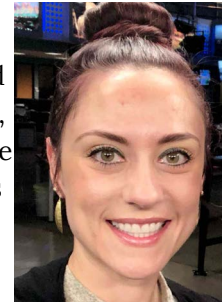


We were pleased to find our students were still enthusiastic to learn about personal financial literacy (really!).

When we ran our final numbers in June, we were blown away to find we had way overshoot our goal of serving 5,000 students. The final headcount was 5,971 students across 24 counties! This was more than a 50% increase in students from 3,807 the prior year.

This growth was made possible with the help of two additions to the IAFK Program Management Team. Cheryl Turpin joined us in October 2021 as the Front Range Program Manager and grew the program by 1,146 students and 20 new schools. Brian Palmeri joined the team in January 2022 as our Virtual Assistant and supported the program managers with workflow and data management.

As we teach the critical concepts of finances, it has been interesting to see our students' increased awareness of supply and demand, and of inflation from watching the price of gas and household goods fluctuate. These real-world lessons bring an increased relevance to our classroom lessons.

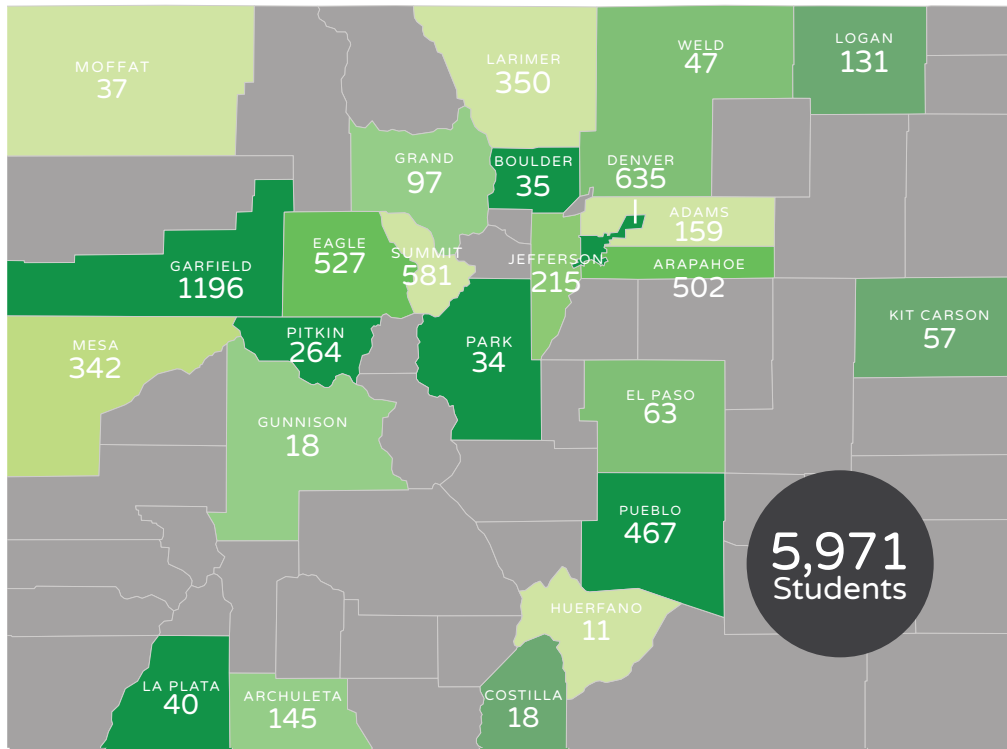


CHERYL TURPIN

BRIAN PALMERI

Words by Stephanie Stahle

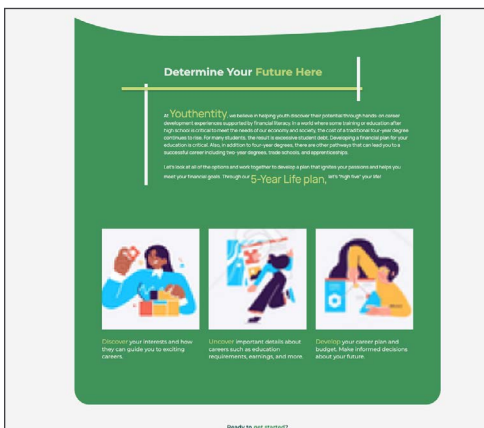
STUDENTS SERVED BY COUNTY 2021-22



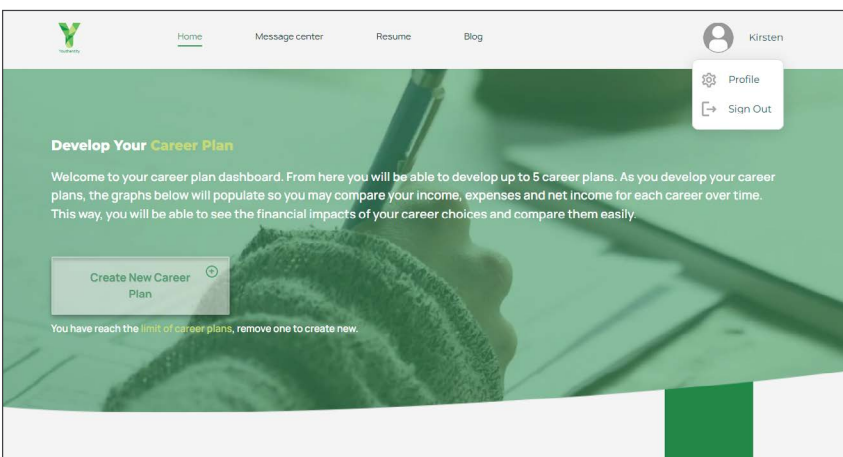
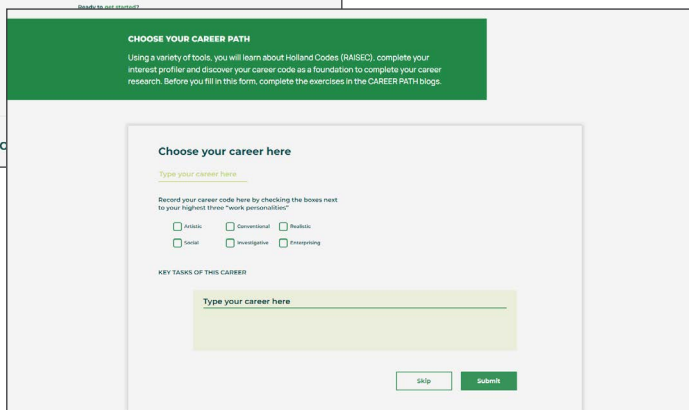
HIGH FIVE YOUR LIFE

What's next for our youth programs?

While our programs were thriving, the Youthentity team was busy developing a tool for high school students to plan their future careers and finances. We're thrilled to finally roll out High Five Your Life during the 2022-23 school year with two local high schools that have signed up to participate in the pilot program. High Five blends financial literacy and career planning, helping students to visualize and map a path to success.



The platform guides students through a self-discovery and career interest exercise.



FAQ

What is High Five Your Life?

A career discovery and financial planning workshop and tool that helps students make informed decisions about their future.

How does it work?

In a guided workshop, students discover careers that interest them, plot out their projected income for each career choice and estimate future expenses including repayment of student loans. This way they have a visual of how their passions might play out financially enhancing their ability to make informed decisions.

Who can participate?

High Five will be offered to high school students and teen and parent groups who want to engage in the program together.

What is the need for this platform and exercise?

As the world of work becomes more specialized and many students become disengaged in their education, it is imperative that students are introduced to the opportunities that may inspire them. In addition, by helping students to map out the way forward, they can see how, when, where, and why their efforts will lead to a higher level of engagement in our community and local economy.



Youthentity

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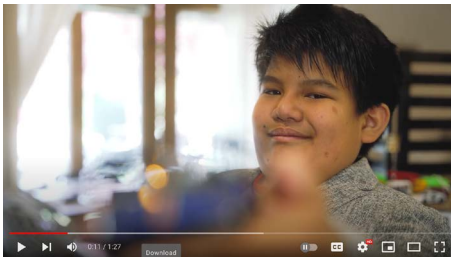
Tom Sherman

CONNECT WITH YOUTHENTITY

Get to know our students, alumni, supporters and staff. Youthentity's YouTube channel features a host of new videos that tell our story.



Meet Abby, one of our 2021 Animal Care students. Initially interested in becoming a doctor, her experience in Dr. Bogan's Animal Care class made her rethink her future. Abby scored an internship at a veterinary clinic, which then turned into an after-school job.



Patrick is something of a Basalt celebrity, working at his parents' downtown restaurant while fostering his own entrepreneurial projects. Patrick took the Level One *I Am Financial Knowledge* workshop at Basalt Middle School, and was excited to learn more about the concepts he'd seen in practice at his parents' restaurant.



The Career Academy culinary arts class isn't just about cooking. Listen as our students describe how the class taught them about leadership, teamwork, and finding one's true talents while building confidence and transferable skills.



Find videos about our programs, students and alumni on the Youthentity YouTube channel: @Youthentity_CO

SAVE THE DATE

Pig Roast 2023

Mark your calendars for August 5th, 2023, as we look forward to gathering for the annual Pig Roast Fundraiser. After three years of virtual Pig Roasts, we're excited to see our supporters in person! We hope you'll join us next year for this summer celebration of youth financial literacy and career readiness.



Sign up for the monthly Youthentity newsletter!



Find Us on Facebook & Instagram



Youthentity

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Youthentity is fortunate to have the support of local Roaring Fork Valley businesses which provide program materials and hands-on instruction along with their financial support. We would also like to thank our in-kind donors, who have generously given their time, skills, services and products to Youthentity.

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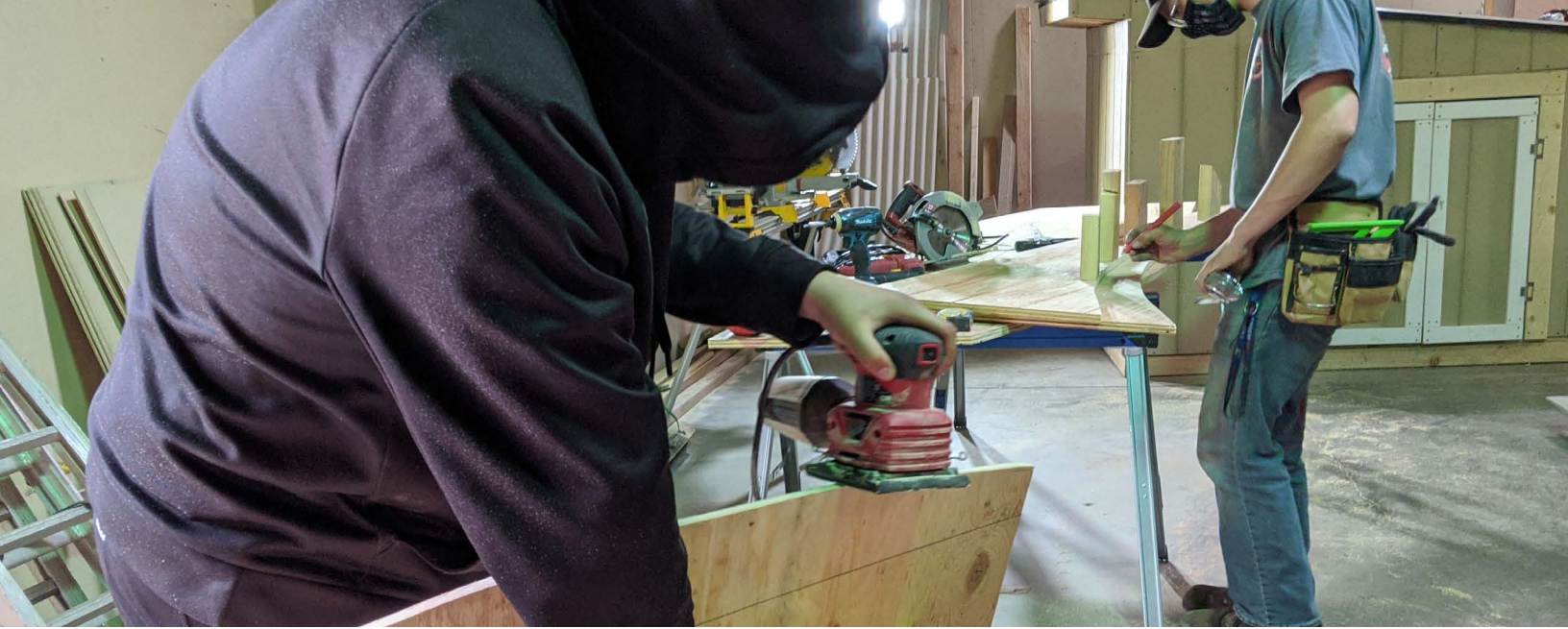
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Youthentity is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit that empowers youth to succeed at life through financial education and career readiness.

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

Junior Career Academy
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