At-Risk Youth Programs

The Road
303-982-6755
5220 W. Ohio Ave. Lakewood, CO 80226 (in Brady High School)
www.theroad4youth.org
theroad@jcmh.org
- A drop-in resource center for young adults (15-22) transitioning into adulthood.
  - Fun activities include: Board Games & Puzzles, Pool Table, Game Consoles, Gymnasium for Basketball, Field Trips, Arts and Crafts, Creative Writing, Fitness Classes, Groups and Classes On: Healthy Relationships, Independent Living Skills, and Critical Thinking Skills.
  - Transition services include: the drop-in center, counseling, groups, job/career preparation services, GED preparation, resources assistance, and more.
  - Drop-in Hours: Mon/ Wed: 2:00–7:00pm, Tues/Thurs: 2:00–6:00pm
- Professionally supervised and all services are free.

Urban Peak
303-974-2900
730 21st St., Denver, CO 80205
www.Urbanpeak.org
- Urban Peak works with homeless youth, and youth at imminent risk of becoming homeless
- Has a 40-bed overnight shelter for youth ages of 15 through 20 years of age
- Drop-in Center and Outreach
  - A refuge for youth where they can get their basic needs met including: a temporary respite from the outdoor, hot breakfast served 8-10am Monday-Friday, lockers to keep their possessions safe, laundry services, showers, and basic medical services. Hours: 8-11am
- Education Programs
  - GED Classes (ages 17-24) – all preparation for GED tests, including computer and packet work, workshops and practice tests. Help cover cost of GED exam when ready.
  - Help enroll in high school ages 15-20, and enroll in college/trade school ages 17-24
  - Employment and training services
    - Job readiness training (ages 15-24) – work with a case manager to help identify career interests and strengths, and to set goals for future employment.
    - Job search hours (ages 15-24) – youth can come use the classroom to search for available jobs online, create or update resume and cover letter, work on interview techniques and more. Staff is available to assist youth.
    - Workforce investment act (ages 15-21) – a federally funded program designed to help young people attain their education and employment goals by providing support and services. Some opportunities include: tuition assistance, certificate trainings, transportation aid and paid work expenses. Also offers intensive case management.
    - Job retention services (ages 15-24) – Urban Peak staff will work with them and their employer to ensure they feel supported and equipped to perform all functions of the positions. Find success is retaining current job and exploring future career options.
    - Training and certifications – offering ServSafe food handler and overall customer service training and certification. For additional info, talk with Employment services.
Big City Mountaineers
303-271-9200
710 10th St. Suite 120, Golden, CO 80401
www.bigcitymountaineers.org

- Single-Day Programs – offered in local parks, including hiking, mountain biking, canoeing, snowshoeing and climbing. Used both before and after weeklong expeditions to begin and continue relationships between youth and adult mentors.
- Overnight Programs – Provide wilderness mentoring opportunities to under-resourced urban youth 13-18 years improve teen self-awareness and personal responsibility, promote group developmental and effective communication, and deliver safe wilderness expeditions.
- Peer Leader Program – alumni can assist adult mentors in the field, while gaining leadership and facilitation training.
- Program guidelines require staff from the referring agency participate in the backpacking trip with the youth being referred. Contact organization for more details.

cityWILD
303-227-6862
1620 E. 36th Avenue (corner of 36th Ave. & Franklin), Denver, CO 80205
www.citywild.org

- cityWILD’s mission is to engage youth in experiential learning opportunities that boldly address issues of inequity in education, economic opportunity, and access to the outdoors.
- Comprehensive, tuition free programs
  - Programs offered include After School Programming, Weekend Adventures and Spring/Summer Expeditions, Support Services and Teen Workforce Readiness Programming.
  - Targets 6-12th grade, with a focus on 6th – 8th graders primarily in northeast Denver
  - After-school programming during the academic school year for four Denver Public Schools: Pioneer Charter, Harrington Elementary, Bruce Randolph, and Wyatt-Edison Charter. Students that participate in the after school program can expect to focus on gaining skills in interpersonal dynamics, leadership, teambuilding, substance abuse and tobacco prevention, outdoor education, and environmental service learning.
  - Participants need reliable transportation to and from programs.

Colorado Youth at Risk
303-623-9140
1700 E. 28th Avenue, Denver, CO 80205 (Manual HS)
Mailing Address: PO Box 13410, Denver, CO 80201
http://coyar.org/

- Steps Ahead for Youth is conducted in partnership with Denver Public Schools, and is a one year intensive dropout prevention program for 9th grade students
  - Community and one-on-one mentoring, 17 hours of pre mentorship training, 3 day launch course retreat in the mountains, high ropes course experience, and a 12-month series of community workshop sessions for mentors and youth
- Touchstone is a program for young people who complete the Steps Ahead for Youth program, designed to provide the youth with support and guidance they require through high school graduation. They focus on personal development and their future.
Community Resources, Inc. (CRI)
720-424-2300
3245 E. Exposition Ave., Denver, CO 80209
www.communityresourcesinc.org

- Works with community volunteers to provide thousands of classroom programs, family involvement events, mentorships, and special events for at-risk students in Denver.
  - Academic Mentors – matches motivated students 5th – 8th grade with professionals from the community to study and topic/career in depth.
  - Classroom Speakers – a curriculum enhancement opportunity that brings knowledgeable community members into the classroom to share their passion and help learning come alive.
  - Family Nights – an innovative evening program that creates fun family learning events that engage parents and kids (including: family reading, science, art, health and wellness, etc.)
  - Special Events – programs and events custom-designed to meet the needs of individual schools (including: career and science fairs, Colorado History Day, health fairs, etc.)
- All costs depend on specific details. Contact CRI for more information.

Denver SCORES
303-832-5879
4900 W. 29th Ave, Denver, CO 80212
www.americascoresdenver.org

- Uses the tools of soccer, poetry, and service learning to inspire and empower Denver’s urban youth.

Environmental Learning for Kids (ELK)
303-291-7553
PO Box 21679, Denver, CO 80221
www.elkkids.org

- ELK is an inclusive non-profit organization that develops inspired and responsible leaders through science education and outdoor experiences underserved urban youth ages 5-25
- Serves youth in Arapahoe, Adams and Denver counties
- Call or visit online to enroll: http://www.elkkids.org/content/enroll-your-child

Art Reach, Inc.
303-433-2882
3400 W. 38th Ave., Suite 200, Denver, CO 80211
www.artreachdenver.org

- Changes lives through the arts by providing access to arts and cultural experiences and education for underserved and at risk people of all ages.
- Contact for available tickets and events:
  - Carol Dawson, Community Tickets and Arts Express Manager
  - 303-433-2882 ext. 222

Thorne Nature Experience
303-499-3647
1466 N. 63rd St., Boulder, CO 80303 – Marsh Environmental Education Center
11250 Waterton Road, Littleton, CO 80125 – The Kassler Center
www.thornenature.org

- Builds earth stewardship by connecting kids to nature through hands-on environmental education and natural science experiences.
- Site available in Spanish
Colorado HAWKS (Hard at Work Kids)
303-750-3841
www.COAHAWKS.com
- Provides and fosters the discipline necessary for at-risk, disadvantaged youth to achieve a college education through basketball scholarships.
- The program provides a year-round, culturally diverse, educational basketball program for boys and girls aged 8-17 years.
- For inquirers on trying out with the Colorado Hawks please send an email: arche.chaney@cohawks.com

GRASP (Gang Rescue and Support Project)
303-777-3117
701 S. Logan St., #109, Denver, CO 80209
www.graspyouth.org
- A peer-run, intervention program that works with youth who are at-risk of gang involvement or are presently active in gangs, helps with families of gang victims, and serves as a youth advocate. Primarily run by ex-gang members who turned their lives around.
- For male/female ages 14-24 who are gang-involved (ranked in or associated with gang members, and/or family history of gang involvement), have substance abuse issues, history of juvenile justice involvement, family dysfunction or family involvement in any of the above.
- Services offered:
  - Crisis Response, Community Mobilization, Parent Awareness Trainings, Presentations, Community and School Outreach, Hospital Intervention (AIM) Family and Youth Advocacy, Tattoo Removal, GRASP Enterprises/Job Training, Healing Circles, El Joven Noble and Xinachtli Rites of Passage.
  - Open Support Circle
    - Meets every Thursday 6:00 – 8:00pm (no RSVP/referral necessary)
    - 303 W. Colfax Ave, Denver, CO 80204, 9th floor
    - The group is of no cost to participants.

Victim Offender Reconciliation Program (VORP) of Denver
303-534-6167,
430 W 9th Av, Denver CO 80204 – through the green door in the back
www.denvervorp.org
- Programs:
  - The RESTORE Program – restorative justice programming as a tool to reduce recidivism among youth that have received tickets for shoplifting, petty theft, or drug/alcohol tickets.
    - RESTORE consists of orientation, a victim impact panel, a restorative justice conference (session 1) and a final meeting (session 2) for a total of 8 contact hours.
    - Parents or supportive adults attend all programming with the youth.
    - Cost: $25; Participants: 1 or 2 supportive adults
    - Time: 3rd Saturday of each month @ 8:30am (Orientation held Tuesday 5:30pm before Session 1)
    - Updates: Monthly, including a Program Summary Report upon completion
  - Face2Face Conferencing – matches youth with their victims, parents or peers which helps hold youth accountable in a more personal way. The youth are given an opportunity to make amends for their actions to the victim and the community. In addition, the community can provide some support during the conference.
- Cost: $50; Participants: Youth, youth support, victim, victim support, 2 community members & 2 facilitators.
- Time: Scheduled evenings or Saturdays
  - Community Mediation – VORP of Denver provides confidential mediation services to facilitate more productive communication between youth and adults. Mediation helps with hard to discuss issues such as truancy, drug use, behavioral issues or relationship issues.
- Cost: $50; Participants: Youth stakeholder, adult stakeholder and 2 mediators.
- Times: Scheduling evenings or Saturdays

**Jefferson County Public Health**
303-239-7006
- **HCP: A Program for Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs**
  - Provides in-depth, one-on-one care coordination for families of children (birth to 21 years) who have, or are at risk for, physical, developmental, behavioral or emotional conditions. Examples of care coordination include: assistance with identifying local services, insurance or other financial resources, and supporting important transitions such as from hospital to home or from child to adult care. Care coordinators work with the family to advocate for the child, identify and prioritize needs, and develop a plan to achieve goals.
  - HCP program administers newborn hearing screenings for babies that are home birthed, or are born at a birthing center.
  - If referred by a health care provider or community agency, referral can be faxed to: 303-239-7008 or scan and email to publichealthhomevisitation@jeffco.us.