2018-2019 Annual Report

Uplift

Now is the time
This is our moment
We are the people
Let's go

Building long-term, life-changing relationships with urban youth.
“Thank you for making this year possible with your continued support. We look forward to all the meaningful moments we will create together this next year!”

- DR. JOE SANDERS, CEO
Ed McLaughlin has been involved with Colorado UpLift for fifteen years. He has visited UpLift classrooms, taken students on trips, and served on the board of directors, but one of his most meaningful moments happened this year in a McDonald's PlayPlace.

Ed began supporting UpLift after observing the In-School Program at his alma mater, Lincoln High School. He and his wife wanted to engage with students more, so they started an annual trip to Steamboat Springs each winter. For six years, the McLaughlins took groups of a dozen students to Steamboat for the weekend to learn how to ski. During these weekends, Ed was always impressed by the level to which the students engaged with him and other adults. They were respectful, conversational, and eager to make connections.

This past spring, Ed was enjoying dinner with one of his grandsons at McDonald's when he noticed two men having a heated conversation. One of the men had a grandson who was acting unruly and disrespectful to other children in the play area. The other man, a young father, politely but firmly confronted the man about his grandson's behavior, asking him to control his child. The grandfather refused, going so far as to say that if his grandson had hit the man's children, "they probably deserved it." Ed watched as the conversation escalated. While the young father was visibly frustrated, he never lost his temper. Finally, he left with his two sons.

Impressed, Ed followed the man outside and complimented the way he'd handled himself in spite of the difficult situation. The man thanked Ed, then paused.

"I know you," he said. Ed couldn't place him, but the man continued, "I know you. Colorado UpLift. You took me on a ski trip."

Though the trip had been nearly nine years ago, the young man still recognized Ed. He explained to him that he had acted the way he did because he was passionate about teaching his sons respect and setting a good example as a father.

Ed was deeply moved to see that the man's experiences with Colorado UpLift had transformed not only his own life and values but the lives of his two sons, impacting the next generation of children.

"Colorado UpLift fulfills a unique need. It teaches values, integrity, character, and life skills."

Ed's moment at McDonald's that night proved that these skills remain with UpLift students long after they graduate. Your dollar, your time, and your interest in students can make an impact that lasts for years, even reaching the next generation of youth. This is how Colorado UpLift transforms lives and communities, one student at a time.
2018-2019 HIGHLIGHTS

Tee Up for UpLift

Our annual Tee Up for UpLift Golf Tournament, hosted by the UpLift Advisory Council, was a success with a full field! Participants heard from alumnus Jesús Sanchez and about the impact Colorado UpLift has had on his life. The tournament raised a total of $116,000 to benefit undeserved youth in Denver and Aurora.

Wallace • Lightner Luncheon

The Wallace • Lightner Luncheon began with a conversation between two prominent business leaders, Jim Lightner and the late Jim Wallace, who were committed to engaging their peers in the Denver community with Colorado UpLift. Last year the event attracted a premier group of business and civic leaders. Lieutenant General Michael C. Gould spoke as well as Alejandra Campos, a current UpLift student.

Guild Events

The Colorado UpLift Guild actively advances Colorado UpLift's mission by supporting students and staff through numerous events each year. This past year, the guild hosted a fashion show both featuring and benefiting UpLift students, a literacy day at various elementary schools, a holiday boutique for middle schoolers, and a summer lake day for high school students.
Corporate Partnerships

This summer, we welcomed GHX as our first Corporate Partner and supporter of North High School. An UpLift Corporate Partnership provides hands-on, meaningful interaction and engagement with Colorado UpLift programs. Partnering companies and their employees are directly involved in the lives of our youth and Teacher/Mentors. Partners also enjoy brand exposure and alignment with Colorado UpLift's mission of transforming lives and communities through long-term, life-changing relationships.

For more information on how to become a corporate partner, contact us at Info@ColoradoUpLift.org.

The BIG Lift

April 6th marked our first annual BIG Lift event. With the help of over four hundred volunteers, we served at twelve project sites, painted eight classrooms, filled dozens of dumpsters with trash and waste, cleaned up three community gardens, and created five murals, all to impact thousands of students in Denver and Aurora public schools. We are excited to see how this event will develop and expand in the coming years.

What a terrific showing of people and an amazing time together. It was a display of servant leadership that is unparalleled in my history with Colorado UpLift!

- Walt Rakowich, Colorado UpLift Board Chairman

This is Our Moment Gala

This year's UpLift Gala, "This is Our Moment," honored our founding board members: Dick Saunders, Butch Seal, and Don Siecke, along with Colorado UpLift's founder, Kent Hutcheson. We had a wonderful night celebrating these men and the transformations they have made possible through their hard work and enduring support over the past thirty-seven years.
PROGRAM UPDATES

In-School

**RE-ENVISIONING CURRICULUM**

Our In-School Program ran in nineteen schools this year, a number set to grow as our program extends to more schools in the current semester. Similar to the revitalization of our Adventure Program this past summer, we are also in the process of intentionally revising our In-School curriculum. The new curriculum will align more closely with a framework of leadership development, particularly students leading and lifting others to their best possible selves.

Advanced Leadership

**EQUIPPING YOUNG LEADERS**

Colorado UpLift’s Advanced Leadership Program is a one-of-a-kind offering in Colorado. Focusing on effective leadership practices and building on lessons within our In-School program, the course has allowed students to earn both high school and college credit in a weekly, after-school class. Traditionally, the class has concluded with a service trip to Tijuana, where students practically apply what they have learned throughout the year while building houses for families in need. Over the past fifteen years, over 1,000 Advanced Leadership students, along with UpLift staff and supporters, have visited Tijuana and built more than fifty houses.

STUDENT STORY

**JAYLENE MEDINA**

I have three sisters and one brother. My parents were alcoholics, so my sisters and I only lived with them for a short while.

When I was in second grade, my oldest sister dropped out of high school to raise me and my other sisters.

Not having parents forced me to grow up faster than most kids have to; when I was around kids my age, I didn’t feel like I fit in. I didn’t think I would even graduate high school, but UpLift helped me.

“UPLIFT IS TRULY LIFE-CHANGING.”

I started in Little Lift in elementary school and attended the middle school summer camp. I recently became an UpLift summer intern. I have known my UpLift mentor since I was little, and I can always go to her when I’m struggling. She always has the answer and is positive and encouraging.

I plan to attend community college for two years before transferring to a university. I want to stay connected to UpLift while in college. All of the Teacher/Mentors are wise, and I still have a lot to learn from them. I’m a little scared to attend college, but having them to lean on eases my mind.
ADVANCED LEADERSHIP CONTINUED: LOOKING AHEAD

In the 2018-2019 school year, Advanced Leadership students completed a college-level class called “Global Issues,” an equivalent to an introductory political science course. Within the course, students studied globalization, diversity, and how to lead in a rapidly-changing world.

Moving forward, we strive to be even more intentional within our Advanced Leadership course by preparing students to lead in an organizational context. A core component of the class will be partnering with local companies and giving students the opportunity to apply course concepts and principles to real-world challenges. Advanced Leadership students will work in teams to provide practical solutions to local organizations and communities.

Community Engagement Team

The Community Engagement Team adds a new dimension to Colorado UpLift, focusing on community, alumni, and parent and family relationships. For parents and families, the team has developed a network of services including employment and career opportunities, juvenile penal system support, and resources such as clothing and other household needs. The team is also actively building a comprehensive alumni database to provide former students with social and networking opportunities, along with ways of giving back to the community. Additionally, the Alumni Association regularly publishes a newsletter to keep alumni both informed and connected.

Community Partners and Students

At our most recent Colorado UpLift Gala, we heard the story of Janelle DeHerrera, a junior at West Leadership Academy. Janelle was inspired to pursue a career in the medical field after attending an event sponsored by the Anschutz Anatomy Department, an UpLift Community Partner. This is just one example of how our Community Partners are helping us transform lives and communities, providing students with opportunities to see beyond their everyday scope of possibilities. Other partnering organizations include the YouthBiz/Young Americans Bank, Von’s Vision, Holiday Hearts/Seagate Technology, KIND Dentistry, and the UpLift Guild.
SALESFORCE UPDATE

In January, UpLift began using Salesforce, an online relationship management solution that currently allows us to track Teacher/Mentor interactions with students both inside and outside the classroom. In the coming year, we plan to expand our use of Salesforce as a tool throughout our organization. The benefits of this include:

- Continued real-time information on staff/student engagement
- More intentional interactions from program staff
- Increased accountability and effectiveness throughout UpLift
- Greater evaluation capabilities within various departments

STUDENT COUNT BY PIPELINE AREA

WE TAUGHT IN
19 SCHOOLS

AND MENTORED IN
63 SCHOOLS

STUDENT INTERACTIONS PER PIPELINE AREA

Thank you to ANM for helping us implement this new tool!
FINANCIAL POSITION & ACTIVITIES
UNAUDITED FIGURES

ASSETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Equivalents</td>
<td>$1,487,000</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endowment and Investments</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and Equipment, net</td>
<td>$533,000</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Assets</td>
<td>$284,000</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,554,000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Individuals**: $470,000
- **Corporations**: $360,000
- **Foundations**: $790,000
- **Other**: $2,985,000

EXPENSES

- **Program**: $350,000
- **Administrative**: $340,000
- **Fundraising**: $3,900,000
- **Total Expenses**: $4,590,000
While reflecting on the past year, our inclination may be to focus on the quantitative elements of our impact: the number of students we served, how many schools we’re working in, our total number of student interactions. These statistics are inspiring to see, and we will indeed expand in order to reach even more underserved youth in Colorado. Ultimately, our plan calls for us to impact over 24,000 students within the next decade. However, as we build and grow, we are ever so mindful that numbers do not tell the whole story. In reality, it is the moments behind the numbers that matter most, meaningful moments that all work together to transform lives and our communities.

As you have seen, these moments come in a variety of shapes and sizes: a lonely elementary student meeting a woman who will become her life-long mentor, a high schooler handing the keys of a freshly-built house to its new owner in Tijuana, a father modeling respect to his sons in a McDonald's PlayPlace. These moments may not seem significant as they occur; sometimes it's not until much later that we realize the impact they have. Yet, the impact is undeniable and inevitable.

Here at UpLift, we know that our moments matter. Putting time and energy into our moments is not only just as important as impressive results, it's integral to creating them. This year, we have taken time to fortify our efforts. We have reexamined how we can be more intentional in how we educate and develop our staff and students' capacity to lead with integrity. We have also worked hard to establish standards of organizational excellence, while strengthening partnerships with other non-profit organizations. In addition, we have enhanced our interactions with alumni, families, schools, corporations, and their attendant communities. Moving forward, we will continue this intentionality as we solidify and optimize our resources, always working to improve where we can, so that we can make the most of each moment with our students. When we focus on and commit to increasing the quality of what we do as a manifestation of why we do it, truly life-changing moments follow.

Thank you for making this year possible with your continued support. We look forward to all the meaningful moments WE will create together this next year!
THE IMPACT

OVER 90% OF UPLIFT SENIORS GRADUATE ANNUALLY

85% OF GRADUATES GO ON TO COLLEGE, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, OR THE MILITARY