

BUILDING LONG-TERM, LIFE-
CHANGING RELATIONSHIPS
WITH URBAN YOUTH.

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

U p L ÿ f t

NOW IS THE TIME
THIS IS OUR MOMENT
WE ARE THE PEOPLE
LET'S GO



CONTENTS

- 3** OUR MISSION
- 4** LETTER FROM THE CEO, DR. JOE SANDERS
- 6** 40 YEAR ANNIVERSARY TIMELINE
- 7** STUDENT STORY- ATIANNA ARMIJO
- 8** 2022 HIGHLIGHTS
- 9** PROGRAM IMPACT
- 10** EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE &
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OUR MISSION

U p L  f t

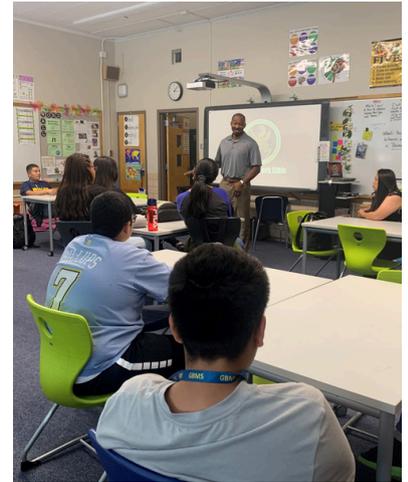
**Colorado UpLift builds long-term,
life-changing relationships with
urban youth.**

LETTER FROM THE CEO

It is my pleasure to share with you the 2022 Annual Report of Colorado UpLift! In this report, we will look at the past, present, and future of this unique organization.

In 1982, Colorado UpLift was founded by Dr. Kent and Mrs. Diane Hutcheson as a small summer jobs program for urban, underserved youth. The program took off in 1988 when teacher/mentors were hired to teach a comprehensive instructional program that addressed character building, values, personal accountability, life skills, post-secondary education, and workforce skill-building inside Denver public schools. UpLift evolved with a robust year-round program on the following timeline. In School/After School (1988), Advanced Leadership/Tijuana homebuilding/ serving others (2000-2002), Post-Secondary (2004), and Adventure (2007). The leadership of some of Denver's finest businesspeople and a Ladies' Guild who hosted special activities and celebrated staff and students solidified Colorado UpLift into one of Denver's premier youth services organizations. Over a 40-year period, UpLift staff have built "life-changing relationships" with over 120,000 urban youth. Students have become productive citizens and are moms, dads, grandparents, teachers, lawyers, students, military leaders, artists, caterers, and pilots because someone encouraged them and journeyed with them to fulfill their dreams and highest potential.

The present year, 2022, was spent serving \approx 4,000 students in 22 schools within public school systems of Denver, Aurora, and Westminster, Colorado. Mentoring took place in ninety-eight other schools and student interactions with staff topped 103,500! We are making a difference in student lives! UpLift builds on the concept that one caring, accessible, and responsible adult can be "life changing" in a child's life. In 2022, \approx 250 seniors graduated (90%) with 86% going on to more post-secondary learning. Many UpLift students are the first to graduate from high school in their families, much less additional education. Post-secondary opportunities can come in different ways, and UpLift lays out that trajectory – college, trade school, military, or a job with training, benefits and a living wage.



LETTER FROM THE CEO CONTINUED



Atianna Armijo's story in this report shows she has been in the UpLift program since fifth grade, 11 years of age. Her life story is like other students we serve. Life sometimes gets turned upside down. Life seems chaotic; there is no confidence, little food, and confusion. Atianna's resilience, however, kept her going! She will graduate this year from North High School. Colorado UpLift changed the trajectory of her life to a self-confident young woman who knows what she wants. She intends to be a lawyer and international interpreter with a preference for Korea.



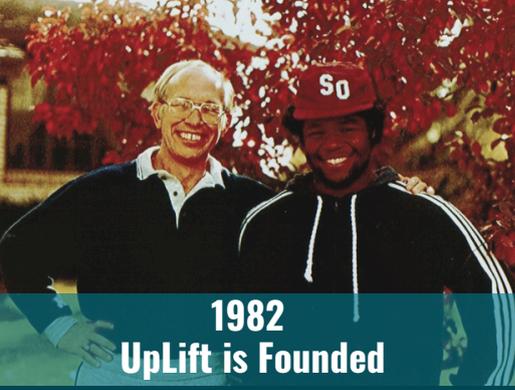
Colorado UpLift is currently in the Build Phase of our Strategic Plan. We are expanding our program into areas where underserved youth live and go to school. Aurora School District is one of our new partnerships; Adams 50, in the Westminster area, is another. UpLift has added two additional schools there. We will increase our organization and our community outreach. We are presently meeting with community members to galvanize around enterprise solutions for community transformation. We are growing our Advanced Leadership classes (which provide dual accreditation for high school and college through CU Succeed and meaningful learning experiences). We want to broaden connections with alumni, families, and community partners.



The future for Colorado UpLift looks bright! Our vision is to be a prominent presence in communities with fully-integrated services. One of our growth models shows Colorado UpLift could have 688,000 program students at the end of the next 40 years. We will provide world-class training, education, and development in character and leadership! We will continue growing our students holistically, building strong character, and positively engaged in their communities. We will ensure students who are positioned for lives of significance and long-term success! These young people are the next generation of urban leaders, and these communities are our communities!

With gratitude,

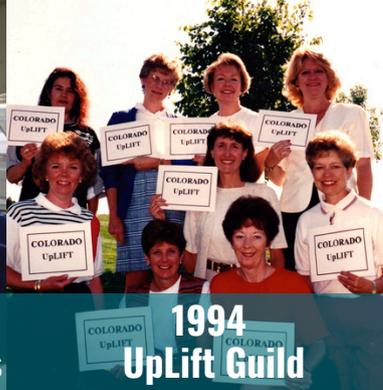
DR. JOE SANDERS, CEO



1982
UpLift is Founded



1988
In & After-School Programs



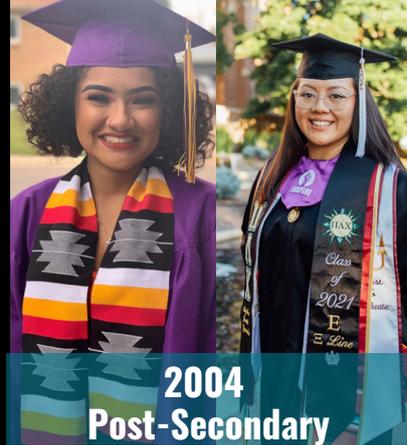
1994
UpLift Guild



2000-02
Advanced Leadership
& Tijuana Homebuilding

**In 2022, UpLift celebrated
40 years of building long-term,
life-changing relationships with
urban youth.**

Thank you for your investment!



2004
Post-Secondary



2007
Adventure Program



2022
Westminster Expansion



2016
Aurora Expansion



2008
Elevate USA



Celebrating 40 years of building long-term,
life-changing relationships with urban youth **6**



STUDENT STORY

ATIANNA ARMIJO

I grew up in North Denver, where I lived with my parents, three sisters and one brother. We lived in a small home and I shared a room with all my siblings. Life was chaotic; there were a lot of people in a small space and a lot of yelling. My parents were always fighting, and because of that my siblings and I would go stay with my grandparents, which was minutes away.

My parents worked all the time and yet we often turned to the food bank for our meals. I remember when I was 8, I heard my mom screaming. My middle sister and I went to go see what was happening and that's when we saw my older sister holding a knife, attempting to take her life. Everything happened so quick. My older sister dragged me away as I was crying and confused. My grandparents quickly came to take us away. I didn't see my older sister for days. I was confused why things were the way they were and why no one was talking about it. Eventually, we all were together again but there was healing that needed to be done.

I joined UpLift in 5th grade. UpLift came into my life at a time when I had so many questions. Through my time at UpLift, I learned how to find my voice. I learned about mental health, depression and anxiety and how to better communicate with my family. They helped me develop a growth mindset towards other people and their feelings. Through UpLift, I was given the tools I needed to talk to my sisters, learn what happened in the past, and help us to heal together.

I graduate this year from North High School. I am interested in attending law school, becoming an international translator, and hope to move to Korea to become an exchange student. Being in a new environment is something I aspire for and can't wait for what is ahead.

I am grateful to UpLift for walking alongside me and helping me pursue my dreams.

2022 PROGRAM UPDATES



Summer Program

Whether it was a 5-day backpacking trip in the Sawatch range or a 2-day course at CU Anschutz medical, our students took advantage of every opportunity they had this summer.



Advanced Leadership Pilot

This fall, Advanced Leadership has moved into the classroom. This pilot program at Kennedy HS allows students to earn dual accreditation and improve their leadership skills.



Aurora & Westminster Expansion

UpLift has added 2 additional schools and expanded our reach. These new schools allow us to reach more students.



Volunteerism

From equipping our students with backpacks to helping at golf lessons, our volunteers have contributed their talents to move our mission forward.



PROGRAM IMPACT

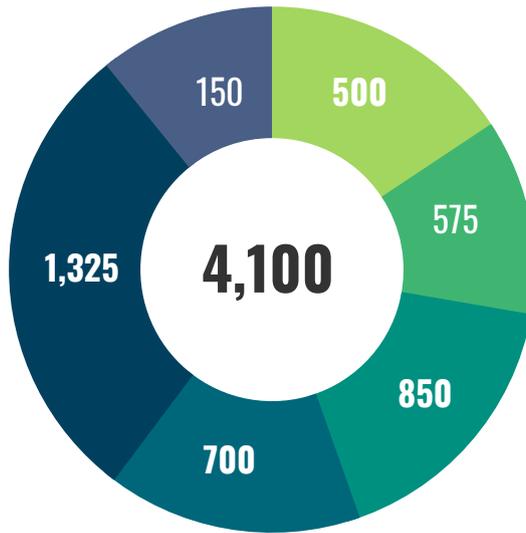
WE ARE TEACHING IN



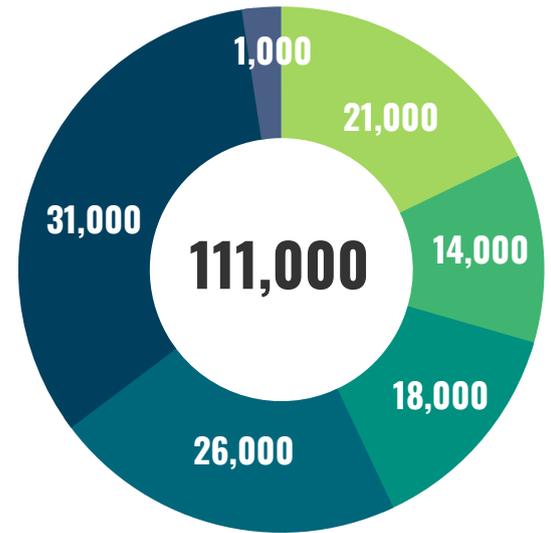
AND MENTORING IN



STUDENT COUNT BY PIPELINE AREA



STUDENT INTERACTIONS PER PIPELINE AREA



■ North ■ West ■ Aurora ■ East ■ South ■ Alumni

THE IMPACT OF YOUR DONATION



\$1,000 annual cost per student



Donations are eligible for the Colorado Child Care Tax Credit



83% of our money goes directly to helping kids



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Walt Rakowich, Chairman

Dave Beaver
Jerry Berglund
Bob Boswell
Chase Boswell
Kaye Lynn Fote

Ken Harrison
Clifford Hickey
Steve James
Eric Koeplin
Dick Lewis
Jim Lightner

Bill Pauls
Joe Sanders
Dick Saunders
Jeff Vaughan
Celso White



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ivan Anaya
Gary Anderson
John Andrews
Bob Barbee
Steve Barnett
Brian Becker
Steve Bell
Ran Bellows
Bruce Benson
Marty Berglund
Bret Berglund
Horst Bergmann
Mac Blount
Ellen Boade
Beth Bowlen-Wallace
Mark Brown
Eric Buchanan
Rod Buscher
Jay Cleary
Wanda Colburn
Alex Cranberg
Justin Culver
Del de Windt

Brady Dolsen
Tucker Erdmann
Dave Fisher
Norm Franke
Sam Freedman
Charlie Gallagher
Leslie Gamel-Curley
Taylor Gitcho
Jeff Gott
Neal Groff
Mike Haselden
Dave Hunter
Margie Hunter
Bruce Johnson
Robert Keepers
John Keith
Dave Keller
Kurt Kittleson
Nick Lazzara
Bill Lazzeri
Michael Leede
Patricia MacDonald
Larry McKinley
Claire Mindock

Chaz Mueller
Paul Murray
Derek Murrow
Sean Myers
Vicki O'Connor
John O'Dorisio
Erik Olson
Jim Peros
Rich Plumridge
Pierre Powell
Ben Rainey
Wendy Ralston
Chris Rebich
Dick Robinson
John Saeman
Steve Sanders
Caroline Schuster
Gwenivere Snyder
Bill Sullivan
Neville Teagarden
Rod Thacker
Antoine Toffa
Jim Travis
Mike Ward

THE IMPACT



OVER 90%
OF UPLIFT SENIORS
GRADUATE ANNUALLY



84%
OF GRADUATES GO ON TO
COLLEGE, VOCATIONAL
TRAINING, OR THE MILITARY

U p L  f t

400 W. 48TH AVE. SUITE 250
DENVER, CO | 303.830.6615

COLORADOUPLIFT.ORG

