



2013

  
**YouthZone**  
ANNUAL REPORT



**Since 1976, YouthZone has provided opportunities for all youth to be responsible, contributing members of society.**

## FROM THE DIRECTOR

**If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.**

— John Quincy Adams

Thirty-eight years (456 months, 1976 weeks, 13,870 days), that is how long YouthZone has inspired youth to dream more and become more! YouthZone has been able to serve our community during all this time because it is built on a foundation of amazing people. Everyone from the founders, to the parents who give an extra \$20, and to the kids who say thank you and come back to volunteer with us. It has taken many hands to create an organization that is solid and yet continues to mold and bend to current needs.

The true character of a non-profit organization is proven in the people that do the work, the difficult but rewarding work. The quote above by John Quincy Adams speaks to the talent of the YouthZone staff. The YouthZone staff are committed to continuous learning, working as a team, problem solving, supporting, and pushing beyond expectations for the kids who really need it. If you stopped by the office, there would be a flurry of activity most days, meeting with kids carrying their skateboards, encouraging a parent, preparing to run a group or provide Pals training, heading out the door to the local school and often smiling when one of their kids gets on the right track or a parent says thank you. Every day our Pals Mentoring and court case managers, youth advocates, counselors and all of those behind the scenes, are leading the way because their work inspires youth to dream, learn, do and become more!

The staff résumés are impressive, but the way they put their résumés to use is what is critical and shows in our latest three-year evaluation covering July 2010 through June 2013. According to Dr. Evans, “YouthZone has the best collection of data anywhere, and I evaluate youth programs all over the country. This is the best evaluation I’ve seen in 15 years of covering YouthZone’s programs. The youth that are at risk for high substance abuse showed the biggest change using a one-on-one holistic approach.” YouthZone clients also showed statistically significant improvement on the other four areas measured by the YouthZone screening which are Delinquency and Aggression; Self-Deprecation (perception of self as a victim and plans of suicide); Optimism and Problem Solving; and School and Community Involvement.

That sums it up. Thank you for supporting the work we continue to do, 13,870 days later!



You make the difference,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori Mueller".

Lori Mueller  
Executive Director  
YouthZone

**You make the difference!**

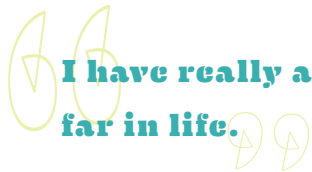
Donate now at [www.YouthZone.com](http://www.YouthZone.com) or mail your check to  
803 School Street, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601.



# YOUTHZONE BY THE NUMBERS



- **1,169** - number of YouthZone clients from Aspen to Parachute
- **50%** - YouthZone clients, boys
- **24%** - YouthZone clients, girls
- **26%** - YouthZone clients, adults (parents or guardians)
- **44%** - YouthZone clients, Latino
- **80%** - YouthZone clients, Garfield County; 12% Pitkin County; 8% Rio Blanco and west Eagle counties
- **68%** - referred to YouthZone through the court system
- **32%** - referred to YouthZone by schools, parents, counselors, other youth organizations, or self-referrals
- **90%** - of youth referred to YouthZone through the juvenile justice system do not re-offend while at YouthZone.
- **28** - volunteers from Aspen to Parachute are now trained as YouthZone Restorative Justice facilitators
- **3,500** - Number of hours committed to YouthZone by more than 150 volunteers



**I have really and honestly learned that telling the truth can get you very far in life.**

— YouthZone teen client

## HIGHLIGHTS: YOUTHZONE EVALUATION (2010 TO 2013)

evaluation completed by Dr. Jerome Evans, Ph.D.

- When all 621 clients who completed a pre- and post-screening were compared on their five intake and discharge scores, very highly significant improvements were revealed in the following 5 areas: Problem Solving and Optimism; Delinquency and Aggression; Self-Deprecation; School and Community Involvement; Substance Abuse.
- Boys and girls were at equivalent levels of substance use at intake and girls reduction in substance use was nearly identical to boys by the time they left YouthZone services.
- For boys and girls, interventions that raise school and community engagement and concurrently lower substance use have the greatest promise of supporting a sustained commitment to YouthZone programs.
- YouthZone clients from different communities all tended to benefit equally from YouthZone programs. This finding indicated current services worked as well in socio-economically advantaged and less advantaged areas.
- Use of alcohol and other drugs was approximately the same across the seven community areas from Aspen to Parachute.
- Boys were arrested more often than girls for crimes involving property and traffic-related charges. Girls were more often charged with aggression-crimes against persons, than were boys.
- Marijuana charges among juveniles that are referred to YouthZone by the juvenile justice system has more than doubled since 2009, from 10% of referrals to 23% in 2013.

# YOUTHZONE PROGRAMS & SERVICES

*YouthZone serves youth from ages 6 to 18. We see each young person as a multifaceted human being with many needs, desires, interests, and motivations. To meet their diverse needs, YouthZone provides each youth with an individualized, comprehensive program.*

## PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Pals Mentoring Program  
Girls' Circle  
Boys' Council  
Trained Involved Teens  
Assisting Non-profits (TITAN's)

## PARENT PROGRAMS

Parenting Through Divorce  
Parent Consultations  
Parent One-on-One Education  
Parent Classes and Workshops

## INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Counseling  
Case Management  
Family Mediation  
Juvenile Court Services  
Useful Public Service  
Restorative Justice  
Substance Abuse Education

# COMMUNITY COLLABORATION



*Collaboration with local and state community partners is an integral part of YouthZone operations. In 2013, YouthZone staff was active on a variety of committees.*

All Municipal, County and District  
Juvenile Courts from Aspen to Parachute  
Carbondale Rotary  
Coalition for Families (9th Judicial District):  
A Collaborative Management Program  
Colorado Mentoring Coalition  
Eagle and Pitkin Counties  
Child Protection Teams

Glenwood Chamber Business  
Women's Network  
Garfield and Pitkin Counties Family and  
Community Engagement Teams (FACET's)  
Garfield County Human Service Commission  
Glenwood Springs Noontime Rotary  
Pitkin County Human Services Team  
Rifle Chamber Women in Business

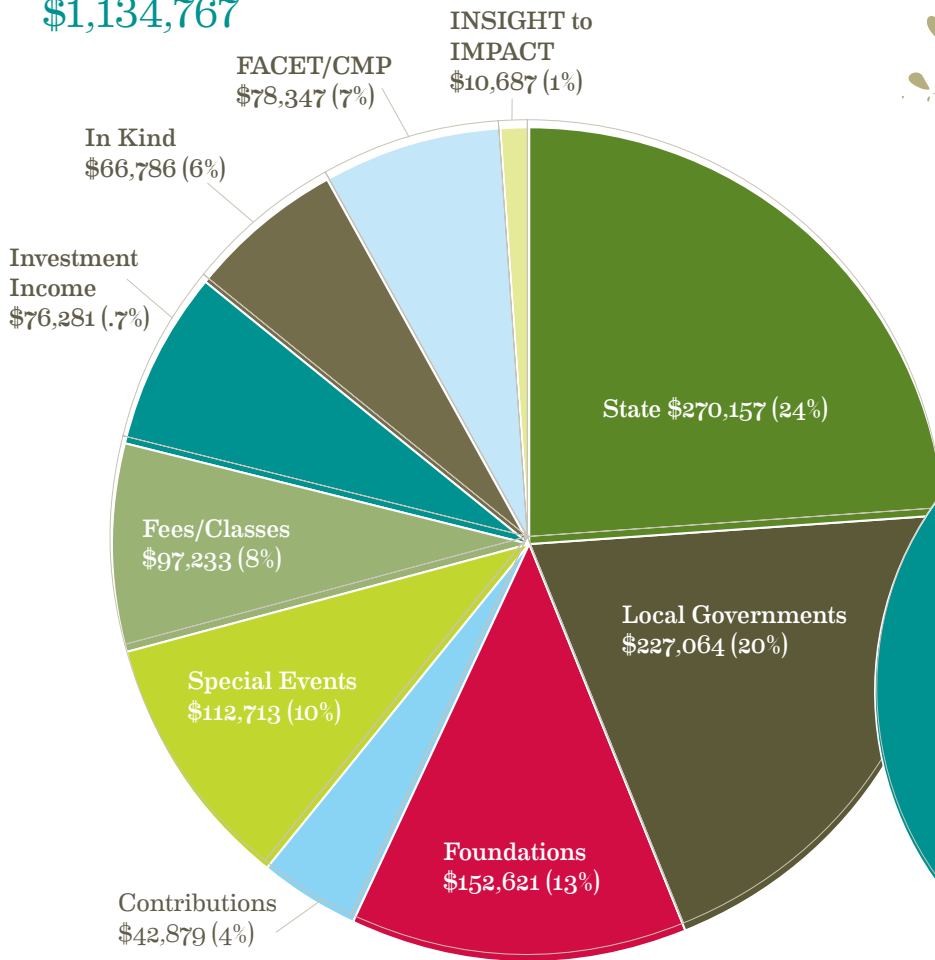
**I wanted to learn how to control my anger and how to be more confident in myself. I have learned that I should find a different group of friends that I can truly call my friends.**

— YouthZone teen client

# YOUTHZONE

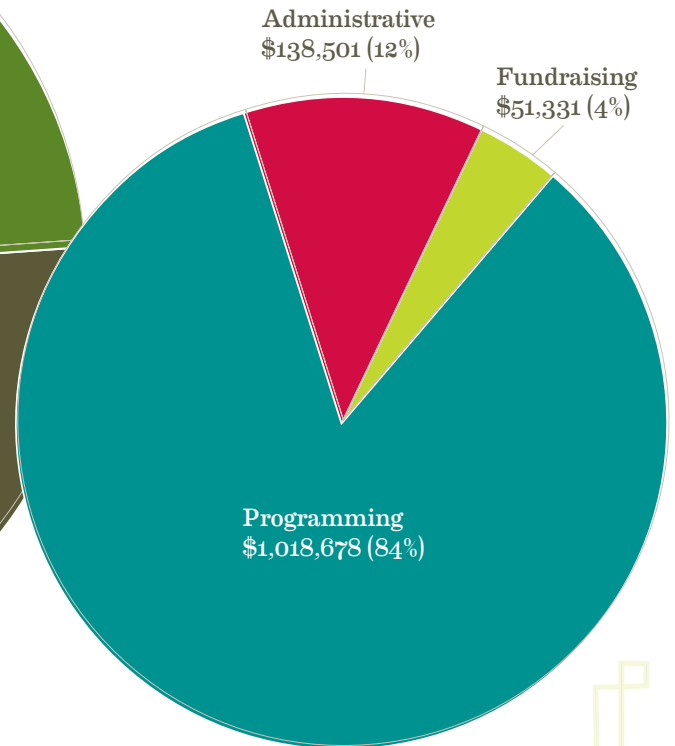
## 2012 - 2013 ACTUAL REVENUE

\$1,134,767



## 2012 - 2013 ACTUAL EXPENSES

\$1,208,510



## YOUTHZONE FOUNDATION: MANY APPROACHES TO GIVING

*YouthZone and the YouthZone Foundation have been the beneficiaries of many donors and their charitable intentions. And as unique as each of us is, the manner in which we choose to give is also very personal.*

Many donors delight in seeing their contribution put to work immediately and give to general operations. Others prefer to see a longer-lasting effect and choose to contribute to the Foundation, trusting that the amount of their donation will grow over the years with prudent and risk-averse management of the funds. Still others know that at the end of their lives, they will be in a position to leave a legacy with a contribution to the Foundation. Any of these gifts choices creates a lasting and significant memory of the donors.

Whatever the choice, the support of YouthZone and its staying power is what is appreciated. And we thank you – sincerely.



**We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.**



— Sir Winston Churchill

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Ted Edmonds

Elise Metzger

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Mike West

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Lori Mueller,

*Executive Director*

**Learn more about  
the YouthZone  
Foundation.**

The YouthZone Foundation provides a lasting financial legacy of opportunity, empowerment, and a future of choice for YouthZone and the youth, families, and communities they serve.



[www.youthzone.com/  
yz-foundation](http://www.youthzone.com/yz-foundation)



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