# The Most Important Impact-

I have been with YouthZone for about three years now. My freshman, sophomore, and junior year. Throughout the three years, I've always been working with Nancy. She is one of the best people I've been with and she's a really understanding person. YouthZone is a great, safe place for you to talk about your feelings without being judged. I remember my freshman year, I was always so scared to go to YouthZone because I had gotten in trouble over a really silly, but serious subject. A girl had hit me, and I hit her back ... same thing happened my sophomore year. I was just always so embarrassed I'd get made fun of. But, the more I went, the more comfortable I felt talking to the staff, especially Nancy

YouthZone really helps you when you're in a rough patch. This year (my junior year) I ended up back at YouthZone because I went partying with some friends, and we got pulled over and got MIPs. YouthZone really helps me realize the effects my choices have on other people and not just myself. YouthZone is full of programs for everyone. If you're a parent and you're looking for guidance, YouthZone is there for you. If you need support, whether you're looking to volunteer your time, or you would like to financially support YouthZone, they would love to hear from you so they can support you, support YouthZone. If you or someone else is struggling with anything, YouthZone is there for you. YouthZone has a great variety of programs for everyone. YouthZone is committed to help your family, and child reach their life goals.

— YouthZone Client



# SUMMER ART!

YouthZone had another successful project this summer in Rifle creating an amazing mural and memories to last a lifetime, our roung artists made a lasting contribution to their community while serving as role models to other area youth! We couldn't be prouder of their amazing artwork and their dedication this ummer. Thank you to all that made the project a success!

# Our Staff



From front left: Cinthia Lopez, Lisa Detweiler, Nancy MacGregor. Andie Scott, Tina Olson, Lisa Sobke. Glenda Cortez, Jennifer Keener. Linda Green, Patty Schaffner, Robin Tolan, Lori Mueller, Nick Croissant, Chris Perry, Alex Williard, and Kenny Hamburg

Youth Zone is an integral part of the juvenile justice system. Restorative Justice, drug and alcohol grams, counseling, and accountability requirements to assigned case managers enable most juveniles to earn about the consequences of their actions and behavior while realizing how they can make better choices in the future. YouthZone significantly reduces recidivism rates, and I am grateful to have the organization as a resource and option for juveniles."

— Amanda N. Maurer, Municipal Judge, Glenwood Springs and New Castle

# Our Programs

#### YOUTH PROGRAMS

Counseling Case management

Family Mediation Juvenile Court Service

Pals Mentoring

Restorative Justice

Supervised Community Service Projects Useful Public Service

Substance Use Education Substance Use & Trauma Therapy

#### PARENTING PROGRAMS

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

# -Our Future–

1-TBANK



It is an exciting and energizing time at YouthZone. After 30 years in our current location in Glenwood Springs, we have recently acquired (through a generous loan from a longtime donor) the old Library building as a permanent new home. This new home and our existing Rifle building help esure YouthZone's longevity and our commitment to the youth we serve.

Thank you to all the Board members who worked so diligently and were crucial in helping our dream become reality. We want to thank YOU as well, not only for your past contributions, but your support as we move forward in our Capital Campaign in June.

We anticipate our move to take place by the end of 2018 and look forward to the continued work and energy that is still needed as we move forward to our goal with everyone who believes that our youth are our greatest asset!

— Marci Pattillo, Board Chair

OUR BOARD MEMBERS: Marci Pattillo - Chair, Dan McCaslin - Vice Chair, Martha Robinson - Secretary, Tim Kelly - Treasurer, Charla Belinski, Tim Braun, Teresa Busk, Alica Crandell, Corinne Diemoz-DeRaddo, Mely Irigoyen, Susie Richardson, Leslia Serrano, and Patrick Tierney.

# └ Our Thanks -

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO FIRSTBANK FOR SPONSORING THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL REPORT!

#### YOUTHZONE

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Transforming the Lives of Kids and Families Since 1976

# **How We Lead Matters**

As we look back at 2017, YouthZone's 41st anniversary, we are struck by the magnitude of hours that we have spent engaging with families and teens. Families who need a partner to help restore their hope and view of what is possible for their life. In light of the continuing struggle in our country to support young people when they are dealing with mental health concerns, YouthZone knows that now more than ever, it is essential to be here, offering the best prevention and intervention youth programs in our communities.

2017 was a year of growth for us. Our endowment fund grew to over a million dollars and we hired an Assistant Director, Nick Croissant. We made great strides in our work with youth and substance use interventions and created a full time position for a Certified Addiction Counselor In addition, we collaborated with schools and law enforcement to implement even more Restorative Justice practices for youth before they enter the court system.

Building on our 2017 success, we will lead in 2018 with great intention.

**Inclusivity:** We believe in the power of each young person and their family. Every family is unique and every young person is unique. In addition every community in this valley is unique. We are an inclusive community, we live and work together and we won't leave anyone behind.

**Collaboration:** We know that creating strong and meaningful alliances is better for youth. There is so much work to be done and we can do it better together. A cliché, I know, but let's keep focusing on the health and strength we want our families to envision for themselves.

**Shared vision**: We listen to our youth and ask them about their needs. We share what they want for themselves. We listen to the community and our partners, and share the goal of prevention. assessing where youth need support and more robust services.

**Initiative**: We ask the hard questions. How are our youth doing? Are drugs getting the best of them, are they struggling with anger, violence, feeling isolated or have they experienced any trauma? We commit to a pro-active, prevention focused lens so our families can indeed restore their hope.

There is a bright future for us in 2018, as our home in Glenwood Springs for the past 30 years is being torn down and the site redeveloped. We are very grateful to Roaring Fork School District RE-1 for providing that home and look forward to our move. We recently purchased the old Glenwood Springs library from the city and can envision a long sustainable future for us and our youth.



Thank You for being partners with us in the quest to lead change for our young people.

Lori Mueller

Executive Director, YouthZone

Collaboration with local and state partners in an integral part of YouthZone operations. In 2017, YouthZone Staff collaborated with a variety of entities.

ALL MUNICIPAL, COUNTY AND DISTRICT JUVENILE Courts from Aspen to Parachute

COALITION FOR FAMILIES: A COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM IN GARFIELD AND PITKIN COUNTIES

COLORADO MENTORING PARTNERSHIP TASK FORCE

PITKIN COUNTY CHILD PROTECTION TEAM

FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER OF ROARING FORK SCHOOLS

GARFIELD & PITKIN COUNTY TRAUMA TASK FORCE

GARFIELD COUNTY FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM (FACET)

GARFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICE COMMISSION

Manaus Valley Project (MVP) PITKIN COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES TEAM

PITKIN PARTNERSHIP FOR YOUTH

RIFLE & GLENWOOD CHAMBER WOMEN IN BUSINESS

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER MEETINGS

GARFIELD & PITKIN VALLEY Marijuana Councils

# YouthZone in Our Community



Below shows how clients\* differed in five measurements on our

## YouthZone Screening for Positive Youth Development

among the communities served by YouthZone.

For example, youth responses showed that the use of alcohol and other drugs was greater in Aspen area communities. Optimism & Problem Solving scores were much the same from area-to-area. School & Community Involvement was a strength in Aspen and Rifle as compared to other community areas. Delinquency and Aggression behaviors were equivalent area-to-area. Self-Deprecation was a more significant problem for Aspen area youth, a finding sometimes associated with higher levels of substance use. Analysis demonstrated that YouthZone clients from different communities all tended to benefit equally from Youth Zone services.

 $^*$ The percentages following the area show where YouthZone clients live.

## Aspen, Basalt, Snowmass Area - 12%

- Statistically significant greater prevalence of "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use" and more "Self-Deprecation," or self-disapproval among youth than in some other community
- Similar to other city areas in developmental challenges with "Optimism," "Delinquency and Aggression"
- Youth benefit from greater assets related to stronger "School-Community Involvement"

## Glenwood Springs, New Castle, Silt Area - 42%

- Somewhat lower "School Community Involvement" than in some city areas
- Overall, similar to other city areas in developmental challenges with "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use," "Optimism," "Delinquency and Aggression," and "Self-Deprecation"

### Carbondale Area - 20%

- Somewhat lower "School Community Involvement" than in some city areas
- Overall, similar to other city areas in developmental challenges with "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use," "Optimism," "Delinquency and Aggression," and "Self-Deprecation"

### Rifle, Parachute Area - 26%

- Significantly less prevalence of "Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use" than in other city
- Similar to other city areas in developmental challenges with "Optimism," "Delinquency and Aggression," and "Self-Deprecation"
- Greater "School-Community Involvement" among youth

### YOUTHZONE BY THE NUMBERS

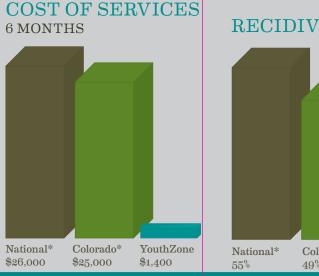
**689 clients plus 1,001** family members served in the 2016-2017 fiscal year.

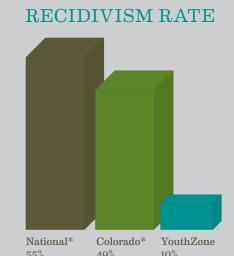
### WHY KIDS ARE COMING TO YOUTHZONE?

**32%** YouthZone clients referred by schools, parents, counselors, other youth organizations, or self-referrals.

**68%** of youth are referred to YouthZone for the following charges:

- Substance related charge 60%
- Danger to others (harrassment, trespassing, assault): 29%
- Petty Theft 11%





### YOUTHZONE CLIENTS

Youth: Adults: 50% Caucasian 47% Hispanic/Latino 3% Other

57% Caucasian 43% Hispanic/Latino

Of our Clients helped this year, 51% were boys, 31% were girls, and 18% were adults.