

Impact Report



The Youth Unity Rising Summit - 2023

On October 27th, 2023, Colorado Rising for Communities hosted an event with the goal of providing high school-aged youth with immersive learning experiences through student-led workshops, empowering resources, and a panel discussion with youth organizers. The Summit was a student-driven and community-led event held in partnership with several local groups which brought youth and community members together for a day-long summit to engage the next generation of leaders!

Looking forward to Fall 2024

For this year's Youth Summit, we will continue working with local partners (Denver Public Schools Students for Climate Action, Spirit of the Sun, The Center on Colfax, and others) to amplify youth voices, co-create empowering spaces, and learn from young leaders

Impact Snapshot

100+

attendees

80+

youth engaged

12

sponsors

21

collaborations with other organizations, including student groups



Funds Raised

\$9,000

Movement Sponsor

[The City of Denver's Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency](#)

Community Sponsors

[The Center on Colfax Children and Nature Network](#)

Organizer Sponsors

[Defend Our Future](#), [Mi Familia Vota](#), [Groundwork Denver](#), [Spirit of the Sun](#), [WellPower](#), [Protégéte](#), [Premier Credit Union](#)

Key takeaways of the Summit

Resource Fair

The day kicked off with a resource fair for students to engage with 20+ local community organizations providing resources such as service action, job, and internship opportunities.

We received feedback about the lively energy and enthusiasm from everyone who attended the resource fair.

Welcome & Youth Organizer Panel Discussion

Franklin Cruz provided an inspiring introduction in the morning, and afterwards, Chenoa Francis moderated the panel discussion. The Youth Organizer Panel Discussion included Amelia, Caden, and Beckett, students from [Denver Public Schools Students for Climate Action](#). Luisa, a strong leader and advocate for sexual health and gun violence prevention, was also on the panel.

Each speaker provided the audience with new perspectives and shared their advocacy and life experiences.

Student-driven Workshops

Workshops were co-hosted by Farah, Charlotte, Amelia, Clara, and Luisa, students from East, DCIS, Thomas Jefferson, and DSST: Conservatory Green. In these workshops, students about stewardship projects to protect the environment, how to become involved in advocacy, and the intersectionalities between climate and health. Aracely and Morgan from Groundwork Denver and Defend Our Future discussed the importance of our mental health, how it relates to eco-anxiety, and how to find healing with our communities and Earth.

Clara from East Students Demand Action and Amelia from Denver Public Schools Students for Climate Action co-hosted a workshop on advocacy. Farah and Charlotte co-hosted workshops on environmental stewardship with Spirit of the Sun, Groundwork Denver, and Mi Familia Vota.

"Elevating Voices" Screening

The summit also screened "[Elevating Voices](#)". Elevating Voices is a student-made documentary film produced by the Next 100 and the CSU Salazar Center about environmental justice and diverse voices in conservation spaces.

This film showcased how all life is interrelated and the importance of including diverse perspectives in conservation.

(Low Sensory) Grounding Spaces

We had the honor and privilege of having two of WellPower's mental health professionals, Mercedes & Cassandra, who provided Grounding Spaces throughout the day.

To create safe, inclusive, and welcoming spaces for all, we incorporated spaces for attendees to recenter.

We couldn't have done it without the generous support of our sponsors, partners, donors, and vendors.

We received positive feedback about [CSU Spur](#) as the Summit's venue and great feedback on our vendors.

Ch'il Indigenous
Vegan Van
Next Level Burger
The Creole Vegan
Mujeres Emprendedoras
Sexy Pizza
Greens-N-Grains
Western Daughters Kitchen
Guayaki
Liquid Death

Thank you to everyone who had a part in creating this special event!

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 **THE**
CENTER
ON COLFAX



Interested in sponsoring the 2024 Youth Unity Rising Summit? Contact us!



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corfc.org/youth-summit



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