

2023

*community impact report*



**DENVER BRONCOS**  
FOUNDATION



# dear readers,

On behalf of the Denver Broncos Foundation Board of Directors and the entire Denver Broncos organization, we are excited to share our 2023 Community Impact Report with you.

Utilizing our incredible platform, the Broncos have a unique opportunity to drive long-term, positive impact across all of Broncos Country. We are proud to provide an update on our strategic outreach from this past year in which we made our largest financial commitment ever to the communities we serve.

Our expanded programming was made possible as part of the new vision, mission and values announced in May 2023 guiding the Foundation's community engagement strategy. Designed to support high-impact programs for youth, we are focused on three key areas: youth health and wellness initiatives, dynamic in and out of school programming, and access to career pathways.

Through this targeted outreach, we are pleased to share the Denver Broncos Foundation more than doubled its financial commitment to grantees and program partners in 2023. In all, more than \$5.5 million was awarded through financial and in-kind support to so many deserving causes.

Providing grants to 200-plus organizations, the Denver Broncos Foundation impacted more than 175,000 youth in Colorado through impact-driven projects and programs in 2023. I also want to recognize the dedication of the players, alumni and staff, who combined to volunteer more than 1,750 hours of hands-on community service across 500-plus outreach initiatives!

Our vision is to set the standard as a great community partner, leader and influencer by making a positive impact across Broncos Country. Through the philanthropic efforts of the Denver Broncos Foundation and our organization, we will continue to work tirelessly toward that goal.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is grateful to its extraordinary nonprofit and corporate partners for their unwavering commitment to giving back to our community. Together, we are excited to make a positive impact again in 2024 and for many years to come.

Thank you for your continued support. Go Broncos!

sincerely,

**CARRIE WALTON PENNER**  
DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION BOARD CHAIR  
OWNER, DENVER BRONCOS





# DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Denver Broncos Foundation is committed to making a positive impact on future generations by creating a "game plan" for life through youth health and wellness initiatives, dynamic in and out of school programming and access to career pathways.

**YOUTH HEALTH AND WELLNESS INITIATIVES**

Meeting basic physiological needs of children in order for them to thrive mentally, emotionally and physically.

**DYNAMIC IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMMING**

Preparing youth to achieve their full potential through activities and experiences to develop academic, developmental and social competencies.

**ACCESS TO CAREER PATHWAYS**

Building educational and economic opportunities and an enriching life of self-sufficiency after high school.

## OUR VALUES



EQUITY



COMMITMENT



COLLABORATION



INNOVATION



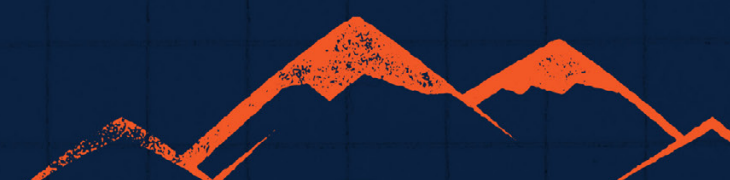
IMPACT



DENVER BRONCOS  
FOUNDATION

# funding priority *spotlights*

IN 2023, THE DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION PROVIDED GRANTS TO 200-PLUS ORGANIZATIONS, IMPACTING MORE THAN 175,000 YOUTH IN COLORADO THROUGH IMPACT-DRIVEN PROJECTS, PROGRAMS AND INITIATIVES.





# section one: *youth health and wellness*

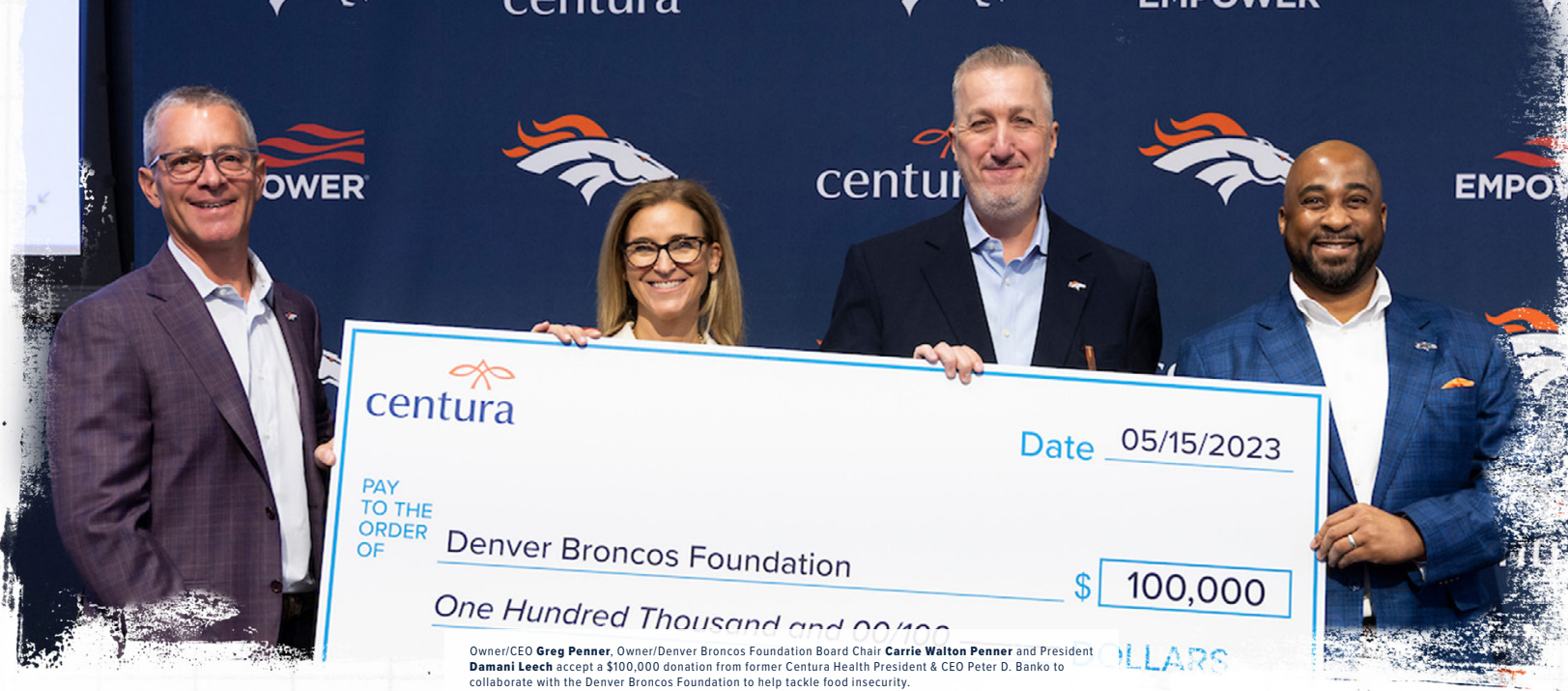
MEETING BASIC PHYSIOLOGICAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN IN ORDER FOR THEM TO THRIVE MENTALLY, EMOTIONALLY AND PHYSICALLY.

## 2023 YOUTH HEALTH AND WELLNESS GRANT RECIPIENTS:

A PRECIOUS CHILD  
AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY  
CLOTHES TO KIDS OF DENVER  
CROSSROADS SAFEHOUSE  
DENVER AREA YOUTH SERVICES (DAYS)  
DENVER URBAN GARDENS  
EVERY KID SPORTS  
FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES  
GOOD SPORTS  
HEART OF AMERICA FOUNDATION

INSIDE OUT YOUTH SERVICES  
JUDI'S HOUSE  
METRO CARING  
PROJECT PAVE  
SECOND WIND FUND  
SERVICIOS DE LA RAZA  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS COLORADO  
THE GATHERING PLACE  
THE GROWHAUS  
WISH FOR WHEELS





Owner/CEO **Greg Penner**, Owner/Denver Broncos Foundation Board Chair **Carrie Walton Penner** and President **Damani Leech** accept a \$100,000 donation from former Centura Health President & CEO Peter D. Banko to collaborate with the Denver Broncos Foundation to help tackle food insecurity.

# feeding the future

One in nine Colorado youth face food insecurity, which negatively impacts their physical and mental health, social skills and performance in schools. Through direct services and collaboration with 800-plus Hunger Relief Partners, including food pantries, nonprofits, schools and more, Food Bank of the Rockies distributes enough food to provide upwards of 196,000 meals per day.

That collaboration inspired the Denver Broncos Foundation and CommonSpirit Health (formerly known as Centura Health) to team up to tackle food insecurity together. Together, the organizations support Food Bank of the Rockies' Totes of Hope™ program at Doull Elementary, which assists youth with nutritious, kid-friendly food to sustain them over the weekend when school is not in session and other food programs may be unavailable. Every Friday, youth take home a tote filled with eight to nine pounds of food featuring shelf-stable

items (i.e., canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, whole grains) and fresh fruits and vegetables, as well as a recipe in both English and Spanish for a complete meal.

Additionally, the Denver Broncos Foundation and CommonSpirit Health are featured on a newly co-branded truck to ensure individuals have the food they need to thrive. This powerful partnership is driving impact across 32 Colorado counties and all 23 Wyoming counties to collectively impact the issue of food insecurity in our communities.

Throughout the 2023 season, the Denver Broncos Foundation teamed up with CommonSpirit Health and Food Bank of the Rockies for food packaging and distribution events, as well as a Thanksgiving-themed assembly at Doull Elementary School focused on gratitude and giving.



**5,265**  
Totes of Hope™ food bags distributed through the partnership



**11,244**  
Miles driven by co-branded food truck



**77,547**  
Youth served in 2023 by Food Bank of the Rockies



Outside linebacker **Jonathon Cooper** is joined by Denver Broncos and CommonSpirit staff to assemble Totes of Hope food bags for youth in our community.

For us to partner with the Broncos and Food Bank of the Rockies with this work here at Doull is fantastic, because we know that it's hopefully going to make an impact on the next generation of children in our communities.

*Dr. Oswaldo Grenardo*  
COMMONSPIRIT HEALTH



Denver Broncos Cheerleader **Yuna** high-fives a student during a visit to Doull Elementary School.

Second Wind Fund staff host a table to share information about their mental health services for Colorado youth.




# expanding mental health services

Suicide is the leading cause of death for youth in Colorado, with nearly one in five Colorado high school students reporting that they seriously considered suicide within one school year. Second Wind Fund (SWF) exists to provide youth (up to 19 years old) at risk for suicide access to professional counseling services by removing financial and social barriers.

The suicide death rate for ages 19-24 is more than double that of ages 10-18, but once a youth graduates high school, access to low-cost/free mental health care services decreases significantly. The Denver Broncos Foundation is proud to partner with SWF to expand access to mental health services through a multi-year, multifaceted approach:

- **Geographic expansion** to provide in-person therapy services in all Colorado counties with an intentional focus on expansion in rural and tribal communities to reach an additional 600 youth and provide 2,500 additional therapy sessions in the next three years.
- **Fund and launch the Young Adult Pilot Program** to provide services to young adults ages 19-21 — increasing the age limit at which a youth can access SWF services from 19 to 21 —with an estimated reach of 780 youth and 3,120 therapy sessions provided during the pilot program.

 **1,380**  
Additional Colorado youth accessing mental health services through grant

 **5,620**  
Additional therapy sessions provided through grant

# putting our best foot forward

Nationally, teachers estimate that nearly one in five students in their schools deal with lack of access to clean clothes on a regular basis, and more than half of teachers surveyed believe those students are more likely to struggle with absenteeism.

Clothes To Kids of Denver (CTKD) provides new and quality used clothing in a boutique setting to Denver area students from low-income or in-crisis families, free of charge. Youth are connected through schools, school districts, human service agencies, shelters, hospitals, clinics and other organizations throughout the 11-county Denver Metro Area.

Students set up an appointment to shop for a 21-piece wardrobe. While the bulk of the clothing comes in through in-kind donations, the Denver Broncos Foundation is helping CTKD fill the gaps of high-need, new items, including five new pairs of socks and underwear for the 12,000 youth served this year, and underwriting 4,660 pairs of new shoes for approximately one-third of youth served.

  
**120,000**  
New pairs of socks and underwear provided to Colorado youth

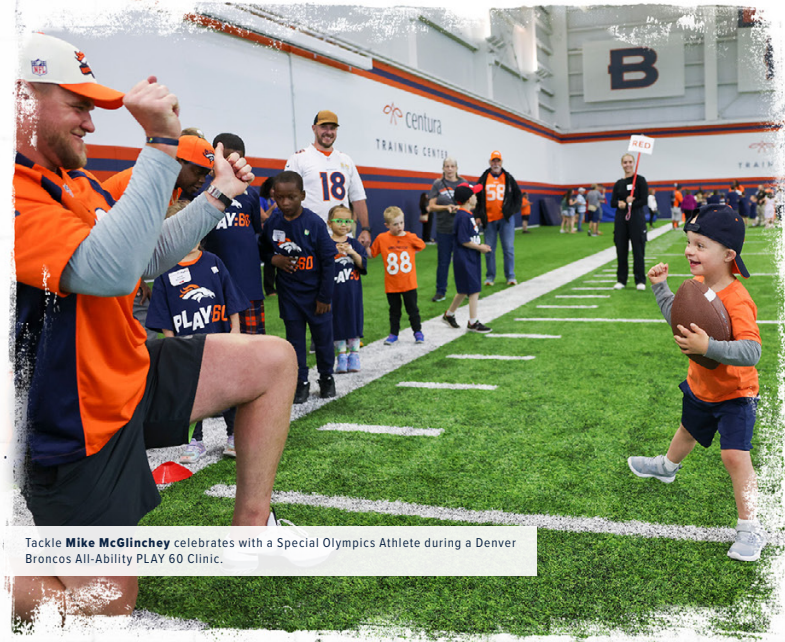
  
**86.4%**  
Percentage of parents who agree or strongly agree that their child was more confident after shopping at CTKD



Colorado youth select new sneakers as part of a 21-piece no-cost wardrobe at Clothes to Kids of Denver's boutique.



Owner/Denver Broncos Foundation Board Chair **Carrie Walton Penner** and President **Damani Leech** present American Cancer Society Colorado with a grant to pilot the first-ever ACS Access to Care Transportation and Lodging Community Grant dedicated to pediatric hospitals.



Tackle **Mike McGlinchey** celebrates with a Special Olympics Athlete during a Denver Broncos All-Ability PLAY 60 Clinic.



The GrowHaus received a Denver Broncos Foundation grant to provide holiday snack boxes to 800 kids to increase access to healthy and nutritious food during the 2023-24 winter break school closure.



Head Coach **Sean Payton** invites Clay to break down the team huddle during his Make-A-Wish experience.



A child waves during a visit to A Precious Child's Resource Center, a program that received funding from the Denver Broncos Foundation to increase access to basic needs for low-income families.



**Denver Broncos players** and Denver Broncos Cheerleader **Chelsea** pose for a group photo with youth from Urban Peak following a Mental Health Awareness Month discussion facilitated by WellPower.



**Denver Broncos rookies** visit with a patient at Children's Hospital Colorado.



Defensive end **Matt Henningsen** and quarterback **Russell Wilson** visit with CommonSpirit medical staff during the team's Fight Like a Bronco cancer awareness month.





## section two: *dynamic in and out of school programming*

PREPARING YOUTH TO ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL THROUGH ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES TO DEVELOP ACADEMIC DEVELOPMENTAL AND SOCIAL COMPETENCIES.

### 2023 DYNAMIC IN AND OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAMMING GRANT RECIPIENTS:

AURORA COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS  
BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF COLORADO  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF METRO DENVER  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF PUEBLO COUNTY  
CITY YEAR DENVER  
COLORADO DREAM FOUNDATION  
COLORADO UPLIFT  
COLORADO YOUTH FOR A CHANGE

DENVER KIDS  
DENVER RESCUE MISSION  
PLAYWORKS COLORADO  
READING PARTNERS CO  
ROSS INITIATIVE IN SPORTS FOR EQUALITY (RISE)  
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIRS  
SCIENCE OF SPORT  
SUN VALLEY YOUTH CENTER





President **Damani Leech** and Owner/Denver Broncos Foundation Board Chair **Carrie Walton Penner** are presented with commemorative football helmets painted by club members.

# 20 years of *impact*

The Denver Broncos have funded the Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club since 2003, providing a foundation for thousands of youth to recognize their potential.

Kids ages 5-18 attend the Club from Monday through Friday during the school year and throughout the summer to access a myriad of activities and programs, nutritious meals and exposure to caring adults during their formative years.

This August, the team joined Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club's community to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Club with Owner Carrie Walton Penner's announcement that the Denver Broncos Foundation will continue to support the Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club for at least the next five years.

In her remarks ahead of a celebration that included games, food and prizes, Walton Penner expressed the importance of an organization that has helped more than 15,000 youth during its 20-year history. The Denver Broncos Foundation's commitment to Boys & Girls Club of Metro Denver will ensure that support continues long into the future.



## 93%

Percentage of Club members say the Club inspires them to learn new things



## 15,000+

Youth served since the club opened in 2003



## 92%

Percentage of club members expect to graduate high school



A little over a year ago when we became a part of the Denver Broncos, almost every person we met mentioned that the Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club was one of the things that makes the team such a special place to be a part of. The club is incredibly intertwined with the history of the franchise.

*Carrie Walton Penner*  
DENVER BRONCOS OWNER



A Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club member enjoys the 20th Anniversary Celebration.



Club Director **Rich Barrows** is joined by former club member and Denver Broncos Athletic Training Intern **Ahonsi Ohimai**.

# a focus on *literacy*

Students reading below grade level in third grade are four times as likely as their peers to drop out of school before earning their diploma. Throughout Colorado, 16.3 percent of K-3 students have been identified as having significant reading deficiency.

Studies also show programs that distribute books to children to foster book ownership help improve students' reading performance, writing performance, attitudes toward reading and general academic performance.

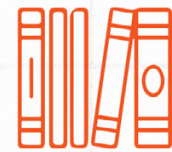
Through grantmaking, programming and events, the Denver Broncos Foundation is supporting key literacy initiatives focused on helping students read at grade level and ensuring access to books featuring characters and storylines with which they can identify.

In September, the Foundation teamed up with Scholastic and HidrateSpark to host Montview Elementary School's first-ever book fair. The three-day celebration invited each student to select four free books to take home for their personal libraries, with the school selecting an additional 300 books to keep for classrooms and the library. Students also received branded stickers and bookmarks for their collection.

Through multi-year grant funding to Reading Partners Colorado, the Foundation will ensure an additional Title I school receives individualized intervention services and one-on-one support for students who have fallen behind in reading progress and need more support than teachers and school staff can provide during the school day.



Former wide receiver **Bennie Fowler** helps Montview Elementary School students select books for their personal libraries at a Scholastic Book Fair.



**1,950**

Books distributed to the Montview Elementary School community



**86%**

Percentage of RPCO students who develop mastery of key foundational reading skills needed to read at grade level

# uplifting the next *generation*

One in three kids in America are growing up without a sustained, positive adult mentor in their lives. Colorado UpLift's mission is to build long-term, life-changing relationships with urban youth, equipping them to thrive and contribute to their community.

UpLift employs full-time teacher-mentors — representative of the communities they serve — who are available to students 24/7, year-round. The teacher-mentors engage in year-round programming, cross-age mentoring and a long-term relational approach (fourth grade through high school).

Through a multi-year Denver Broncos Foundation grant commitment, UpLift expanded out-of-school

year-round programming at Denver Public Schools' West Middle School, ensuring kids have access to positive and consistent role models and impactful programming focused on academic support, leadership development, college and career exploration and planning and wraparound support.

In conjunction with the NFL's My Cause My Cleats campaign, Denver Broncos players and Denver Broncos Cheerleaders visited with UpLift students at West Middle School, sharing their personal causes and gifting each kid a new pair of sneakers.



**90%**

Percentage of UpLift seniors who graduate high school



**90%**

Percentage of UpLift students who report feeling cared for and loved because of their UpLift mentor



Defensive Tackle **D.J. Jones** greets Colorado UpLift youth at a My Cause My Cleats event.



Running back **Jaleel McLaughlin** hosts an activity station at the Miles for Miles Field Day, which welcomed 200 Boys & Girls Club members for activity stations and games hosted by Playworks Colorado.



Safety **Justin Simmons** joins local teens for the RISE multi-week leadership program, which provides opportunities to have important and often difficult conversations about race, perceptions and stereotypes.



Former safety **David Bruton Jr.** watches as a College View Elementary School student participates in a STEM and Denver Broncos football-themed field day with Science of Sport.



The **Denver Broncos** and Comcast present Boys & Girls Clubs of Pueblo with a \$20,000 grant to address the digital divide during a STEM-focused visit.



Youth at Colorado Dream Foundation – a 2023 Foundation grant recipient – participate in afterschool programming focused on academic development, college and career development and emotional wellness development.



Denver Broncos Cheerleader **Daniela** helps a kid from Sun Valley Youth Center select new learning supplies at Back to School with the Broncos hosted by King Soopers.



Colorado Youth for a Change – a Denver Broncos Foundation grant recipient – provides individualized support and case management with the ultimate goal of ensuring students earn a high school diploma or GED.



A "Big" and "Little" enjoy a Sports Buddies event hosted by Big Brothers Big Sisters of Colorado, which received a grant from the Denver Broncos Foundation focused on expanding mentor recruitment to get youth off the waitlist.



# section three: *access to career pathways*

**BUILDING EDUCATIONAL AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR AN ENRICHING LIFE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY AFTER HIGH SCHOOL.**

**2023 ACCESS TO CAREER PATHWAYS GRANT RECIPIENTS:**

ADVANCEEDU  
CAREERWISE  
COLLEGE TRACK  
DENVER TEST PREP  
DRESS FOR SUCCESS DENVER  
EMILY GRIFFITH FOUNDATION  
GIRLS INC. OF METRO DENVER

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT-ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
MILE HIGH UNITED WAY  
MILE HIGH YOUTH CORPS  
MINDS MATTER COLORADO  
TEACHING THE AUTISM COMMUNITY TRADES (TACT)  
URBAN PEAK  
YOUNG AMERICANS CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION





High school students participate in the "Picture Your Strengths" interactive workshop to gain perspectives on potential career pathways.

# picture your strengths

If you can see it, you can be it — and Junior Achievement (JA) believes any young person can succeed with the right inspirational and preparation tools. JA recently opened the internationally recognized JA Free Enterprise building to support Colorado students as they dream big and identify pathways to their futures.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is funding the JA Dream Accelerator's "Picture Your Strengths" interactive, which will enable 10,000 students annually to gain further perspectives about how their unique interests and hobbies should inform their journey to identify a fulfilling career that pays a living wage.

Overall, the Daniels Fund JA Dream Accelerator brings careers to life by sharing stories of emerging entrepreneurs and business leaders tailored to each student's interests and aptitudes, motivating them to develop a plan that will empower them and help them launch a meaningful career.

This program begins at individual schools where students utilize a robust online resource, JA Here to Career, and culminates with a field trip to the JA Free Enterprise Center in Greenwood Village, Colorado, where they visit a high-tech learning lab comprised of six activities that are customized to align with each student's assessment results.

 **88%**

Percentage of JA alumni who say their experience made them think of new work opportunities or career paths

 **10,000**

Students will go through the Picture Your Strengths program annually

 **84%**

Percentage of JA Alumni who report JA strongly influenced their decision to pursue post-secondary education

The Junior Achievement (JA) Dream Accelerator is a high-tech, personalized learning experience that motivates high school students to define their path to success. During this program students are encouraged to explore their unique strengths and interests, learn from emerging entrepreneurs and business leaders, understand their earning potential, and develop a post-secondary education plan to launch a successful career. Thanks to partners like the Denver Broncos Foundation, JA is empowering youth in our community with the knowledge, skills, purpose and passion to create a future they may have never imagined.

*Kristi Shaffer*

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT-ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER



A high school student selects various characteristics that align with her interests, strengths, and skills as she works through the "Picture Your Strengths" interactive.



The "Picture Your Strengths" interactive pulls from student-selected abilities and skills to build a selfie representative of their strengths that can inform potential career pathway interests.

**PICTURE YOUR STRENGTHS**  
PRESENTED BY  
THE DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION



A high school student receives support through MMCO's College Access Mentoring Program session.

## closing the gap

Only one in four Colorado students will attend a four-year college, while 90 percent of top jobs in Colorado that pay a living wage require post-secondary education.

Minds Matter Colorado (MMCO) is working to close the post-secondary education gap by connecting driven and determined students from low-income families with the people, preparation and possibilities to succeed in college, create their future and change the world. A college degree can result in a low-income student experiencing longer life expectancy, better job security and a higher income over their lifetime.

MMCO's College Access Mentoring Program combines three years of mentorship with committed college-educated

volunteers, weekly college-prep instruction (SAT prep, financial aid education, application support) and access to two summer programs at colleges across the country. Programming is delivered at four different sites, and MMCO provides transportation support for students to remove a barrier to access.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is working with MMCO to increase sophomore enrollment by 50 percent for the Class of 2027, ensuring more Colorado youth will have access to a four-year college degree and the transformational benefits that degree can bring over a lifetime.



100%

Percentage of MMCO graduates who complete high school on time and are accepted to four-year colleges and universities



100%

Percentage of MMCO graduates who earn college scholarships

## bold futures

100%

Percentage of first-year college students who persisted and completed their freshman year of college in 2023

98%

Percentage of GIMD girls who think about their future and believe they have a great future ahead of them

Nationally, one in four girls will not finish high school on time, and in the districts that Girls Inc. of Metro Denver serves, nearly 1,000 girls (approx. 750 girls of color) are pushed out, and subsequently drop out of high school every year. The negative economic, social and emotional effects of dropping out of high school are staggering for girls. On average, a female dropout earns just over one-third of what her male counterparts earn, and female dropouts have increased rates of health challenges and less access to health care.

Girls Inc. of Metro Denver's Career and College Success program provides year-round academic support and programming focused on college and career exploration, planning and successful transitions, with the goal of helping girls learn skills to be healthy, independent and successful adults.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is teaming up with Girls Inc. Metro of Denver to expand two key components of the Career and College Success program:

- **College Tour Expansion:** Funding to facilitate college tour trips beyond surrounding states with intentional focus on exposure to Historically Black College and Universities and Hispanic Serving Institutes.
- **Externship Pathway:** Adding a new externship pathway focused on business and entrepreneurship, increasing the number of girls who participate in summer career exploration and readiness programming.

Girls Inc. of Metro Denver students participate in a college tour as part of the organization's Career and College Success program.





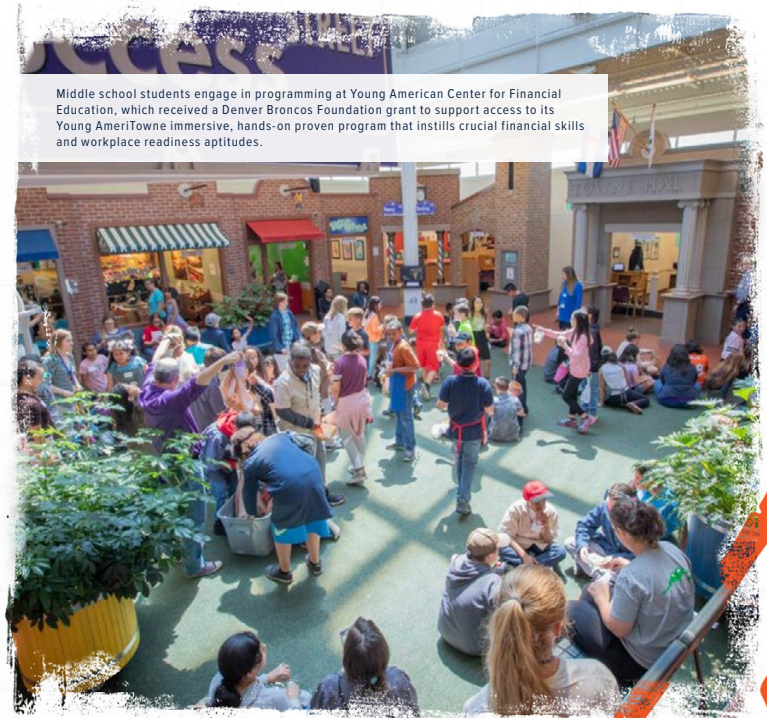
A young woman shows off professional attire secured through Dress for Success Denver's new Butterfly Bus mobile programming, which received a Denver Broncos Foundation grant to increase access to career readiness services.



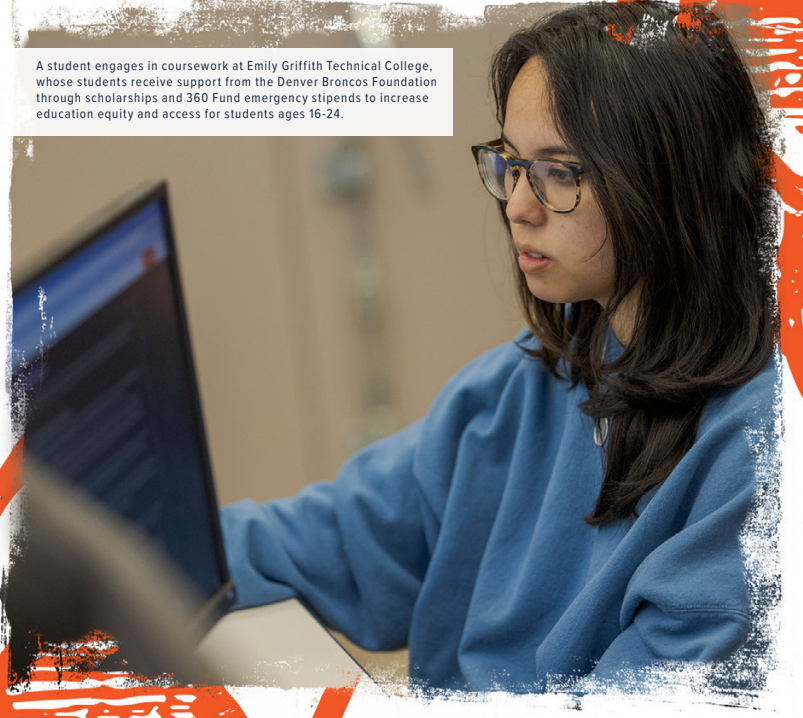
An AmeriCorp Member delivers City Year Denver programming focused on addressing education equity gap in schools. The Denver Broncos Foundation funds City Year programming at Johnson Elementary School (Denver Public Schools).



A participant engages in Urban Peak's Education and Employment support services program, which received a Denver Broncos Foundation grant to provide youth with the skills and support they need to persist in school, find and maintain employment and progress toward self-sufficiency.



Middle school students engage in programming at Young American Center for Financial Education, which received a Denver Broncos Foundation grant to support access to its Young AmeriTowne immersive, hands-on proven program that instills crucial financial skills and workplace readiness aptitudes.



A student engages in coursework at Emily Griffith Technical College, whose students receive support from the Denver Broncos Foundation through scholarships and 360 Fund emergency stipends to increase education equity and access for students ages 16-24.



Members of Mile High Youth Corps engage in conservation-based work focused on environmental improvements on public land as part of their career readiness training, during which they also receive mental health, wraparound and support services, partially funded through a Denver Broncos Foundation grant.





DENVER BRONCOS  
FOUNDATION

# community impact spotlights

IN 2023, THE DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION MORE THAN DOUBLED ITS FINANCIAL COMMITMENT TO GRANTEES AND PROGRAM PARTNERS, CONTRIBUTING MORE THAN \$5 MILLION IN FINANCIAL AND IN-KIND SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITY.





# section one: *youth and high school football*

IMPROVING YOUTH AND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL THROUGH PROGRAMS, CLINICS AND CAMPS THAT FOCUS ON CHARACTER, PLAYER SAFETY, TEAM DEVELOPMENT AND THE BENEFITS OF FOOTBALL.

## 2023 YOUTH AND HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL GRANT RECIPIENTS:

### NONPROFITS & DISTRICT PARTNERS

ADAMS 12 FIVE STAR SCHOOLS  
AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION  
CHERRY CREEK SCHOOLS FOUNDATION  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO  
COLORADO HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES  
ASSOCIATION (CHSAA)  
DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION  
JEFFCO PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

### INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS

ARVADA WEST HIGH SCHOOL  
BERTHOUD HIGH SCHOOL  
BRIGGSDALE HIGH SCHOOL  
BURLINGTON HIGH SCHOOL  
BYERS HIGH SCHOOL  
CHAPARRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
CHATFIELD HIGH SCHOOL  
CHERRY CREEK HIGH SCHOOL  
COLORADO SPRINGS CHRISTIAN SCHOOLS  
COLUMBINE HIGH SCHOOL  
CORONADO HIGH SCHOOL  
DOUGLAS COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL  
EAGLECREST HIGH SCHOOL  
EAST HIGH SCHOOL  
ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL  
ELLCOTT HIGH SCHOOL  
ESTES PARK HIGH SCHOOL  
FLATIRONS ACADEMY  
FORT COLLINS HIGH SCHOOL  
FRUITA MONUMENT HIGH SCHOOL  
GREEN MOUNTAIN HIGH SCHOOL  
KIOWA HIGH SCHOOL  
LAKEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL  
LEGEND HIGH SCHOOL

LITTLETON HIGH SCHOOL  
LYONS HIGH SCHOOL  
MOUNTAIN VISTA HIGH SCHOOL  
OTIS HIGH SCHOOL  
PEETZ HIGH SCHOOL  
POMONA HIGH SCHOOL  
PONDEROSA HIGH SCHOOL  
PUEBLO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL  
REGIS JESUIT HIGH SCHOOL  
ROCK CANYON HIGH SCHOOL  
SIMLA HIGH SCHOOL  
SMOKY HILL HIGH SCHOOL  
THE CLASSICAL ACADEMY  
THE VANGUARD SCHOOL  
THOMPSON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL  
THUNDERRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL  
VALOR CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL





Denver Broncos alumni and Denver Broncos Cheerleaders visit with flag football players in Monterrey, Mexico for the national co-ed U12 Tochtito tournament.

# growing the game *expandiendo el juego*

The Denver Broncos are committed to growing the game of football in Mexico, the team's International Home Market Area (IHMA).

The Denver Broncos Foundation committed more than \$100,000 in grant support to launch a partnership with NFL Mexico's Tochtito programming, which is Mexico's national flag football program launched by the NFL in 2000.

Funding provides 60 elementary schools across Mexico City and Monterrey with in-school physical education curriculum, flag football equipment kit donations (footballs, flags, bags, etc.) and teacher certification in football fundamentals.

Additionally, the Broncos funding sponsors two age groups in nationwide flag football tournaments for both 12U co-ed and 16U female leagues. In December, Denver Broncos Cheerleaders, alumni and members of the Community Impact department traveled to Monterrey for the co-ed Tochtito U12 tournament, which drew teams from each of Mexico's 32 states. The tournament's champion was from Coahuila, and the team advanced to compete in the 2024 NFL Flag National Championships in Orlando, Florida at the Pro Bowl.

The Broncos will continue to invest in expanding football's reach beyond the nation's borders and growing the sport with the next generation of players.

 27,500

Youth served through in-school and national tournament programming

 60

Schools in Mexico City and Monterrey supported with flag football equipment and programming

 32

States represented in the 12U co-ed and 16U female tournaments underwritten by the Foundation



Pro Football Hall of Famer and former running back Terrell Davis poses with youth during a Tochtito (flag football) clinic in Mexico City.

*“This is the first commitment of its type and amount of any team, and the first sign of any involvement at this level by an NFL team. We are pleased and grateful to the entire Broncos organization for this great support.”*

Arturo Olivé  
NFL MEXICO DIRECTOR GENERAL



Youth compete in the 32-team co-ed U12 Tochtito tournament in Monterrey, Mexico, sponsored by the Denver Broncos Foundation.

# equitable access

The Women's Sports Foundation notes that by age 14, many girls are dropping out of sports at twice the rate of boys, and girls have 1.3 million fewer opportunities to play high school sports than boys.

In its second season of a Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) pilot sport, the Denver Broncos' girls flag football program is working to combat this issue, more than doubling the number of girls participating in high school flag football in Colorado. The program boasted 50 schools fielding 76 teams, providing an opportunity for 1,316 student athletes to participate; 67 percent of student athletes had never played flag football prior to this season.

Before the start of the season, the Denver Broncos Foundation hosted the second annual Girls Flag Coaches Clinic for athletic directors, head coaches and assistants. The clinic included a thorough review of the rulebook, playbook development, practice planning, on-field drills

and more. A board-certified specialist in sports dietetics, Bob Seebohar, spoke on behalf of Dairy MAX and discussed the role nutrition plays in the health-and-wellness routine of athletes.

Through weekly in-season jamborees, teams had the opportunity to play 18 regular season games, and work toward becoming eligible for the postseason tournament and high school girls flag football state championship held at Centura Health Training Center.

Led by the 2023 Denver Broncos High School Flag Football Coach of the Year Mario Lopez, Arvada West High School capped off an undefeated season with a state title after defeating Cherry Creek High School in the championship game. The Wildcats finished their season with 534 points scored and only 44 points allowed, and junior Saylor Swanson was named the Gold Belt award winner as the Colorado High School Flag Football Player of the Year.

 680

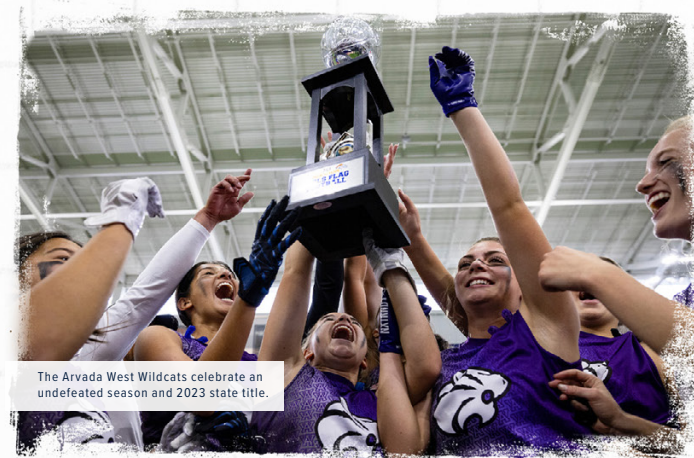
Girls flag football games played in season including regular season and postseason play

 51%

Percentage of athletes who would not have played another fall sport if it was not for girls flag football



Outside linebacker **Nik Bonitto** cheers on girls flag football players during a jamboree at the Centura Health Training Center.



The Arvada West Wildcats celebrate an undefeated season and 2023 state title.

# equipping for the unexpected

Sudden cardiac arrest is the leading cause of death among youth athletes, but the survival rate for sudden cardiac arrest is 50-70 percent if an AED is administered within five minutes of the event. With every passing minute that one is not placed and used, survival rate drops an additional 10 percent.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is working to improve student-athlete safety by equipping Colorado schools and organizations with the equipment and knowledge needed in case of unexpected events.

Ahead of the football season, the Foundation teamed up with Children's Hospital Colorado and Rocky Mountain CPR to provide 32 AEDs to 27 high schools and youth organizations. Additionally, the groups made free CPR and AED certification available as part of a program to educate coaches, athletic directors and athletic trainers on several health protocols for young athletes.

Sudden cardiac arrest can occur in young athletes for a number of reasons, including commotio cordis, genetic conditions or other disorders. If an AED is available, it can cut fatality rates simply by being within reach.

In addition to learning how to recognize symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest and when to treat the medical event, Children's Colorado professionals spoke about heat illness and concussions, aiming to increase knowledge and safety of youth athletes in Colorado.

This Denver Broncos Foundation initiative prioritizes health and safety anywhere kids are active. We want to make sure kids have access to the care they may need through AEDs or CPR training with support from the empowered adults who were here ... and completed the certification process."

*Allie Engelken*

DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION EXEC. DIRECTOR



A flag football coach is trained on how to administer CPR during an educational and certification event.



Pro Football Hall of Famer and former safety **Steve Atwater** presented Denver Broncos High School Coaches of the Year, Columbine's Andy Lowry (tackle football) and Arvada West's Mario Lopez (flag football) with tickets to Super Bowl LVIII.



The 2A State Champion Delta Panthers are recognized on-field during the Denver Broncos High School Football Salute prior to the team's game against the Los Angeles Chargers.



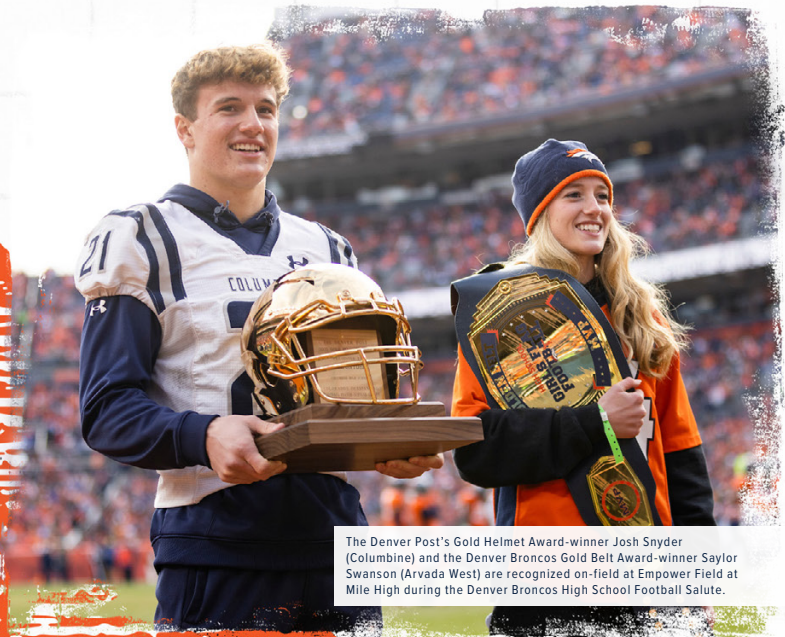
Ralston Valley poses for a team photo after winning the annual Denver Broncos 7-on-7 Tournament presented by Children's Colorado and Delta Dental Colorado with support from NIKE and Gatorade.



The Denver Broncos High School Game of the Week program presented by Children's Colorado, Your Local Ford Stores, and Delta Dental of Colorado features 6-Man through 2A high school football games, with participating teams receiving a Denver Broncos pregame tailgate experience, professional game photos, and a \$2,500 equipment grant.



Football players match up as part of the Futures Football season, a middle school tackle football program designed to build neighborhood pipelines from youth football to high school football with every team being led by high school coaches.



The Denver Post's Gold Helmet Award-winner Josh Snyder (Columbine) and the Denver Broncos Gold Belt Award-winner Saylor Swanson (Arvada West) are recognized on-field at Empower Field at Mile High during the Denver Broncos High School Football Salute.



High school linemen compete in the annual Denver Broncos Linemen Challenge presented by Children's Colorado and Delta Dental Colorado with support from NIKE and Gatorade, which featured more than 50 teams from all seven state classifications.



Flag football players compete in the NFL FLAG regional tournament hosted by the Denver Broncos Foundation and RCX Sports.



## section two: *juvenile justice*

SUPPORTING AT-RISK AND JUSTICE-INVOLVED YOUTH THROUGH SERVICES AIMED AT LIMITING THE NEGATIVE IMPACT OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM.

### 2023 INSPIRE CHANGE JUVENILE JUSTICE GRANT RECIPIENTS:

CAFÉ MOMENTUM  
JUVENILE ASSESSMENT CENTER  
MILE HIGH UNITED WAY  
SEEING OUR ADOLESCENTS RISE (SOAR)  
SIMS-FAYOLA FOUNDATION  
THE URBAN FARM  
WELLPOWER  
YOUTHZONE



# cultivating change

According to the Sentencing Project, youth who are placed in diversion programming are less likely to recidivate, commit less violence, have higher rates of school completion and college enrollment and earn higher incomes in adulthood.

The Urban Farm (TUF) in collaboration with Denver's Public Safety Youth Services operates the HYPE: Cultivating Change in Youth diversion programming for youth ages 14-18 focused on supporting justice-involved and at-risk youth with life skills and career pathway programming. Approximately 10-15 youth are employed in each cohort of the earn-while-you-learn 10-week program, receiving 6.5 hours of daily programming, wraparound services, meals and training to monitor and manage emotions, practice empathy towards themselves and others and develop

foundational strategies to help them navigate the world as adults. HYPE youth leave the program with a bank account to support a financially-sound future and a resume for future employment.

In addition to providing funding to support 40-plus youth accessing the diversion program annually, the Denver Broncos Foundation partnered with TUF for an on-site beautification project. Denver Broncos staff and defensive lineman Haggai Chisom Ndubuisi joined youth in the program to paint a shipping container that will be used to further TUF's mission to provide the opportunity for urban youth to engage and participate in local agricultural systems by removing the barriers such as land access, time, location and finances.



Youth served through Cultivating Change in Youth diversion programming last year



Earn-while-you-learn vocational program hours provided each year



Youth from the Cultivating Change diversion program paint a shipping container that will be used for on-site programming.



## Michelle Graham Rodriguez

The Denver Broncos named The Urban Farm's Michelle Graham Rodriguez as their 2023 Inspire Change Changemaker Award winner. The Inspire Change Changemaker Award recognizes an individual in each NFL team market who is making a difference in the community through their work in social justice initiatives.

Michelle joined The Urban Farm (TUF) as Executive Director in November 2019, and oversees the organization's Cultivating Change in Youth diversion programming.

The Broncos Foundation Grant provided critical funding and exposure for The Urban Farm's Cultivating Change in Youth vocational programming, which is provided in collaboration with Denver's Public Safety Youth Programs. With a 90% successful completion rate for 2023, we have been able to provide over \$85,000 in wages paid directly to youth participants. In addition, participants had a direct contribution to the production of over 10,000 lbs. of fresh produce, meat and eggs donated to the community per year, supporting a restorative justice model. Further, over 1750 meals were provided during programming and over \$20,000 worth of healthy groceries were distributed to participant households.

Michelle Graham Rodriguez  
THE URBAN FARM EXEC. DIRECTOR

# momentum to denver

An estimated 22,000 young people in Colorado are justice-engaged through pre-trial, lock-up, diversion and other justice programs. To increase avenues of support for this group of youth, the Denver Broncos Foundation is supporting the expansion of Café Momentum, a nationally recognized nonprofit, to Denver. The new arm of the program is expected to begin construction on its Denver location in 2024.

The grant will facilitate the expansion of Café Momentum's ecosystem of support, which offers comprehensive services, including 24/7 case management, education,

mental health and workforce development. With a proven track record of aiding more than 1,000 youths, Café Momentum Denver aims to break the cycle of incarceration and support justice-involved youth by instilling hope and fostering positive change within the community.

Over the past few years, Denver Broncos players, alumni and staff have had the opportunity to meet with youth who have graduated from Café Momentum's program, as well as enjoy the restaurant's food through various virtual and in-person events both in Denver and across the country. Café Momentum is an NFL Inspire Change partner.



An intern participates in Café Momentum's paid 12-month internship program, focused on providing justice-involved youth with multifaceted experience by rotating through all aspects of the restaurant, acquiring life and social skills.

**Our partnership with the Denver Broncos Foundation exemplifies the power of united visions. Together, we are deeply committed to providing resources and opportunities to youth involved in the justice system. This partnership reinforces our shared belief in potential, second chances and transformative growth.**


*Olivia Cole*  
MOMENTUM ADVISORY COLLECTIVE  
CHIEF STRATEGY OFFICER



Denver Broncos Foundation grant funding supports expanded services for justice-involved youth through a new Clinical Case Manager in partnership with WellPower.

# mental health power play

 **85%** Percentage of newly committed youth who required formal mental health intervention services via Colorado Division of Youth Services 2021-22 report

 **31%** Percentage of improvement in mental health symptoms reported by youth in program

A 2021-22 Colorado Division of Youth Services report found that 85% of newly committed youth require formal mental health intervention services.

WellPower's Juvenile Justice Mental Health Services provide counseling and case management services to youth who are currently engaged in the juvenile justice system. Each youth has an individualized plan tailored to their needs, goals, consequences and harm-reduction outlook. However, many justice-involved youth struggle with basic needs and often face barriers that prohibit them from

fully participating in, and benefiting from, mental health services.

The Denver Broncos Foundation is teaming up with WellPower to begin to tackle that problem through support for a new Clinical Case Manager to provide culturally sensitive, trauma-informed case management with the goals of increasing stabilization and reducing recidivism.

The Foundation is also increasing the support justice-involved youth receive for wraparound support including rent assistance, basic needs, educational support and more.





Juvenile Assessment Center staff share information on early intervention, comprehensive assessment and improved access to appropriate services in the 18th Judicial District, which the Denver Broncos Foundation support through a grant focused on justice-involved youth.



The YouthZone Diversion program — a Denver Broncos Foundation grant recipient — provides substance education courses, counseling, restorative justice, and other critical services to limit the impact of the juvenile justice system on youth.



Youth participate in Seeing Our Adolescents Rise (SOAR) programming supported through a Denver Broncos Foundation grant focused on helping justice-involved youth build resilience by achieving positive emotional, mental and physical outcomes despite adversity.



Mile High United Way's Bridging the Gap program is a model program that receives funding from the Denver Broncos Foundation focusing on access to career pathways and wraparound services for young adults ages 18-24 experiencing homelessness, the majority of whom have transitioned out of the child welfare system (foster care or juvenile justice system).



Tackle **Garett Bolles** reflects in the 18th Judicial District's juvenile probation courtroom, which he redecored with inspirational artwork to support kids who are navigating the juvenile justice system.



Youth engage in Sims-Fayola Foundation programming funded by the Denver Broncos Foundation that is focused on young men of color between the ages of 11-25 who are referred by social services, the community or the courts.

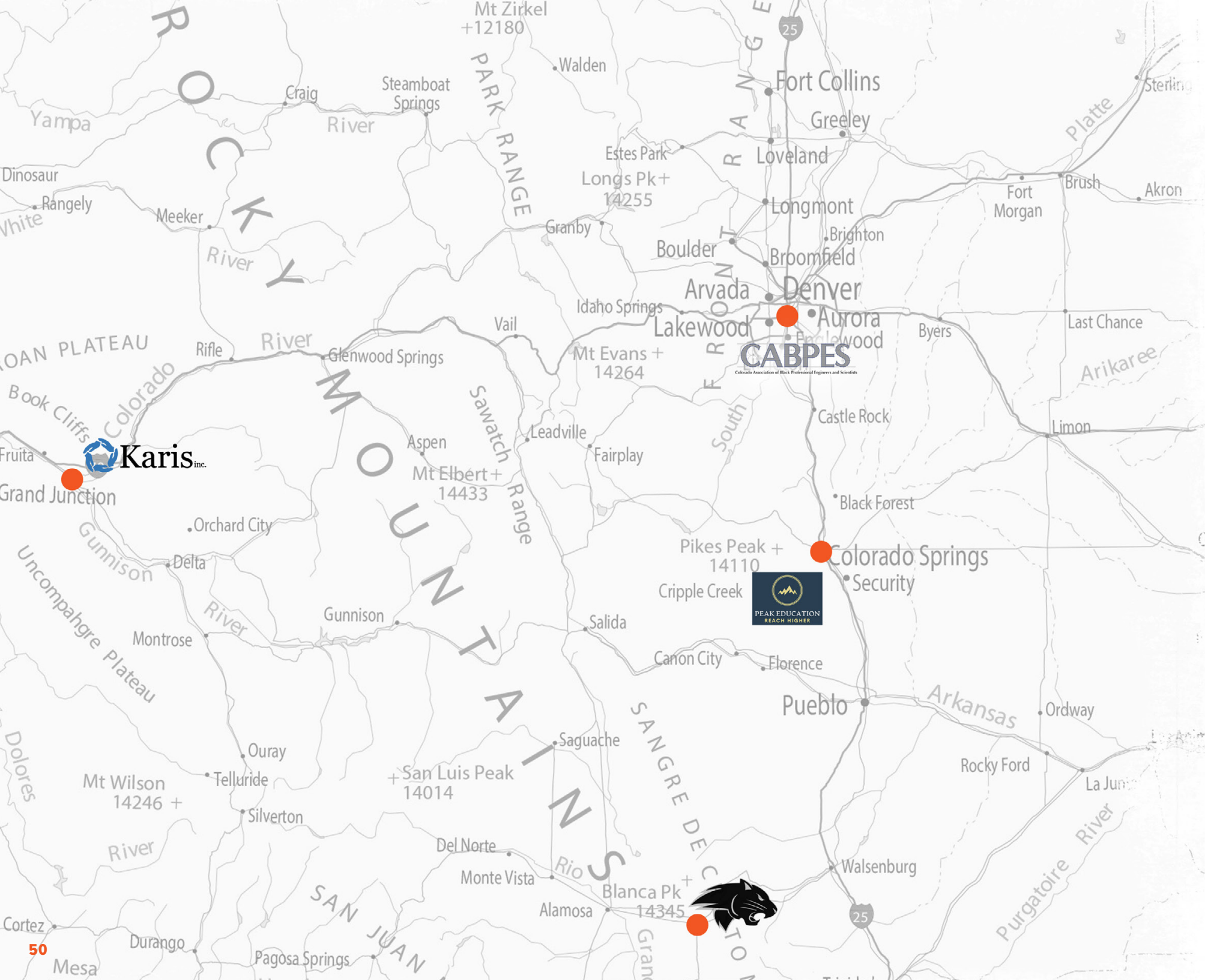


# section three: *community grant program*

TO SUPPORT SHORT-TERM INITIATIVES, THE DENVER BRONCOS COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM PROVIDES RAPID AND FLEXIBLE FUNDING EACH YEAR TO ADDRESS IMMEDIATE COMMUNITY NEEDS AND LOCAL PROJECTS. IN 2023, THE DENVER BRONCOS FOUNDATION GRANTED \$304,420 TO 61 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS IMPACTING MORE THAN 84,000 YOUTH THROUGH THE COMMUNITY GRANT PROGRAM.

- ALAMEDA INTERNATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL
- ARVADA HIGH SCHOOL
- BERTHOUD HIGH SCHOOL
- BLUE SKY BRIDGE
- BOOKGIVE
- BOULDER COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION
- BOYS HOPE GIRLS HOPE OF COLORADO
- CAREERS IN CONSTRUCTION COLORADO
- CENTER FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES, INC.
- CENTRO DE LA FAMILIA
- COLORADO AEROLAB, INC.
- COLORADO FRIENDSHIP
- COLORADO LATINO LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY, & RESEARCH ORGANIZATION
- COLORADO SPRINGS VIKINGS YOUTH FOOTBALL AND CHEER
- DENVER KIDS, INC.
- DIAKONIA
- DOHERTY HIGH SCHOOL
- EDGEWATER COLLECTIVE
- ELBERT COUNTY WRANGLERS
- ENGLEWOOD HIGH SCHOOL
- FULL CIRCLE RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
- GREEN VALLEY RANCH YOUTH SPORTS
- GREENHOUSE SCHOLARS
- HINKLEY HIGH SCHOOL
- HOPE COMMUNITIES
- INI PATHWAYS TO INCLUSIVE HIGHER EDUCATION
- INSPIRE
- JUDI'S HOUSE
- JUNTOS
- JUSTICE HIGH SCHOOL
- KARIS, INC.
- KIDSPAK
- LAKE MIDDLE SCHOOL
- LAMAR HIGH SCHOOL
- LOVELAND YOUTH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (LYAA)
- LUBIRD'S LIGHT FOUNDATION
- MARION DOWNS CENTER
- METRO DEEP
- MILE HIGH YOUTH CORPS
- MINDS MATTER COLORADO
- MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL
- MONTBELLO HIGH SCHOOL
- NORTHRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL & GRIZZLY FOOTBALL CLUB
- OUT BOULDER COUNTY
- PEAK EDUCATION
- Poudre HIGH SCHOOL
- PROJECT HELPING
- PUEBLO EAST HIGH SCHOOL
- PUEBLO POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE
- RISE AGAINST SUICIDE
- SALIDA HIGH SCHOOL
- FOOTBALL & SALIDA YOUTH FOOTBALL
- SIERRA GRANDE HIGH SCHOOL
- THE CENTER ON COLFAX
- THE COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF BLACK PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS
- THE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER
- THOMAS JEFFERSON HIGH SCHOOL
- VILLAGE EXCHANGE CENTER
- WAPIYAPI
- WELD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL
- YOUNG AMERICANS CENTER FOR FINANCIAL EDUCATION
- YOUTHROOTS





# grant *spotlights*



Karis, Inc.'s Wildly Integrated Mental Health Program provides mental and behavioral health services in non-institutional settings where youth feel safe and supported, lowering barriers to care. Karis is the only agency in Mesa County that provides services specifically tailored to homeless youth, who are at higher risk for challenges related to mental health.



## the colorado association of black professional engineers and scientists

The Colorado Association of Black Professional Engineers and Scientists' Junior Engineers Tomorrow's Scientists program helps underrepresented minority youth in the metro Denver area prepare for careers in STEM professions. Youth learn STEM skills through hands-on experiences and real-life problem solving while learning about various career pathways.



## peak education

Peak Education's Impact Service Project is a semester-long service-learning project where middle and high school students work in small teams with local businesses, nonprofits and educational institutions to identify root causes of local area problems and find creative solutions. Peak scholars are empowered to take ownership of their educational journey and receive the support and mentorship to overcome barriers.



## sierra grande k-12 school

Sierra Grande K-12 School is a Title I rural school in southern Colorado serving 83 percent minority students. The Sierra Grande high school football program received funding to enhance player safety through the purchase of new football helmets.



  
DENVER BRONCOS  
**COMMUNITY  
IMPACT**

# *volunteerism spotlights*

IN 2023, BRONCOS PLAYERS, ALUMNI AND STAFF COMBINED TO VOLUNTEER MORE THAN 1,750 HOURS OF COMMUNITY SERVICE ACROSS 500-PLUS OUTREACH INITIATIVES. THROUGH VOLUNTEERISM, THOSE THREE GROUPS PROVIDED AN ESTIMATED \$55,650 IN IMPACT.



Tackle **Garett Bolles** is joined by Arapahoe County Magistrate Beth Dumler, who provides monthly opportunities for Bolles to mentor justice-involved youth through juvenile probation court.



# Garett Bolles

The Denver Broncos selected tackle Garett Bolles as the team's nominee for the 2023 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year award presented by Nationwide. Considered the NFL's most prestigious honor, the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year recognizes a player for his outstanding leadership both on the field and in the community.

Selected by the Broncos in the first round (20th overall) of the 2017 NFL Draft from the University of Utah, Bolles has started all 99 games played during his seven seasons while making a consistent impact in the community. Named the Broncos' Community Impact Award winner in 2022 and a Broncos Community Ambassador in 2021, Bolles has focused his community outreach efforts on providing meaningful and impactful mentorship to justice-involved youth.

Over the last several seasons, Bolles has been an active

participant in a juvenile probation court mentorship program and redecored a court room in Arapahoe County while also making regular visits to the Marvin W. Foote Youth Services Center. Following a visit alongside Owner Carrie Walton Penner and teammates, Bolles launched a rewards program to incentivize positive behavior within specific pods he mentored. He has impacted hundreds of youth with his outreach, providing mentorship and developing a unique, in-person connection with each child.

Beyond his work in the juvenile justice system and involvement in both organizational and teammate-related community outreach, Bolles is passionate about his personal foundation, the GB3 Foundation. Its mission is to empower youth with learning disabilities to find success through mentors in educational strategies, spiritual and mental wellbeing, whole body nutrition and physical health for the purpose of equipping them to live their dream.



100+

Justice-involved youth mentored by Bolles through work in Arapahoe County

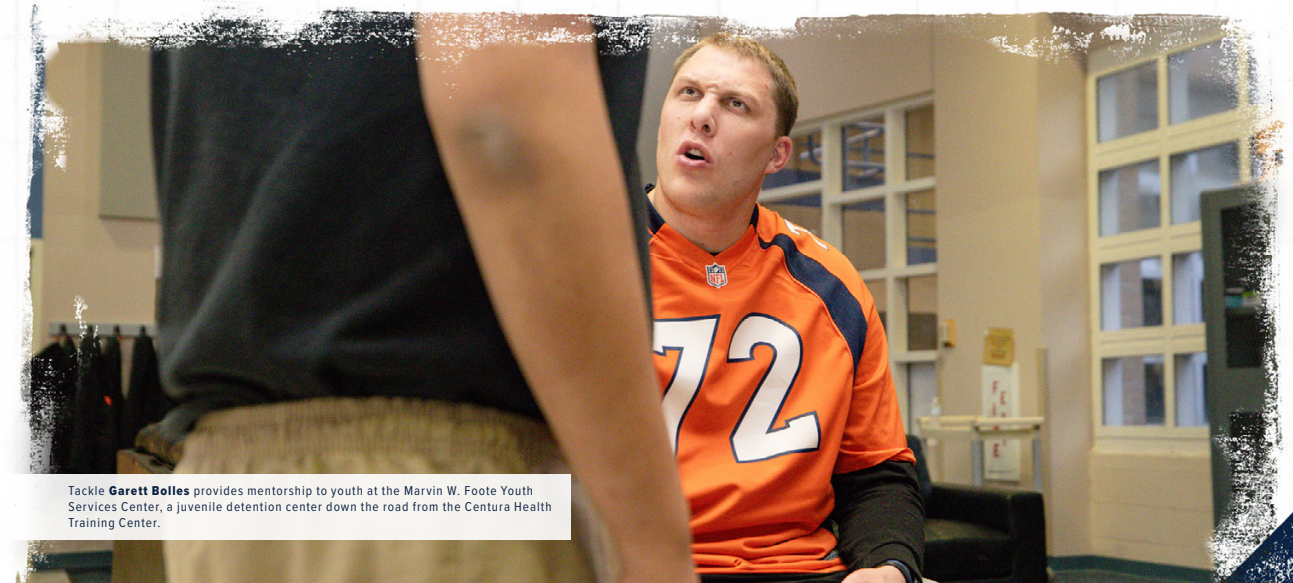


22.5hrs

Spent mentoring youth at the Marvin W. Foote Youth Services Center during the 2023 season

I do this because I genuinely love and care for these kids. I know they say I help them, but they help me, and they give me that fight every single day to go out there on the football field and live out my dream.

*Garett Bolles*  
DENVER BRONCOS TACKLE



Tackle **Garett Bolles** provides mentorship to youth at the Marvin W. Foote Youth Services Center, a juvenile detention center down the road from the Centura Health Training Center.

# champions in the community

Each season, the Denver Broncos present “Champions in the Community” Awards to recognize players who have gone above and beyond in both team and personal philanthropic efforts throughout the year. Throughout 2023, 94 different players participated in a voluntary community event or initiative. Through 469 total impact points (appearances, programs and donations), Denver Broncos players completed more than 800 total service hours.



## community impact award: *Pat Surtain II*

Cornerback Pat Surtain II received the team’s Community Impact Award for his dedication to youth and disadvantaged communities. He launched the Patrick Surtain II Foundation in 2023, which aims to level the playing field for underprivileged youth by ensuring the same access to opportunities as their suburban peers. He was awarded the NFLPA Week 14 Community MVP award after providing two high schools with grants to build Inspiration STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) rooms. He continues to support youth by collaborating with teammates to host events, including youth football camps.



## community ambassador: *Lloyd Cushenberry III*

Center Lloyd Cushenberry III participated in more than 10 community events, attending nearly every Thanksgiving and holiday event hosted by the team this season. Cushenberry also spearheaded a community initiative in which he gave 300 winter coats to students at Eiber Elementary School in Lakewood, Colorado.



## community ambassador: *Elijah Garcia*

Defensive lineman Elijah Garcia participated in more than 50 percent of team community events in the regular season, making him one of the top three participants on the team. He hosted a two-day youth football camp ahead of the offseason program for youth ages 8-13.



## community ambassador: *Will Sherman*

Offensive lineman Will Sherman increased his regular-season community involvement by over 65 percent from 2022 and participated in over half of the team’s community events in the regular season. Will represented Black Nurses, Inc. and Adopt-A-Classroom to support causes close to his heart for the NFL’s My Cause My Cleats initiative.



## community ambassador: *Justin Simmons*

Safety Justin Simmons, a three-time nominee for the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award and four-time Community Ambassador recipient, was active in the community nearly every week of the regular season. He participated in over 40 community service opportunities, many of which focused on local youth. He provided grants to 10 girls high school flag football teams to support program growth and led six sessions of the team’s youth leadership program with the Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club.



## community ambassador: *Russell Wilson*

Quarterback Russell Wilson was involved in more than 20 community service events and made regular visits to local hospitals to provide support to individuals and families facing difficult times. Additionally, he partnered with CommonSpirit Health to distribute \$1 million in grants to 10 local organizations that share a passion for health equity, education, food security and social justice.



# Randy Gradishar



Former Denver Broncos linebacker Randy Gradishar, who was named to the Pro Football Hall of Fame Class of 2024, was selected as the team's nominee for the 2023 Salute to Service Award, presented by USAA. The annual award acknowledges the exceptional efforts by members of the NFL community to honor and support U.S. service members, veterans and their families.

Gradishar serves as the Outreach Coordinator at Mt. Carmel Veterans Services Center where he empowers and assists veterans in adjusting back to civilian life. In addition to his work with Mt. Carmel Veterans Services Center, Gradishar has participated in three USO tours visiting



troops in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar, UAE, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia and took part in the 2022 Salute to Service Caravan presented by USAA to visit with and honor local service men and women.

Prior to his successful playing career, Gradishar joined the ROTC as an undergraduate at Ohio State University. A son of a WWII veteran, Gradishar has a passion to honor and connect service members, veterans and their families, year after year.



## k9s for warriors

The Denver Broncos, through the support of Owner Carrie Walton Penner and Head Coach Sean Payton, sponsored the training of two service dogs in partnership with K9s For Warriors, an organization committed to ending veteran suicide by pairing highly trained service dogs with military veterans suffering from PTSD, traumatic brain injury and other invisible wounds of war.

Dedicated to saving not just one life, but two, K9s For Warriors rescues a majority of its dogs for its service dog program, allowing both the K9 and veteran to build an unwavering bond that facilitates their collective healing

and recovery. On average, the organization pairs up to 16 veterans with service dogs each month. To date, K9s For Warriors has rescued more than 2,000 dogs and paired nearly 1,000 veterans with lifesaving service dogs.

The two black Labrador brothers, named Bucky and Thunder, traveled to Denver as part of their service dog training. Bucky and Thunder are the Broncos' first-ever "team dogs" and made their debut during the team's Salute to Service game on Nov. 19 against the Minnesota Vikings. Once the dogs have completed their training, they will each be paired with a veteran in need.



# staff service series

The organization's Staff Community Service Series features monthly volunteer opportunities for Broncos staff and families. From planting community gardens to assembling no-sew blankets and holiday care packages, employees can give back to various causes and organizations over the year with fellow team members. In 2023, 89 employees participated in 15 events totaling 525 volunteer hours.

Since the program's launch in 2017, the Broncos have averaged 91 employee participants annually. Including employees and their family members, the program has impacted 48 different nonprofit organizations through more than 5,175 hours of service.



President **Damani Leech** and Stadium General Manager **Jay Roberts** participate in the third annual March for Peace hosted by Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club members.



**Denver Broncos employees** volunteer at Cheltenham Elementary School's garden, funded through a Denver Broncos Foundation grant to Denver Urban Gardens.



**Denver Broncos employees** display "Girls thINC Outside the Box" kits they assembled with Girls Inc. of Metro Denver to increase access for girls to engage in STEM activities.



**Denver Broncos employees** volunteer at Judi's House during the team's Fight Like a Bronco month in support of youth grieving loss due to cancer.



Pro Football Hall of Famer and former safety **Steve Atwater** joins high school football players and officials for the pre-game coin toss ahead of a Denver Broncos High School Game of the Week matchup.



Former wide receiver **Brandon Lloyd** reads with a Montview Elementary School student during a Scholastic Book Fair hosted by the Denver Broncos Foundation.



Former safety **Nick Ferguson** coaches up a College View Elementary School student during a Denver Broncos football-themed STEM field day with Science of Sport.



Former wide receiver **Ed McCaffrey** helps a Boys & Girls Club member shop for holiday gifts for herself and her family members.

# alumni in the community

The Denver Broncos Alumni Engagement program is designed to engage Denver Broncos alumni through widespread participation in organizational events and relevant business initiatives and supporting alumni as a foundational pillar of the Denver Broncos organization. From reading with students to supporting local youth and high school football teams, alumni can give back to various causes and organizations in conjunction with the Denver Broncos Foundation.

In 2023, 30 different alumni participated in 17 community events, totaling 150.5 volunteer hours.





**DENVER BRONCOS**  
FOUNDATION



*\$4 million*

Grant dollars distributed to highly effective nonprofit organizations to support mission-aligned impact



*216*

Nonprofits, schools and community organizations supported through grants



*177,020*

Youth supported through grants provided to Colorado nonprofits



*\$1.5 million*

Community impact through programming, events and in-kind support that align with funding priorities



*41*

Foundation-hosted events to provide opportunities for youth to engage in various programs



*2,488*

Denver Broncos home game tickets donated to nonprofits through the team's Ticket Turnover community donation program

# thank you, partners

# our team

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## A SPECIAL THANKS

MAYA BLACKEN, TORI BOYKINS, GABE CHRISTUS, ARIC DILALLA,  
 PETE EKLUND, CHRISI HIRSH, KEVIN JOHNSON, JAMIE KINGSTON,  
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