

# Colorado Outdoor Equity Grant Program

Annual Presentation  
January 18, 2023



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# Outdoor Equity Grant Program (OEGP)

- Supports youth up to age 25 and their families to experience Colorado's great outdoors
- Creates opportunities for youth to participate in outdoor recreation, engage in conservation activities, explore outdoor careers, and receive outdoor job training
- Traditionally-excluded communities served by this program include: **Black, Indigenous, and people of color; LGBTQ+; people with disabilities; and low-income**



Photo courtesy: Rugged Research



# Funding and Grant Guidelines

- Funded through Colorado Lottery:
  - \$750,000 in FY21
  - \$1,500,000 in FY22
  - Up to \$2,250,000 in FY23
  - Up to \$3,000,000 in FY24 and beyond
  - Transfer made in Q4
- Organizations can request up to \$150,000
- Grant cycle opens once annually each fall



Photo courtesy: Adaptive Adventures



# Outdoor Equity Grant Board

- Yesica Chavez - Youth Seat
- Jon Kreamelmeyer - Disability Accessible Programming Seat
- Brayhan Reveles - Youth Seat
- Loretta Pineda - Conservation Seat
- Michal Rosenoer - Outdoor Education Seat
- Christopher Rothenberger - LGBTQ+ seat
- Benilda Samuels - Racial Justice Seat
- Cara Sherpa - Youth Seat
- Richard Williams - Environmental Justice Seat





# Awards

Grant Cycle	Number of Awards	Total Awards
Spring 2022	42	\$1,763,000*
Fall 2022	27	\$1,321,808
<b>Total</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>\$3,084,808</b>

\*Additional investments from Colorado Parks and Wildlife and Great Outdoors Colorado increased funds available to help respond to high interest in the first grant cycle.

Smallest Grant	Largest Grant	Mean Grant Amount
\$4,000	\$150,000	\$44,707



Photo courtesy: Southern Colorado Community Action Agency

# Adaptive Adventures, Westminster

*“A little girl and her family came to see if it was possible for her to ride a bike with Spina Bifida. Chris and Gilbert fit her for an adaptive trike and then outfitted her entire family to ride with her. Her parents were in tears because they didn’t know it was possible for them to participate in an activity together as a family.”*

- Chelsea Elder, Executive Director,  
Adaptive Adventures



Photo courtesy: Adaptive Adventures



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# Diversify Whitewater, Loveland

*“I just wanted to amplify the fact that I felt very safe and cared for at the event. I had been whitewater rafting before with a rafting company and that experience can not compare to the care everyone gave at Diversify Whitewater. I felt really comfortable at this event.”*

- Diversify Whitewater Participant



Photo courtesy: Diversify Whitewater



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# Colorado Canyons Association, Grand Junction

*“Hearing these topics outside of the classroom, in Spanish and English, had an impact on the students. Leave-No-Trace principles were shared so the students could learn to treat their public lands with respect, an important lesson for first-time public land and wilderness users.”*

- Colorado Canyons Association Staff



Photo courtesy: Colorado Canyons Association





# Kwiyagat Community Academy, Towaoc

*“It was great to include the children in the restoration efforts along the Mancos River in the Tribal Park. They felt part of a bigger effort by doing the simple act of planting trees.”*

- Hannah, Trees, Water, People



Photo courtesy: Kwiyagat Community Academy



# Lincoln Hills Cares, Denver

*“I am so grateful for the Lincoln Hills staff and leadership! We have an amazing time when we come and learn so much from all of the staff members! It is such a special place and it’s so healing and restorative to visit and learn from everyone!”*

*-Lincoln Hills Participant*



Photo courtesy: Lincoln Hills Cares



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# The Cycle Effect, Eagle

*“To me, being part of The Cycle Effect is being part of an amazing team of inspiring and talented people that always supports and encourages one another. In four years, there isn’t a practice I regret going to. I always feel stronger and more empowered. The most important thing I’ve learned is that improving is a process.”*

*-Paola, participant*

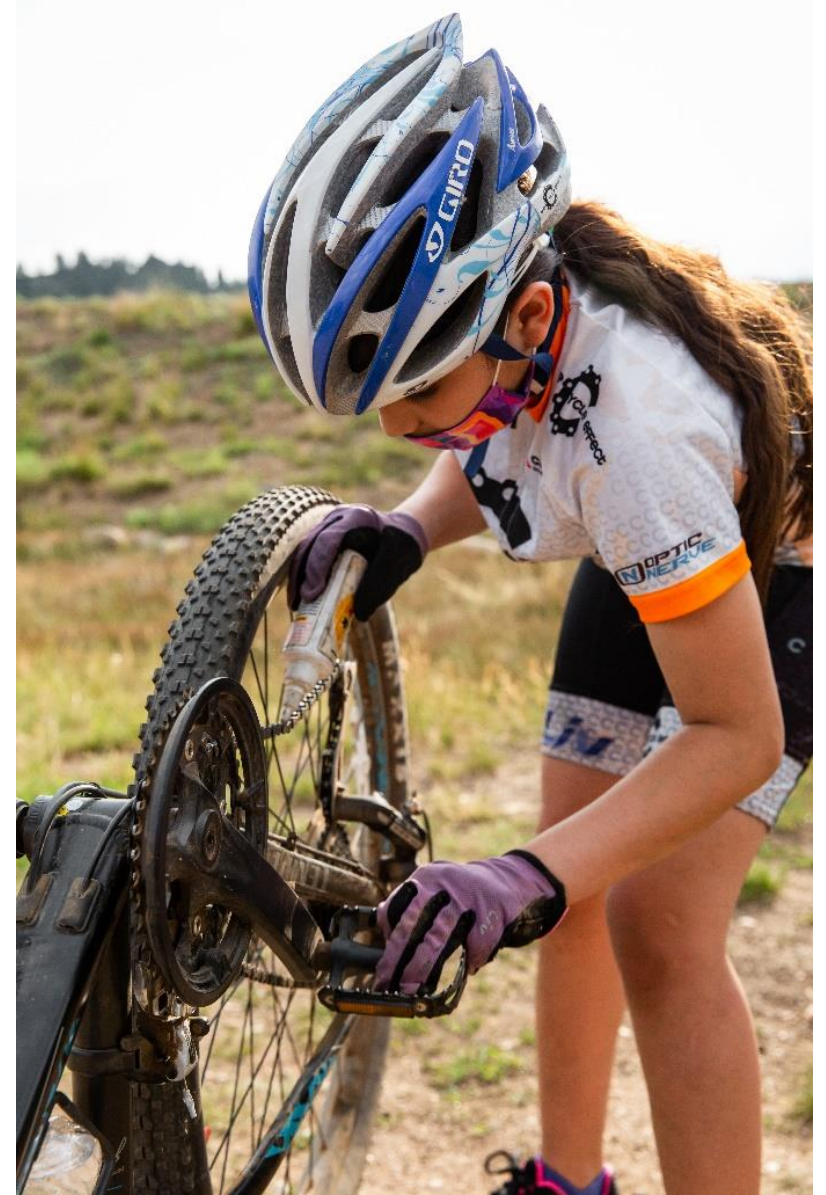


Photo courtesy: The Cycle Effect



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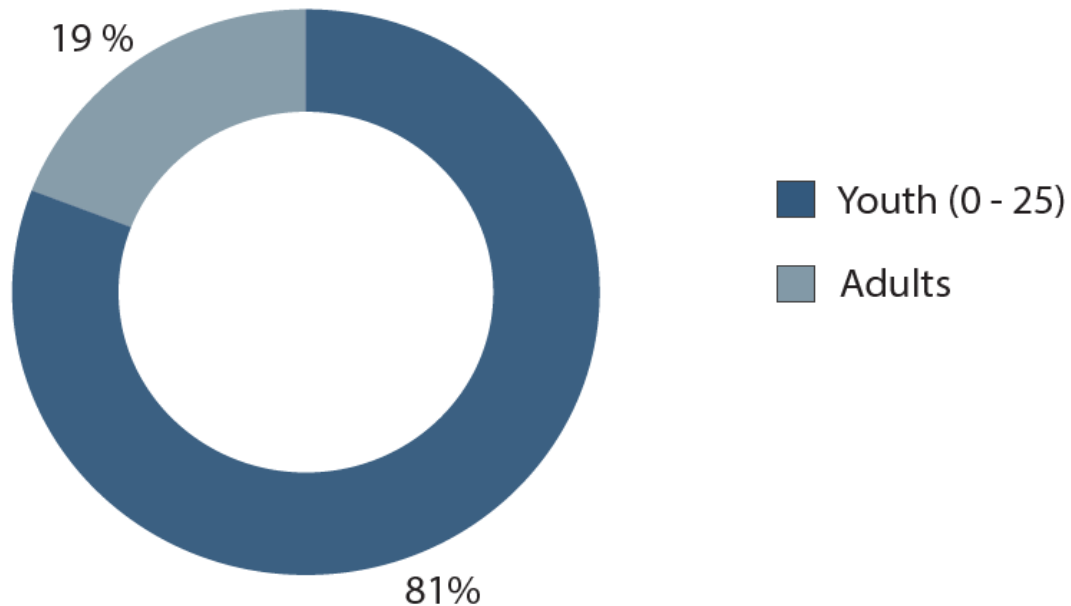
# OEGP Outcomes

- Reached nearly 7,500 participants from July 1 - Dec 1, 2022
- Participants lived in 34 Colorado counties:
  - Adams, Alamosa, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Denver, Douglas, Eagle, Elbert, El Paso, Fremont, Garfield, Gilpin, Grant, Gunnison, Jefferson, Lake, La Plata, Larimer, Las Animas, Mesa, Mineral, Montezuma, Morgan, Park, Pitkin, Pueblo, Rio Grande, Routt, Summit, and Weld
- Second round of grants will expand this reach



# Participant Demographics

## Participant Ages



## Participant Race and Ethnicity

Race and Hispanic/Latino Origin	Participants, percentage of total
Hispanic or Latino	54%
White	9%
Black	9%
American Indian and Alaska Native	3%
Two or More Races or Multiracial	2%
Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native Hawaiian	1%
Not Collected or Unknown	22%



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# 2023 OEGP Schedule

Activity	Date
Outdoor Equity Grant Application Opens	August 1, 2023
Questions and Answers with the OEGB	August 10, 2023, 10 am
Application Closes	September 15, 2023, 5 pm
Grant Decisions Announced	December 15, 2023
Grant Funds Disbursed by Colorado Parks and Wildlife	March 31, 2024



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