

## Francisco Tharp

Francisco Tharp is the Healthy Kids Director with Get Outdoors Leadville!, a fledgling organization funded by GOCO's Inspire Initiative. In 2016 he was a member of the Lake County grant-seeking coalition which operated on a foundation of widespread community inclusion. The coalition hired a team of youth researchers to study and report on youth outdoor engagement and barriers. The coalition also hired neighborhood-based Promotoras who interviewed residents of outlying residential areas about their relationships to the outdoors, and what barriers they face in outdoor access. Both groups – the youth researchers and neighborhood Promotoras – were critical in putting together a now-thriving package of outdoor programs, career pathways, and developing access infrastructure.

Get Outdoors Leadville! strives to help all Lake County youth and families enjoy our beautiful fresh-air spaces in ways that are meaningful and relevant to them. Francisco has worked extensively in outdoor and adventure education, including 12 years with the Colorado Outward Bound School. He lives and plays in Leadville, Colorado, where he is also working on raising two wild, outdoorsy kids.