Colorado Outdoor Equity Grant Program

Annual Presentation

January 14, 2026



LIVE LIFE OUTSIDE

Outdoor Equity Grant Program

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



Photo: CPW

Funding Updates

- **2025 Legislative Session:** Passage of HB25-1215 allow for up to $4 million in Lottery spillover funds, plus 10% of remainder to be deposited to the OEGP
- Lottery revenues did not exceed the threshold required to trigger spillover on July 1



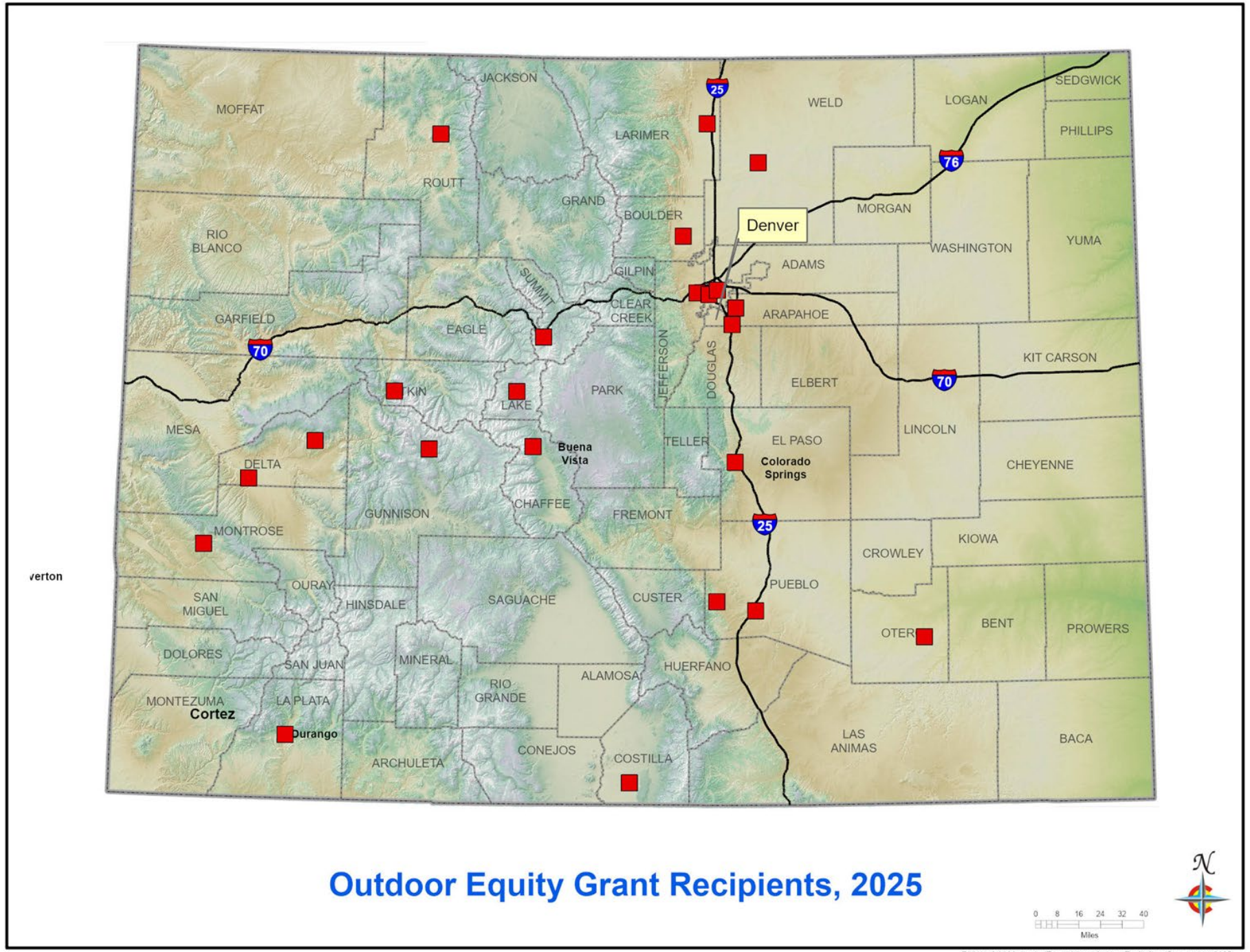
Photo: YMCA of the Rockies

FY25 Grant Awards

- 24 awards
- $100,000 maximum request
- $83,000 average grant award
- 10 new organizations
- 41 counties invested in
- 245 grant proposals totaling $20M (10% funded)



Photo: Mountain Dreamers



Outdoor Equity Grant Recipients, 2025

RMW 1/9/2026: Analyst\Temp\Wilson\OutdoorEquityGrantProgram\Jan2025

Since Inception

- 165 awards
- 121 organizations
- 56 counties invested in
- Participants from 53 counties reached so far
- Funded by:

$2,000,000 FY 26

$3,000,000 FY 25

$2,400,000 FY 24

$1,322,000 FY 23

$1,843,000 FY 22

$10,565,000 total

Camping to Connect, Denver

“The support and encouragement I received here has given me a new perspective on life.”

“I learned how to listen more instead of filling in the silence.”

“I learned that bullfrogs sound like mooses at night.”

- Camping to Connect Participants



Photo: Camping to Connect

Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Moffat County

“I don't think [the students] have had very many opportunities for field trips. Not only is this a whole entire week for them, but is potentially the first time they are being exposed to what could be their future jobs and careers.”

-Craig Middle School Teacher



Photo: CPW

Colorado Center for the Blind (Littleton)

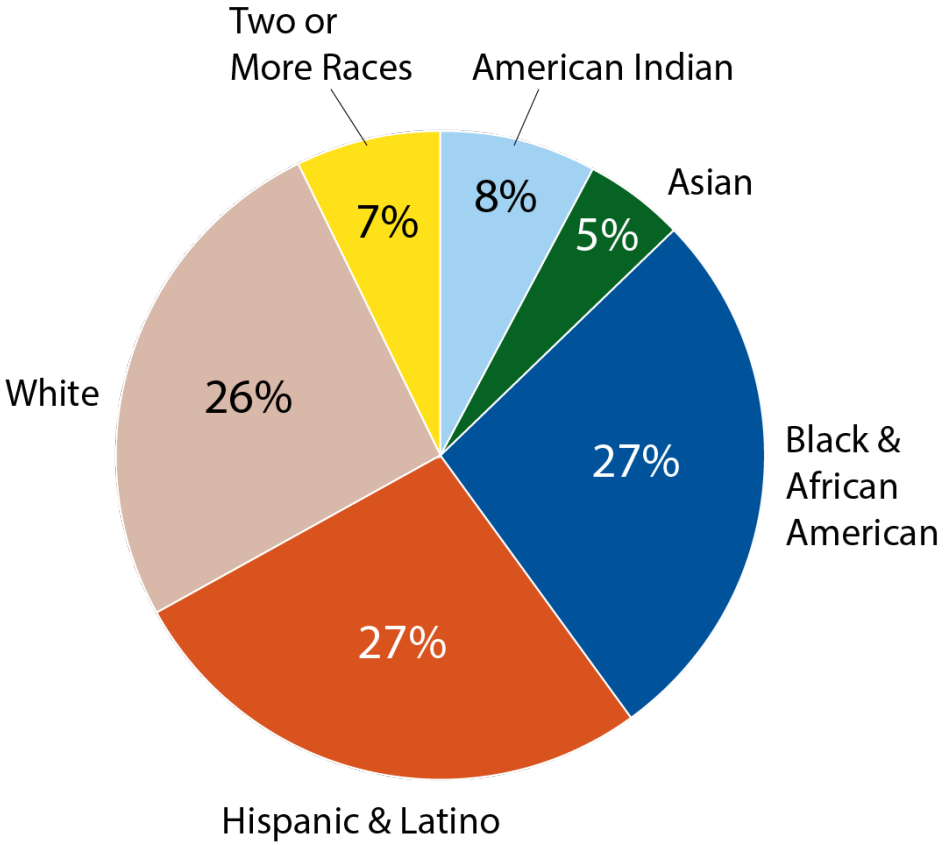
“I was just trying to have fun but be safe while climbing. It felt so good. And it feels so good to have done it with these guys. I met them all two weeks ago and we’re already pretty good friends. I trust them a lot and it was special doing it with them.”

-Sammy Chavez, participant



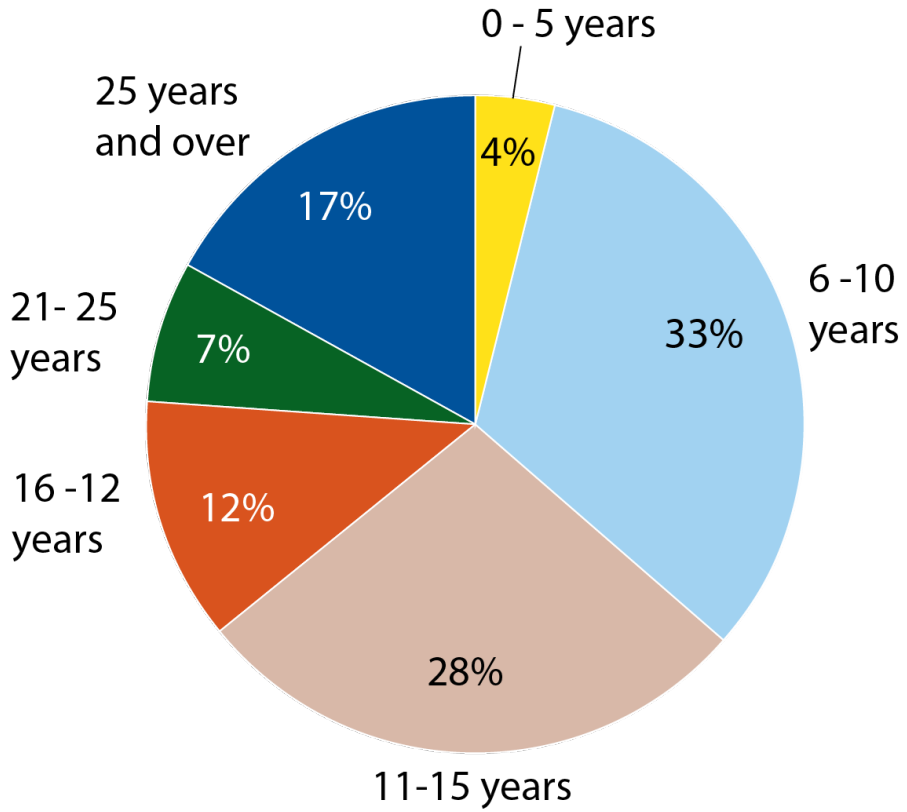
Photo: CPW

OEGP Participants 2025



Participant race





Participant age

What's Next?

