



*Transforming Lives... **ONE** Story at a Time*



Annual Report

FY2024-25 • July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025



Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

There are many reasons to celebrate this past fiscal year! In August, we opened the new youth center, the ACO House (A Christ Operation in Aurora, Colorado), strategically located where gang activity, poverty, and gun violence are prevalent. We also launched our new Baby Boutique at ACO to support teen parents and families. At the start of the school year, over 500 backpacks were distributed to youth. More than 350 Bibles and 300 copies of *The Life and Teachings of Jesus of Nazareth* were handed out at our Youth Services Centers. Our staff and volunteers built meaningful relationships with nearly 1,700 youth. Of these, 332 decided to follow Christ, reflecting an increase of 72 youth from the previous year. Notably, these achievements were accomplished with fewer staff and a sharper focus on our mission.

Youth for Christ has been serving unchurched teenagers for 70 years, sharing the Gospel with them through our ministries: City Life, Parent Life, Juvenile Justice Ministries, and Campus Life programs. Our mission is to engage as many teenagers as possible in authentic Christ-sharing relationships. Your prayers and partnership are critical as we reach teenagers in our community with the Gospel of Jesus. Every week, I have the joy and privilege of hearing stories of change taking place in young people's lives. We see teens move from being lost to finding their purpose, from addiction to freedom, from despair to hope, and from death to LIFE!

On behalf of our Board of Directors, staff, ministry leaders and the hundreds of teenagers impacted each week through the ministries of Denver Area Youth for Christ, I thank you! Through your support, we've together made a difference in the life of many youth over this past year, and we look forward to partnering with you once again in the year ahead.

Serving Him Together,



Ken Allen

MISSION

To reach young people everywhere, working with the local church and other likeminded partners to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus who lead by their godliness in lifestyle, devotion to the word of God and prayer, passion for sharing their love of Christ and commitment to social involvement.

VISION

To see that every young person in every people group in every nation has the opportunity to make an informed decision to be a follower of Jesus Christ and become part of a local church.

MINISTRIES



Campus Life works with students on middle and high school campuses at **nine Denver-area schools**. Through clubs, 1:1 appointments, and before- and after-school activities, staff come alongside teens during pivotal moments of their young lives. Last year, Campus Life had meaningful relationships with more than **1,271 students**. Of these, **223 made first-time decisions to become followers of Christ**.



In July 2024, Campus Life ventured to Disney with 48 youth! This experience was so much more than just a fun getaway—it was a powerful time of spiritual growth, connection, and life change. God moved in so many ways.

During the trip, our team witnessed:

- Salvations and renewed commitments to Christ.
- Deep spiritual conversations that opened hearts and brought clarity.
- Baptisms on the beach, where students boldly declared their faith.
- Fun and laughter with Marvel and Disney characters, and unforgettable moments on roller coasters! Even with 40 hours of round-trip bus travel, the energy, unity, and presence of God remained strong. It was evident that the Holy Spirit was at work—drawing students closer to Jesus, strengthening relationships, and planting seeds of lifelong transformation. We are incredibly thankful for what the Lord has done and give Him all the glory! We continue to pray for each student who was part of this trip—that they would carry this fire back home and into their communities.

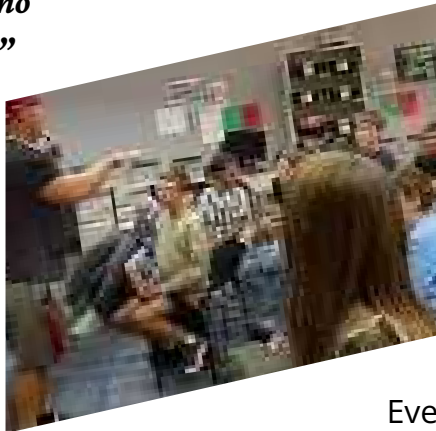




MINISTRIES

"Campus Life is an oasis for students who crave to be included without judgment."

– Middle School Principal



Every week, students come together to connect, grow in faith, and have fun in a safe, encouraging environment. Whether it's games, real conversations, or learning more about Jesus, **Campus Life is the place to be.**



MADE NEW!

We are rejoicing at the decision students, who have been a part of our Campus Life ministry in Brighton, made to become **lifelong followers of Jesus!**

17 SAY YES!

Seventeen of these teens said **yes to Jesus** at Campus Life Snowbound event. Praise God!



MINISTRIES



MENTORING

DAYFC's mentorship program plays a crucial role in helping youth who face significant life challenges achieve their goals. The JJM team uses listening circles to reflect on the honest and heartfelt experiences shared by their mentees. The team mapped out key challenges the young people face and then brainstormed meaningful ways mentors can support their mentees and stand with them as advocates.

23 BAPTISMS

*"We are overjoyed to share what God has done! During outreach at Prairie Vista, **23 of the 30 youth at the facility made the powerful decision to be baptized!** God's presence was unmistakable. Last year, the Juvenile Justice Ministry team ministered to over 363 youth in facilities, of whom 306 were known to be lost, and the message of Christ is now being shared with them. Of these, 106 youth made first-time decisions to become followers of Christ. Hearts were open, lives were touched, and the youth responded with boldness and sincerity. Many of them shared openly from their hearts, testifying to what God is doing in their lives. It was a beautiful and humbling reminder that He is moving mightily in this generation," – Director JJM*



James Gillespie, a JJM team member, went with Jonathan to check out Front Range Community College in Ft Collins. This young man will be **starting school in Fall 2025 and working toward a business degree.**

The National Mentor Organization survey report:

- **74%** say the mentor contributed significantly to their success later in life
- **58%** assert their mentor supported their mental health
- **85%** express a mentoring relationship has helped them with school and their education.
- **92%** are more likely to volunteer in their communities

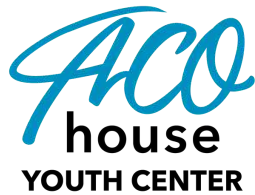
MINISTRIES



In 2024, Parent Life **served 54 pregnant and teen parents and their families.** Of those served, 24 were known to be lost and Christ is being shared. DAYFC staff facilitate life-giving mentoring, working with young parents as they strive to stay in school and raise their young ones. Parent Life helps young parents practically and spiritually with resources, such as diapers, clothing, parenting classes, small group Bible studies and mentoring. Parent Life aims to further their education and move them toward independent living and becoming life-long followers of Jesus Christ.



MINISTRIES



At ACO House Youth Center, we strive for a relational, holistic, community-based ministry that desires to see deep change in an urban neighborhood through the development of indigenous leaders among the young people in that community.

In August 2024, DAYFC opened a new youth center, **ACO House (A Christ Operation) in Aurora, CO.**

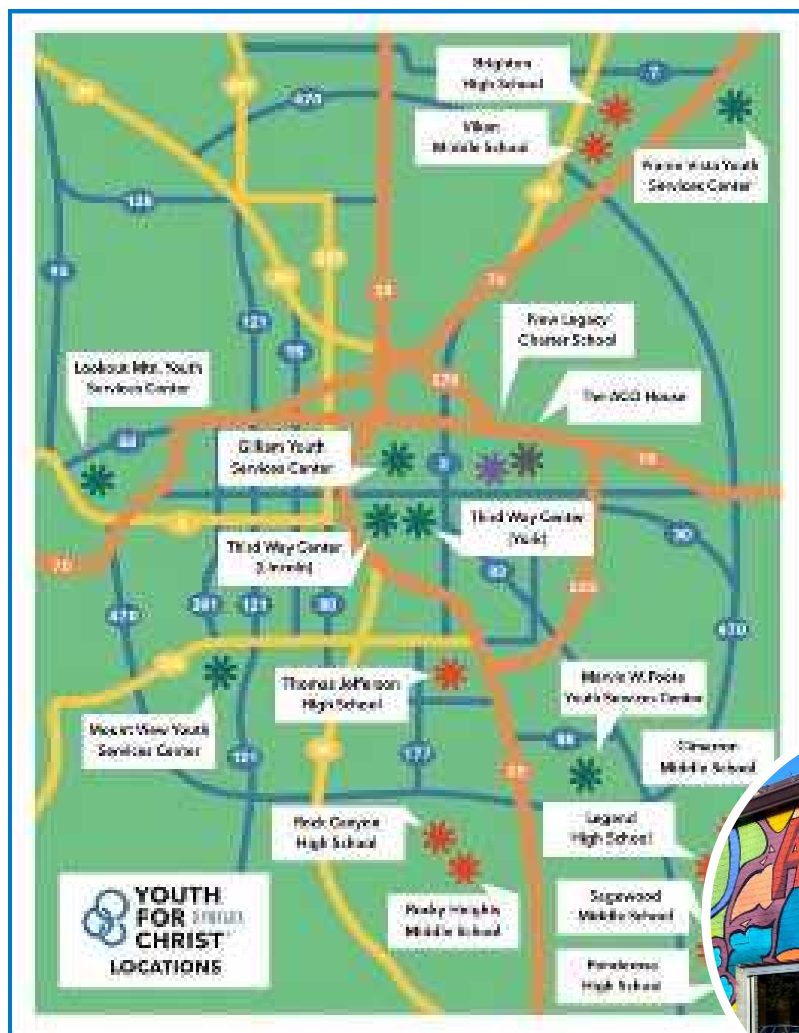
It is intentionally located in an area with higher needs, gang activity, and gun violence. Data shows that violent crime in this ZIP code is three times above the national average. The center is just one block from New Legacy High School, a charter school that supports pregnant and teen parents and their children aged 0-5 years. It is a partner of DAYFC.

The ACO House was formed in response to local youth indicating a need for a safe place to socialize, find support and resources, learn parenting skills, and form relationships. Data reveals that 4% of youths aged 11 to 19 in the community hold a biblical worldview, while 75% report feeling lonely.

The ACO House is accessible to all young people in the community, regardless of their religious beliefs. The youth center services reflect what the youth identified as their main needs, as resources have permitted. The ACO House offers a place to build relationships with peers and adults, mentoring, mental health resources, after-school hours programming and meals, laundry support, Parent Life hub, and recreational activities.



DAYFC MINISTRY LOCATIONS



DAYFC offers youth mentoring and discipleship programs that aim to build strong relationships with young people, guiding them toward positive life choices, faith, and leadership development.



ACO House | ACO stands for **A Christ Operation**

as well as an abbreviation for Aurora, Colorado.

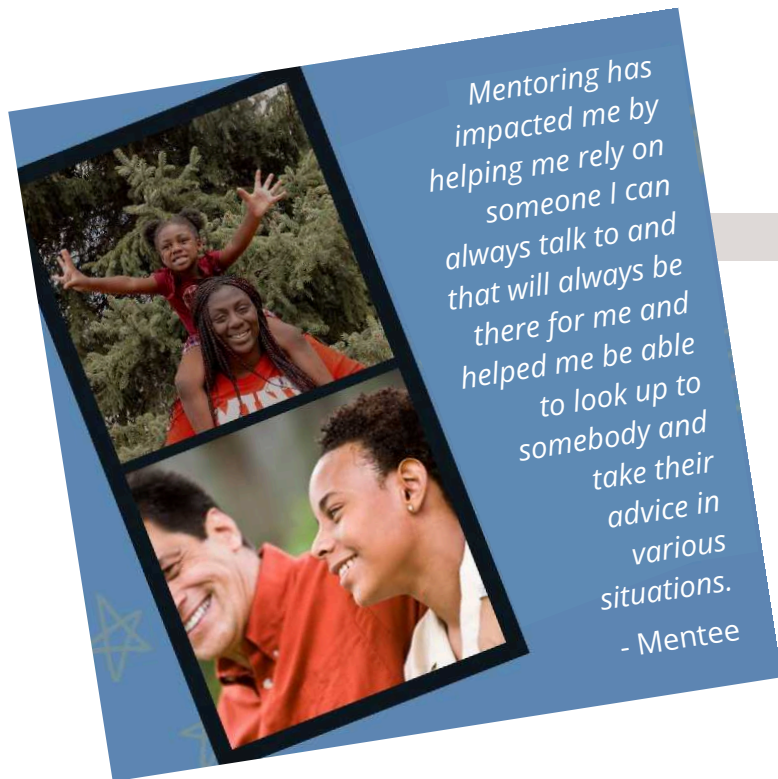
This center for urban youth is a longtime answer to prayer for our ministry and offers a safe, comfortable, and exciting space for youth – more on next page.

Denver Area Youth for Christ serves all over the metro area sharing the life changing message of Jesus. We focus on building relationships with young people through various programs and initiatives, providing them with **mentorship, support, and opportunities for personal development.**

YFC offers youth mentoring and discipleship programs that aim to build strong relationships with young people, guiding them toward positive life choices, faith, and leadership development.

Schools and Community Outreach: YFC works with local schools, providing access to students through **lunchtime clubs, after-school programs, and events.** YFC has specialized programs targeting specific groups of youth, such as those involved in juvenile justice, teen moms, and youth in difficult circumstances, providing them with support and guidance in their lives. **YFC collaborates with local churches, businesses, and volunteers to create a larger network of support for young people in the metro area.**

TESTIMONIES



*Thank you Mentors for giving
life to a young person's story.*

CHARLIE



My name is Charlie, and I'm one of the mentors with DAYFC. Since becoming a mentor, my life has changed for the better. I love that I can be a part of a young person's life and can be a trusted adult to help guide them. Being a mentor is life-giving and a blessing to all who are involved.

Charlie Straughter
DAYFC Staff

CHRIS



Hello, my name is Chris Garcia. Mentoring to me is something special because I feel it's the transferring of growth from one individual to another. I grew up in life without a strong positive influence. If I only had someone to care and guide me a little with love, I would not have made as many mistakes that ended up hurting me. I don't regret any of my struggles because God does not waste a pain, and I would not be who I am today! Thanks to YFC for every opportunity to share my story and help others along the way. May God's blessings and favor be upon you this New Year, AMEN.

Charlie Garcia
Volunteer



COMMUNITY SERVICE



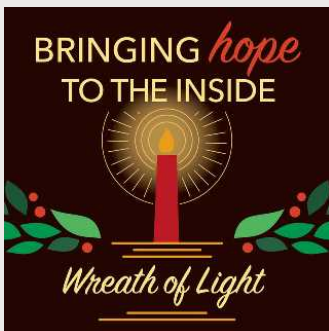
COLLEGE FAIR



As a service to the community, **DAYFC hosts a Christian College Fair** at six different locations over a four-day period in the fall. More than **50 Christian colleges and 450 students participate**. Many of the colleges return each year, having made valuable connections with high school youth, who often decide to continue their education in a Christ-centered environment.

PARENT LIFE TOY SHOP

DAYFC **served 120 families** with the Parent Life Toy Shop where every child received at least two gifts. **Families received 400 gifts**, as DAYFC also gave gift cards and gifts directly to the teen moms and dads.



2024 WREATH OF LIGHT

The 2024 Wreath of Light project **provided 250 youths with a gift bag and another 50 young people received a \$25 gift card**. (The youths who received a gift card are youth who are on parole and in the community, and youths who are placed at a number of Third Way group homes.)



CONVERGE

In April, 2024, DAYFC celebrated 70 years of dedicated ministry at its Converge event, coming full circle by celebrating at the same location where the organization hosted youth rallies in the 1950s and 60s. Over 180 people joined us in commemorating this milestone.

DAYFC celebrated the transformative stories that have emerged over the past seven decades. These narratives extend beyond the lives of just young individuals; they encompass the lives of those youth touched by the ministries, as well as the experiences of the staff and volunteers who have had the privilege of fostering relationships and learning alongside these teens.



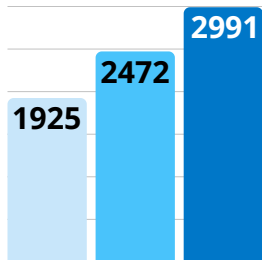
**SCAN or CLICK HERE
to view a short video
of DAYFC's 70 years
of ministry!**

bit.ly/DAYFC70YearsVideo

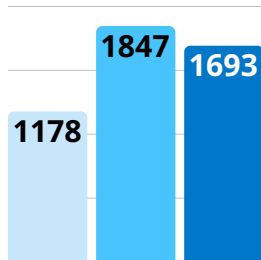




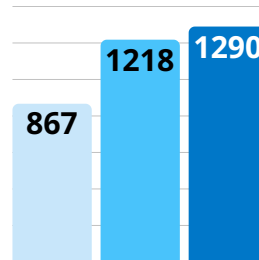
MINISTRY IMPACT



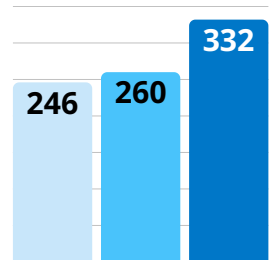
Number of youth connected to DAYFC



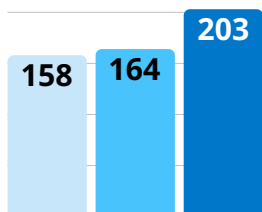
Youth in conversational relationships with leaders



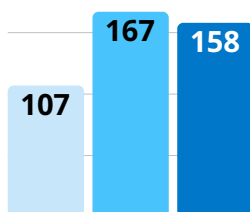
Youth known to be lost and Christ is being shared



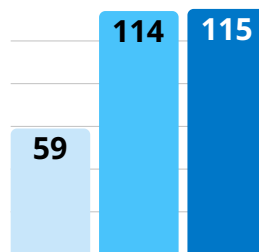
Youth who made a first-time decision to follow Christ



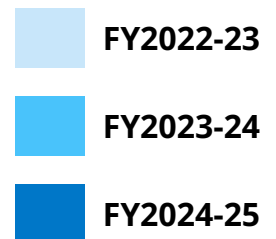
Youth in a discipleship relationship



Youth involved in a local fellowship



Youth entered into one or more authentic Christ-sharing relationships with a lost friend

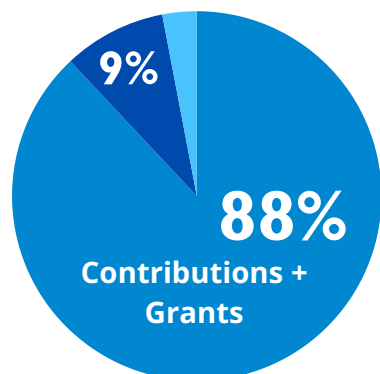


FINANCIAL REPORT



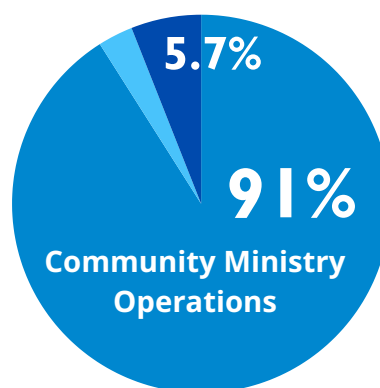
SUMMARY

While FY24–25 closed with a modest deficit, Denver Area YFC remains financially stable with strong donor backing and a clear commitment to ministry growth. The class-based data confirms that resources are primarily directed toward front-line programs, consistent with YFC's mission impact model. Continued focus on realistic budgeting, diversification of income, and investment in administrative support will position the chapter well for sustained health and future expansion.



INCOME

- Contributions + Grants: **88%**
- Special Events + Fundraising: **9%**
- Other income: **3%**



EXPENSES

- Community Ministry Operations: **91%**
- Administrative: **5.7%**
- Fundraising: **3.3%**

INCOME

Overall **income totaled \$1,526,987**, showing stable donor engagement and healthy special event activity. Key revenue categories:

- **Contributions + Grants: \$1,337,472** combined, representing nearly 88% of total income.
 - **Exceeded budget:** Several ministry teams (Campus Life and Juvenile Justice) exceeded individual fundraising goals due to strong donor retention and mid-year giving campaigns.
 - **Below budget:** Institutional grants came in lower than anticipated, with one large foundation gift deferred to the next fiscal year.
- **Special Events + Fundraising: \$138,698**, primarily from the Golf Tournament, Wreath of Light, and Annual Fund with the Golf Tournament exceeded budget by ~15%.
- **Community Service Revenue /Other Income:** \$49,147, reflects registration fees for camps and ministry events, reimbursements and interests.

EXPENSES

Total **expenses were \$1,586,058**, resulting in a net operating loss of \$59,070 before depreciation.

Functional breakdown based on class allocations:

- **Community Ministry Operations (Programs):** ~91% of total expenditures; Administrative: ~6%; and Fundraising: ~3%.

Expense variances:

- **Exceeded budget:** Personnel costs rose above budget due to mid-year staff transitions and benefit rate increases; Event expenses (especially venue and catering) exceeded projections due to cost inflation.
- **Under budget:** Travel and outreach supplies came in lower due to fewer national training trips and continued virtual programming; and Professional fees were under budget after streamlining audit and bookkeeping processes.



CONNECT

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***Geared to the times and
anchored to the rock.***



DAYFC's motto for the past 70 years, *Geared to the times and anchored to the rock*, has never been more accurate than it is today. Although our programs and methods have changed, we have never compromised our faith or belief that only through a life-changing relationship with Jesus can young people be saved.

As we close out this 2024-25, we celebrate the 332 youth who committed this past year to becoming lifelong followers of Jesus. We sincerely thank our Denver Youth for Christ community for their incredible support! Your steadfast dedication has made a profound difference in the lives of young people across our city. None of this would be possible without you!

