



Impact Report

2022-2023



AAI's Impact

2022-2023

90+

Participants in
DEI Trainings

1.5 M

Salaries & Wages
Invested in the local
community

75k

AmeriCorps
Hours Served

30+ Community Partners

700+

Youth Served
through
AmeriCorps

37

V2V Courses Offered

\$175k

in supplies given to
community
partners

50+

AmeriCorps
Members

Our Story So Far

2022-2023

OUR MISSION

Alpine Achievers Initiative (AAI) inspires, connects, and nurtures youth, families, and communities in rural Colorado.



Become a supporter of AAI

OUR VISION

Our vision is to offer relationship-based and clearly defined organizational structure and services that support accessible, transformative experiences for all involved with AAI. We aim to be responsive to partner and community needs through a culture of service quality, expertise, and inclusivity.

“Alpine Achiever's has been a wonderful collaboration between students, members, and parents. It has created experiences and built confidence and skills as the students interact with each other and the beautiful valley in which we live.”

- Andrea Tapp- Parent of students in the Valley to Valley Homeschool Program

How we do it...

2022-2023

Empowering Rural Youth and Communities. Alpine Achievers Initiative (AAI) is dedicated to inspiring, connecting, and nurturing youth, families, and communities in rural Colorado. We are committed to providing educational, positive, and constructive support to young people during and after school hours. Our organization is constantly evolving and expanding to meet the needs of the community, and we are grateful for the support of our funders and donors who help us make a significant impact. As our programs and initiatives grow, our mission grows too!



PROGRAMS

INITIATIVES

AmeriCorps Academic Interventions
Backyard to Backcountry
Valley to Valley Homeschool

LGBTQIA+
DEI Community Support & Training
Chaffee Country Childcare
Extracurricular Activities

17

School Partners

12

Counties Served

\$95k+

DEI Support

AAI, a small yet ambitious organization, leaves a significant impact by integrating 13 equity goals into its mission and impact, as outlined on its website. The organization consistently strives to raise awareness and maximize its influence, showcasing a commitment to making a difference through various initiatives. AAI's dedication to achieving its strategic objectives reflects a dynamic approach that not only ensures goal attainment but also facilitates growth and adaptation to the evolving needs of the communities it serves.

94% of site supervisors agree that AC Members make schools a better place

97% of site supervisors agree that AC members contribute to improved student/program participant engagement

2022-2023

Our Strategic Goals

2022-2023

1

Governance of AAI by the Board of Directors (BOD)—including all programming, policies, and community interactions—will be in alignment with AAI's equity statement.

AAI is actively working to ensure that the governance of the organization by the Board of Directors, including all programming, policies, and community interactions, aligns seamlessly with AAI's equity statement. This commitment underscores AAI's dedication to fostering inclusivity, fairness, and equitable practices across all aspects of its operations and engagement with the community.

3

AAI fulfills its mission through the delivery of high impact initiatives.

AAI implements a comprehensive system for measuring the impact of existing initiatives from Year 1 to Year 4. Simultaneously, the organization establishes a well-defined process for evaluating new initiatives, a practice that continues from Year 2 to Year 4.

2

AAI effectively communicates with all audiences to reinforce its brand.

In the first year, AAI establishes a defined brand. Subsequently, over the following three years, AAI implements a comprehensive Communications Plan to enhance its outreach and engagement efforts.

4

AAI's Team and structure matches the organization's needs.

In the initial three years, staff members at AAI receive dedicated support and professional development, fostering their growth as a cohesive team. AAI implements human resources policies and practices tailored to the organization's evolving needs, spanning the first five years. Concurrently, the organization establishes an effective internal staff communication structure and practices during the initial three years. The staffing strategy adopted ensures that AAI's capacity needs are met within the same timeframe.

3K+

Donations

1.4M

**Grant
Funding**

2K+

**Program
Participants**

2022-2023



\$78k

**AmeriCorps
Member Support**

\$55k

**Professional
Development**

75k

**AmeriCorps
Hours Served**

AAI Staff Highlight

2022-2023

Meet Jamie Morgan, AAI's Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. Jamie joined AAI after consulting for years, drawn by the organization's authentic commitment to DEI. She recently organized a retreat for BIPOC members in Denver, fostering connections and addressing unique challenges in rural communities.

Jamie, a solutions-driven leader, finds fulfillment in enhancing the member experience and deepening community impact. Passionate about inspiring authentic connections, she contributes to a more inclusive community.

Having observed AAI's growth, Jamie acknowledges its multifaceted impact—from improving academic outcomes to fostering a culture of service in communities. Looking ahead, Jamie hopes AAI continues to evolve as a learning organization, celebrating successes and navigating challenges with resilience. Exciting new projects are on the horizon, and Jamie is ready to uphold AAI's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion.



V2V Student Highlights

2022-2023

Morgyn, age 10, has been a part of the AAI Valley to Valley Homeschool Program for three years. She cherishes engaging activities like sewing and playing with friends. Morgyn has made lasting connections, learned to sew and build a rollercoaster, and aspires to teach art. Ice skating with friends and creating rollercoasters is her favorite memories within the V2V program.



Kynlee, age 8, finds joy in the V2V program for being with friends and having happy teachers. Her hobbies include dancing, singing, reading, painting, and drawing. A unique fun fact is her dislike for mustard. Kynlee fondly recalls ice skating and making biscuits and jam at The Homestead Ranch during V2V field trips. Her favorite memory involves the creative process of making rollercoasters, showcasing her imaginative side.

Our TEAM

2022-2023

LEADERSHIP

Megan Strauss | Executive Director
Julia Makowski | Operations Director
Nichelle Lyle | Development Director

**Advancing the Mission of
AAI through Innovation,
Strategy, Funding &
Partnerships!**

PROGRAM STAFF

April Edwards AC Program Manager, North
Renee Mackey AC Program Manager, South
Sara Novicki Youth Program Manager
Hannah Pietsch Program Coordinator
Annika Horning Program Coordinator
Jenna Holcomb Program Coordinator
Darcy Harris CATALYST Coordinator

**Leading Programs to
Share & Implement
AAI's Mission!**

HUMAN RESOURCES

Ashley Witherspoon Human Resource Manager
Jamie Morgan Diversity Director
Brittni Addison Recruitment Coordinator

**Enhancing the AAI Team
and Community with
Training and Workplace
Culture!**

ADMINISTRATION

Marc Eaton Finance Manager
April Kelher Admin and Marketing Manager

**Enhancing Systems and
Functions to Support the
AAI Mission!**



Providing Direction to AAI's Leaders to
Create a Long-Lasting Impact on the
San Luis Valley & Beyond!

Aaron Conrad – Board Chair

Madison Gurley – Vice Chair

Ashley Witherspoon – Board Secretary

Lianna Homuth– Board Treasurer

Pip Conrad- Board Member

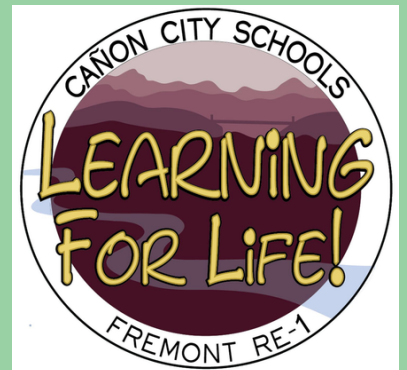
Chuck McKenna- Board Member

Connor Kelly- Board Member

Partnership

2022-2023

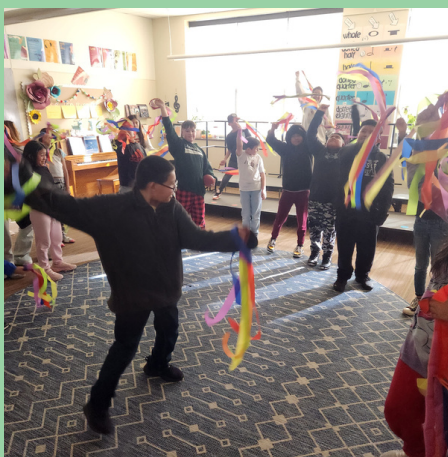
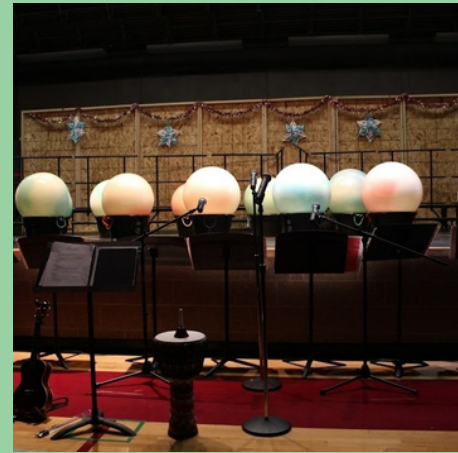
At AAI, we understand that creating a meaningful impact in the San Luis and Arkansas Valley requires a collaborative and community-driven approach. Our community partners play an integral role in shaping the success and sustainability of AAI's initiatives and mission.



Partnership Impact

2022-2023

AAI has made a significant positive impact on the community through its successful partnerships. The organization has generously provided funding for essential school supplies, including books, standing desks, floor rockers, bean bags, wobble seats and seat cushions. Additionally, AAI has provided engaging activities, such as puzzles and garden boxes, as well as important resources, such as tables and technology to over 1,500 students in the San Luis and Arkansas Valleys.



Our Partners

2022-2023

Celebrating Success

Community Trust



Scaling Impact

Local Expertise



Resource Mobilization



Diverse Perspectives, Inclusive Solutions



ADAPTABILITY AND FLEXIBILITY

SHARED VISION, SHARED IMPACT



Become an AAI Supporter

Becoming a supporter of AAI as a donor is an opportunity to directly contribute to the positive transformation of rural Colorado communities. Your support empowers AAI to continue its mission of inspiring, connecting, and nurturing youth and families in these areas. By becoming a donor, you play a crucial role in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion, fostering a more inclusive society. Your contribution supports initiatives that improve academic outcomes, create opportunities for diverse members, and build a culture of service with ripple effects throughout communities. Join us in making a lasting impact and building a brighter future for the San Luis Valley and beyond.




Scan this QR code to donate today!



Alpine Achievers Initiative

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