

## Douglas County American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Suicide Prevention Action Plan

<b>Project Name: Youth Mentoring for Douglas County</b>		<b>Planning Period: 1/01/2025 - 12/31/2025</b>		<b>FTE: 1</b>			
<b>Local Agency Name: The Aspen Effect</b>		<b>Project Lead(s): Jerry Van Leuven</b>		<b>Project Lead(s) Email(s): Jerrv@theaspeneffect.org</b>			
<b>Overview:</b> The Aspen Effect strengthens the factors that have been demonstrated to protect youth from suicide risk by building resiliency, community, and the adoption of positive social norms through trained adult mentors within a unique animal environment, specific to Douglas County.							
<a href="#">Link to...</a>							
<b>Goal:</b>	Douglas County youth ages 14 - 21 become less prone to suicide risk by exposing them to activities which strengthen the protective factors for suicide.			<b>Data Source:</b>	DCMHI Suicide Prevention Roadmap		
<b>Strategy 1:</b>	Promote the healthy development of youth (14 - 18) in Douglas County by engaging young people in building community and participating in community activities, strengthening individual resilience and self-worth, and establishing a trusted relationship with a caring adult mentor.						
<b>Objective A:</b>	During 2025, supplement costs not included in BHA grant (that ends 6/30/2025) and cover a portion of the salary/benefits for both the Executive Director (ED) and Asst. ED, animal expenses and other general expenses to enable the management of continued growth of The Aspen Tree's mentoring programs and achieve measurable progress in their adoption of factors that reduce suicide risk.	<b>Data Source:</b>	<b>Target:</b>	<b>Progress</b> (report on objective target and c,n,o,b status)			
				3/31/2025	6/30/2025	9/30/2025	12/31/2025
<b>Key Activities (support the goal and objective)</b>		<b>Start &amp; End Date</b>	<b>Responsible Persons or Group</b>	<b>Progress Status (c n o b)</b>			
				c (completed)	n (not started)	o (ongoing)	b (behind)
				3/31/2025	6/30/2025	9/30/2025	12/31/2025
A.1 recruit 20 and retain 55 additional adult volunteer mentors to support youth development in 2025.		July - December	Jerry Van Leuven, new program director and				

		with help of the BOD																				
A.2 Enroll 220 youth in program activities during 2025 through connections with other youth serving organizations in Douglas County.	July - December	Jerry Van Leuven, new program director and with help of the BOD																				
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A.1 Facilitate all youth programs, including Animal Lovers Volunteer Club, Mini Horse Reliance Camp, Teen Advisory Board, Ranch Hand Service Crew and Ranch Therapy.	July - December	Jerry Van Leuven, new program director and with help of the BOD																				
A.2 The Aspen Effect will begin planning during 2025 for a proposed Common Roots Conference in 2026, a youth event which will bring together youth from Douglas County and Denver to engage in creative activities focused on mental health and thereby develop an understanding of each other.	July - December	Jerry Van Leuven, new program director and with help of the BOD																				