

# The Youth Agenda

## *A policy platform by young people, for all people.*

In 2021, we asked over one thousand young people across Colorado: *What do you care about? Where do you want to drive progress?* Young people's priorities—what we're calling the Youth Agenda—will guide what we do everyday, from who we talk with to what we fight for. Young people are visionary. Time and time again, we see new generations demand that we live up to our espoused values of equality and justice. This is our roadmap for driving change.

## The Issues

Through policymaking, organizing, and civic engagement, we'll advocate for and support efforts to advance:

- **Climate Justice:** We will protect our environment and dismantle racist policies that disproportionately impact the health and well-being of Black, Indigenous, Latine and Hispanic, Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.
- **Reproductive Rights:** We will cement a person's ability to make autonomous decisions for their reproductive health and create a culture for reproductive care in Colorado that's free from fear or stigma.
- **Higher Education & Student Debt:** We will make attending college more accessible and affordable for everyone, regardless of their income, race, ethnicity, gender, or citizenship status.
- **Economic Justice:** We will make it possible for everyone to have financial stability, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, citizenship, or income. We believe corporations should pay what they owe to build a strong social infrastructure to meet everyone's basic needs.
- **Democracy Reform:** We will fight for everyone to participate in democratic processes. We will reform systems so that the needs of all people are represented and advocate for policies that improve voting access for young people, especially young Black, Indigenous, Latine/Hispanic, and Asian American and Pacific Islander Coloradans.

If we're not taking a forward stance on an issue, we'll be supporting the work of our partners. This could look like using our organizing power to support policies in alignment with the Youth Agenda or educating young people about the intersectional nature and impacts of these issues.

- **Health Care & Mental Health**
- **Education**
- **LGBTQ Rights and Gender Expression**
- **Immigrant Rights**
- **Criminal Justice**

## Centered in Racial Justice

Anti-racism is the foundation of the Youth Agenda. All policies worked on under the umbrella of the platform must actively eliminate racial inequalities and advance racial justice.

We define racial justice as the elimination of systemic racism, especially anti-Blackness, and the implementation of systems that better allow Black, Indigenous, Latine/x and Hispanic, Asian American and Pacific Islander communities of color to thrive. Racial justice is intersectional and we apply an anti-racist lens to every issue we work on and policy we advocate for.

## Partners



## The Youth Agenda in Action

The Youth Agenda lays out a lot of demands— and it's our job to turn them into political reality. We'll use the platform as a guide for all aspects of our work, from connecting with first-time voters on college campuses to advocating for policy change at the Capital. The platform's intersectional lens will help us educate people about the racist roots of the issues that young people face today, from student debt to reproductive health care, and how policy change and organizing can dismantle antiquated systems. The connections laid out in the platform will extend to conversations in the field. The principles embodied in the Youth Agenda are a platform for young people to become active leaders in their own communities. We will use the agenda to unite young people, from Durango to Denver, to push for the bold change we want to see in every corner of our state.

We're tired of people in power not fighting for us. So we're creating the world we want.  
**Will you join us?**

