

HEART & HAND  
CENTER  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2021



Heart & Hand  
Center for Youth and Their Families

# HEART & HAND CENTER

## WHO WE ARE



**TIMIYA JACKSON**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It's with gratitude that I share with you the impact that you have helped us have on the young people of Northeast Denver. Over the past year, Heart & Hand has changed, but the one thing that remains the same is that we are committed to creating a world where no opportunity gap exists.

As you can imagine, this past year has been especially challenging for our community, and the effects of the pandemic have impacted our students and families. Since the spring of 2021, students have been adjusting to life after being isolated from their peers for more than 18 months. This change has allowed our staff to continue to support students in their social-emotional growth while maintaining positive relationships.

During this time, Heart & Hand has continued to be responsive to the community's needs by increasing our outreach. We have kept our doors open, providing food and essential hygiene products to families and offering summer and after-school programs while maintaining safety precautions.

All of the work we have done would not have been possible without your continued support of the Heart & Hand Center. Thank you for supporting the young people of Northeast Denver with your time, talent and treasures.

### Vision:

A world with no opportunity gap.

### Mission:

By creating a nurturing community, Heart & Hand empowers all young people to realize their potential.



## Our Values

### FAMILY

We have fun. We laugh.  
We support one another through challenges.  
We provide an enduring foundation of love and trust.  
Whatever life brings, we are in this together.

### CONNECTION

We build meaningful relationships  
With our community.  
With our youth and families.  
With one another.  
We create a space of belonging.

### COMMUNITY

We are but one part of a greater whole,  
A safe and trusted resource  
Providing support from multiple angles.  
We honor our history and empower our future.

### RESPECT

We value others  
For who they are.  
For what they bring.  
For how they show up.  
We are unconditional in our commitment.

### OPPORTUNITY

We are dedicated  
To equity and accessibility.  
To recognizing and realizing potential.  
To new experiences and growth.  
We believe in the possibility of dreams.





**NIKKI CADY**

FOUNDER

Happy New Year! Heart & Hand, not unlike the rest of the world, was faced with many challenges and unknowns over the past year. Despite those challenges, our team was able to stay connected and remain a strong support system for our families. We provided remote and in-person programming to support our students academically and emotionally.

I want to applaud our Heart & Hand team for their tenacity and commitment to our students and mission. Among our many achievements this year, I am particularly proud that we offered a food bank of nutritious fresh foods, pantry items, and hygiene products through our 'Walk up Wednesday' program supporting both our families and the Five Points Community. This past year, it was an honor to welcome our new Executive Director, Timiya Jackson, and it has been an honor getting to know her and walking alongside her as she navigates this challenging time. I applaud Timiya's leadership and tenacity in this new role.

I am grateful to have you, our donors, as our strongest allies, supporting and checking in on us to ensure that we continue to serve our students and families and carry on our mission in our 11th year through the pandemic. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, and I look forward to our continued partnership to serve our community.



**PAUL FORD**

BOARD CHAIR

I joined the board of Heart and Hand almost eight years ago. A couple of years into my tenure, I was nominated to the Treasurer position and focused on building Heart & Hand's Cash reserves. I have had the opportunity to serve as Heart & Hand's Board Chair for the past few years and have focused on diversifying Heart & Hand's Board of Directors.

2020/2021 has put pressure on cash reserves for many organizations that support kids in a similar way that we do. Many of those organizations are have pulled back on their service offerings, and some are no longer in operation. It seemed to our board and me that it was time to do more and prepare to exit the pandemic environment solid and ready to expand. Due to wonderful supporters like you, we continue to serve approximately 300 under-resourced Denver youth and their families.

I am proud of how we pivoted our programming during the pandemic to help support classroom teachers in Denver Public Schools by pushing into virtual classrooms and running Remote Learning Centers. I am even more proud of the staffing changes we have made this year. We have four new Program Managers, a new Development Director, and even a new Executive Director! Our board is expanding and becoming more diverse.

My service at Heart & Hand has been a journey for me as I toil between feeling good about my contribution and constantly feeling like I am not doing enough. However, I am always amazed by and grateful for the group's generosity. We thank you for your support of the Heart & Hand Center.



# THE WHOLE CHILD APPROACH

Heart & Hand celebrates each young person's unique beauty and talent in our programs. We utilize a whole-child approach to empower youth to succeed academically, promote physical and emotional wellness, and expose students to new passion areas.



## Families are Supported and Engaged:

"My son is more creative, helpful, and engaging in his work and with others. My daughter is becoming more creative and improving with her schoolwork."

"My children are better leaders because of Heart and Hand.... My children have learned to use their words instead of fighting...."

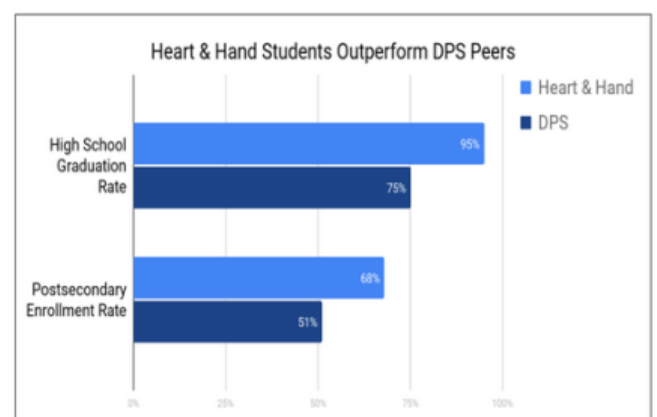
## Students are Experiencing Academic Enrichment

### Students Have Increased Graduation Rates

- In 2021, 100% of Heart & Hand students graduated from high school.
- Overall, 95% of Heart & Hand students have graduated high school in the past three years compared with the Denver Public School average of 75%.

### Students Have Increased Enrollment in Postsecondary Education or Workforce Participation

- Overall, 68% of Heart & Hand high school graduates enrolled in postsecondary education compared with 51% of all Denver Public Schools high school graduates.

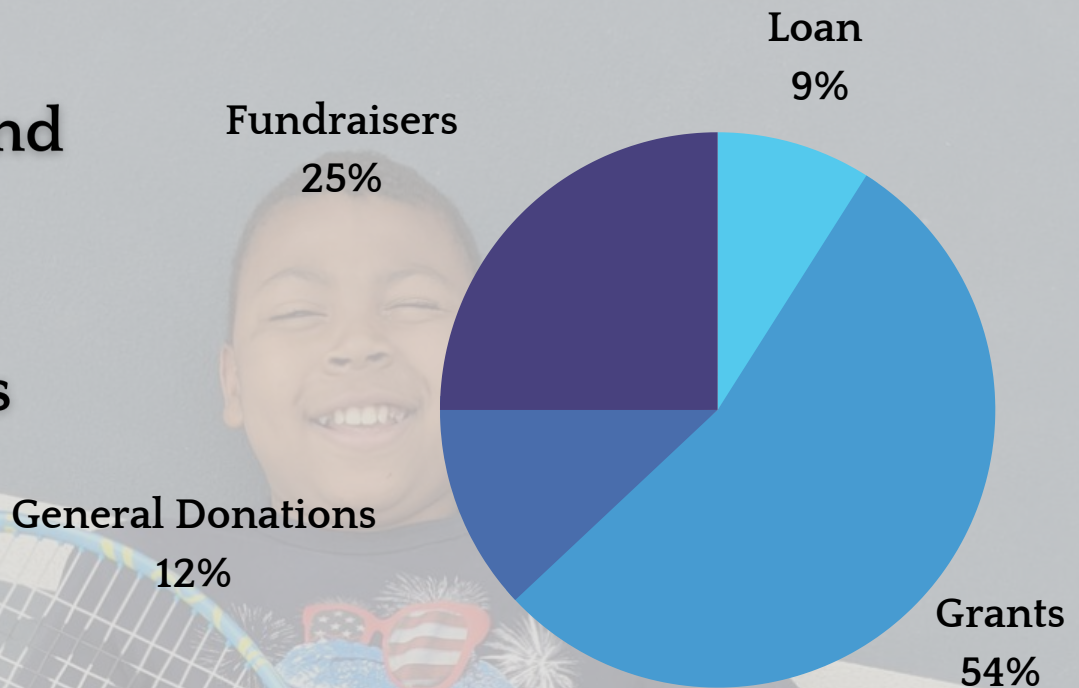




# FINANCIALS

Fiscal Year: 09/2020 - 08/2021

## Heart & Hand Center 2021 Financials



Heart & Hand serves students and their families in Northeast Denver. We have programs based at Columbine Elementary School, Smith Elementary School, and Bruce Randolph Middle School. We also provide 1:1 support to local high schoolers and post-secondary mentorship to graduates.

## Walk-Up-Wednesdays

On Wednesdays, Heart & Hand provides free groceries for members of the Northeast Denver Metro community. In addition to fresh fruits, vegetables, milk, and canned goods, we provide books, gently used clothing, and cleaning supplies. These resources have proven to be valuable to members of our community. Thank you to our partners at Denver Food Rescue and We Don't Waste.



# Programs

## Afterschool Programming

Heart & Hand's after-school programming utilizes the Whole Child Approach to structure a well-rounded academic and enriching experience for students in second through eighth grade.

## Career and College Readiness Program

To ensure students realize their postsecondary goals, Heart & Hand provides students with 1:1 college and career support in high school and beyond.

## Summer Camp

Heart & Hand provides 6-8 weeks of full-day summer programming geared to combat summer learning loss. Each week includes academic and enrichment activities such as swimming, hiking, dance, and more.

## Family Development Program

Using the Strengthening Families Framework, Heart & Hand aims to encourage and empower families by providing wrap-around supports including resource navigation and advocacy.

# Impact

**98%** of students say they have an adult at Heart & Hand that cares about them

**100%** of students say Heart & Hand helps them know more about how to make healthy choices

**96%** of students say Heart & Hand helps them put more effort into school

**90%** of students say Heart & Hand helps them talk about their feelings

**93%** of students say they try new things at Heart & Hand

**100%** of families would recommend Heart & Hand to other families

## PROGRAM UPDATES

### Elementary School Program



**What they like about Summer Program/Camp:** "I love being outside and doing all the fun activities that summer brings, such as swimming, hiking, and climbing" - Smith Elementary Student

**What they like about the School Year Program:** "I like being at school with everyone and having fun and unique activities, such as painting and other art experiences, and enjoying extra time with friends. I also enjoy meeting new volunteers and learning new things through program" - Smith Elementary Student

**Why they love Heart & Hand:** "I love Heart & Hand because it brings people together, and there is endless support" - Columbine Elementary Student

**Something they've learned at Heart & Hand:** "I learned how to do new and exciting activities from staff and volunteers and how to work with others and treat others and themselves kindly" - Columbine Elementary Student





## Middle School Program



**What they like about Summer Program/Camp:** "I enjoy all that Summer Camp has to offer - especially creative expression, field trips to fun places, and movie days" - Bruce Middle School Student

**What they like about the School Year Program:** "I enjoy being with friends and building relationships with my peers and Heart & Hand Staff" - Bruce Middle School Student

**Why they love Heart & Hand:** "I love Heart & Hand because of the endless opportunities and lending a hand when families are in need" - Bruce Middle School Student

**Something they've learned at Heart & Hand:** "I have learned social-emotional skills and tools; We also learn a lot about ourselves in an environment where we can be ourselves" - Bruce Middle School Student



## Career & College Readiness Program



**What they like about Summer Program/Camp:** "I enjoy all of the opportunities that come with being a young adult within the Program, such as college visits and career exploration" - Career and College Readiness Student

**What they like about the School Year Program:** "I enjoy making connections with others in the Program, and I appreciate the resources that Heart & Hand offers, which most of us would not have had outside of Program." - Career and College Readiness Student

**Why they love Heart & Hand:** "I love Heart & Hand because of its incredible impact on my life, the people who make up the organization, and the relationships I have fostered" - Career and College Readiness Student

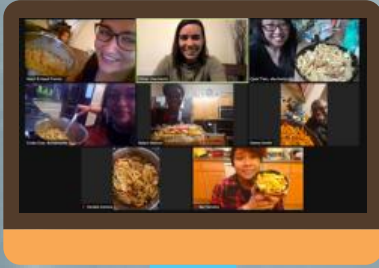
**Something they've learned at Heart & Hand:** "I learned that there are no limitations on life and that I am all free to be whom this world needs me to be" - Career and College Readiness Student





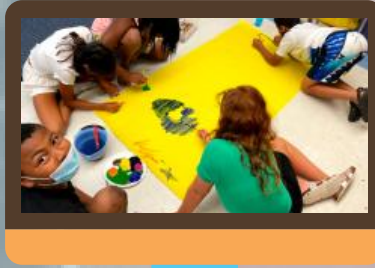
# Program Activities Highlights

## Spring Semester



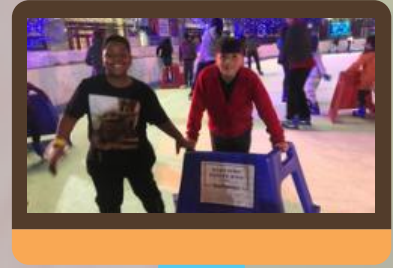
- Guest Speaker: Dr. Tim Benson
- Online Workshops such as cooking classes and graduation celebrations

## Summer Semester



- Community Building through Art
- Field Trips to The Urban Farm and the pool
- Workshops such as food and nutrition, tennis, and dance

## Fall Semester



- Skating at the Downtown Denver Rink
- Cultural celebrations like Dia de los Muertos
- Workshops such as pop culture and cosmetology

# Awards



Congratulations to our Program Director, Cami Tam, for being awarded Program Director of the Year by Colorado Afterschool Partnership!

Few people invest in relationships as profoundly and authentically as Cami. Whether it is kneeling to connect with a second-grader during programs, driving to meet a high school student before their work shift, or bringing her supervisee's favorite coffee to their weekly meeting, Cami knows how to make each person feel unique, seen, and valued.

Denver Metro  
Chamber  
2021  
Small  
Nonprofit of  
the Year  
Winner





# Events

Sending a special "thank you" to our community and stakeholders for making our events impactful for students and families!



## Night in Lights Gala Presented by Alliant

Every November, Heart & Hand throws the party of the year - our Night in Lights gala at the Four Seasons in downtown Denver. This event brings together Denver's community-minded business leaders for a night of philanthropy and fun. With the help of our Board of Directors, sponsors, and community partners we raised \$320,000 to support Denver's youth!



## I Heart Camp Presented by Capstone

I Heart Camp is an evening of live music, food and drinks, and summer camp activities as we bring the local community together to raise funds for Heart & Hand's summer programs. This year we raised \$93,000 for Heart & Hand's summer programs. With your support, we were able to provide a summer of fun for 80 young people.

# Leadership

## Board of Directors

Paul Ford - Board Chair  
Frankki Bevins  
Matt Briger  
Nikki Cady  
Jason Gaede  
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John Streelman  
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## Leadership Team

Timiya Jackson - Executive Director  
Blaine Heydt - Chief Operating Officer  
Suzie Schuckman - Development Director  
Cami Tam - Program Director

## Community Professionals Board

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Thank you

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\*Fiscal Year: 09/2020 - 08/2021

Together We Can!



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"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but  
nothing can be changed until it is faced."

-James Baldwin



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Center for Youth and Their Families

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