



City Year Denver to Help Students in their Quest to Graduate with \$250,000 from AT&T

Prestigious Award Part of AT&T's \$10 Million National Aspire Program

DENVER, Colorado. October 18, 2016 — Due to City Year Denver's success supporting and motivating underserved students to stay in school and prepare for their next step in life, it has been selected as one of 18 recipients nationwide that will share in \$10 million from AT&T through the [Aspire Connect to Success Competition](#). Hundreds of organizations applied to the competition, which is part of [AT&T Aspire](#), our signature philanthropic initiative to help students succeed in school and beyond.

Aspire Connect to Success funding recipients deliver integrated student supports, focus on college or career preparation, and/or provide mentoring or peer-to-peer supports to help underserved students graduate. The funding will support 9 – 12 grade students in two high schools serving lower income families in Denver, CO. Higher at risk students will receive individualized, case-managed services through City Year's Whole School Whole Child program model, assisting them to graduate high school on time prepared for success in college and the workforce.

During the 2016-2017 school year, 72 City Year Denver AmeriCorps members will serve full time alongside teachers in nine Denver public schools. The corps members provide high impact student, classroom and school-wide support to help students stay in school and on track to graduate from high school, ready for college and career success.

"Graduation rates continue to rise in Denver, but we have more work to do to prepare our students for college and beyond, including connecting them with the positive role models that will support them on their educational journeys," Mayor Michael B. Hancock said. "With the support of efforts like AT&T Aspire, we can continue to nurture programs like City Year Denver and the one-on-one attention they provide while utilizing innovative solutions to providing after-school and in-class support for our students."

During City Year's five-year partnership in Denver, the graduation rate at North High School went from less than 50 percent to more than 75 percent.

"City Year Denver is grateful to AT&T for their generous investment in City Year," said Morris W. Price, Jr., City Year Denver Executive Director and Vice President. "We greatly appreciate their efforts to connect underserved high school students with success through the Aspire Connect to Success competition and other initiatives."

"Young people need a high school diploma to stay on track for college and career success. And our company's future, as well as the country's, is dependent on today's young people as we build a sustainable workforce," said Roberta Robinette, President, AT&T Colorado. "Through Aspire, we



support programs that invest in students, especially those who need it the most, so they can walk across the graduation stage ready for their future.”

Through a competitive request for proposal process, the 18 non-profits, including City Year Denver, were selected based on their effectiveness in helping students graduate ready for career or college. Selected programs use evidence based approaches to serve students and are able to demonstrate quantitative results.

About Philanthropy & Social Innovation at AT&T

AT&T is committed to advancing education, strengthening communities and improving lives. Through its community initiatives, AT&T has a long history of investing in projects that create learning opportunities; promote academic and economic achievement; or address community needs. AT&T Aspire is AT&T’s signature philanthropic initiative that drives innovation in education by bringing diverse resources to bear on the issue including funding, technology, employee volunteerism, and mentoring. Through Aspire, we’ve passed the \$250 million mark on our plan to invest \$350 million in education from 2008-2017.

About City Year: City Year is dedicated to helping students and schools succeed. Diverse teams of City Year AmeriCorps members provide high-impact student, classroom and school-wide supports to help students stay in school and on track to graduate from high school, ready for college and career success. [A recent third party study](#) shows that schools that partner with City Year were up to 2-3 times more likely to improve on Math and English assessments. A proud member of the AmeriCorps national service network, City Year is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service, local school districts, and private philanthropy from corporations, foundations and individuals. Learn more at www.cityyear.org, [City Year’s Facebook page](#), and on [Twitter](#).

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