



RISE ABOVE COLORADO

Statewide TAC 2021-2022



We are thrilled to introduce you to the new and returning members of our Teen Action Council (TAC) for the 2021-2022 school year! **Read more about their work below.** If you are interested in supporting TAC members in your community, simply reply to this email. We would love to hear from you!

Returning Members:

Caroline Byndal, Crested Butte
Christopher Chen, Thornton
Metzy Morales-Jurado, Westminster
Samantha Morales-Jurado, Westminster
Mya Sproul, Dumont
Kassadee Dickey, Cheyenne Wells
Mohamed Ibrahim, Wiggins
Willow Schulz, Ignacio
Ella Weed, Cheyenne Wells
Anoushka Jani, Broomfield
Arya Nandyal, Broomfield
Merelyn Chavez, Greeley
Joey Feijoo, Henderson

New Members:

Elshaday Bedaso, Aurora
Bug/Bee Boykin, Ouray
Aliyah Acevedo, Commerce City
Aditya Nandyal, Broomfield
Jay Enriquez, Commerce City
Camry Prince, Centennial
Allison Dame, Littleton
Addison Dolan, Westminster
Dolores Castillo, Pueblo

Summer Mural Resilience Project

Jonathan stayed busy this summer working alongside incredible youth & community partners

We've grown!



Angelica Ochoa,
Denver Teen Action Council
Coordinator



Jenna Garrow,
Director of Prevention
Education



Liz Sielatycki,
Manager of Communications &
Community Partnership



New! Denver TAC

Throughout the summer,

to co-create the new, beautiful murals below! Read about his tour of SW CO in [this article](#) from the Durango Herald. Click on the video below to get a better look at the creative process.



Pagosa Springs



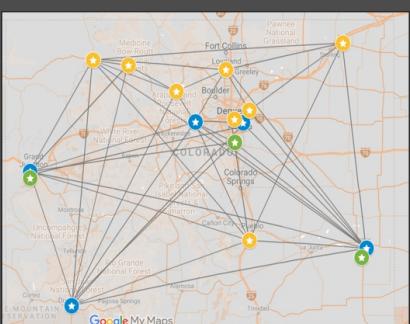
Dove Creek



Cortez

our team has been working on a new project that we are all very excited about and wanted to share some more details as we are entering the new school year. We are launching another Teen Action Council that will be focused in the Denver Metro area following the footsteps of our state-wide Teen Action Council. Rise Above is partnering with Denver Public Schools and Denver Public Health to establish the council of teens to work on promoting healthy social norms and different realms of prevention. Our recruitment is happening now and we have been lucky enough to partner with two members of the Denver Teen Action Council over the summer to help mold and guide our recruitment efforts. We have an amazing outline to pull from our state-wide council and the ability to consult our current council members to make sure we are resonating with the Denver youth. We can't wait to see the outstanding members that join our council and share our work with you!

Colorado Constellation Project



You may be familiar with our Constellation Project. We love to play up the space theme so we interviewed our three new

staff accordingly. Read the rest in our bimonthly [Constellation Bulletin!](#)



Southern Ute Reservation



Silverton



Salida



"What one food item from earth would you turn into astronaut food so you could eat it in space?"

Angelica: "Salt & Vinegar Chips"

Jenna: "Nachos cheese"

Liz: "Warm chocolate chip cookies!"

Fill Your World With Good (& win prizes!)



Let the prizes rain down, the Fall campaign is coming!

Teens across the state will be sharing how they fill their world with good and avoid substance misuse. Click on the photo above and encourage youth you know to submit photos! We'll be giving away lots of fun, easy prizes!

Our Team Is (Still) Growing!



We're searching for

More About the 2021-22 TAC

The Teen Action Council is made up of a diverse and select group of teens who work in direct partnership with Rise Above Colorado to engage their peers, empowering them to rise above drug misuse and addiction through education, awareness, and community engagement.

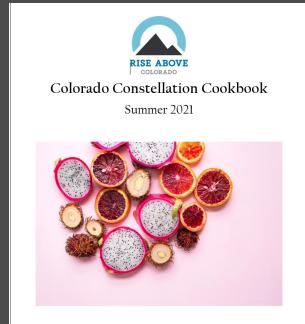
The 2021-2022 TAC includes 22 middle and high school students from across Colorado who were selected through a competitive, youth led application and interview process. Many members have personally seen and experienced the negative impact addiction can have and want to serve as a positive voice in their communities for choosing healthy alternatives.

During the 2021-2022 term, members will be involved in a variety of peer-to-peer activities through school and community outreach projects, as well as serving as advocates for teens via Rise Above Colorado's social media channels and www.iriseaboveco.org, which is populated with expert vetted content created by teens, for teens.

Work with this year's council kicked off in early June with an amazing virtual orientation where we welcomed the newest council members, celebrated the contribution of the graduating members, and set our focus on the work ahead in 2021-2022. **In August we were able to hold our first in-person weekend TAC meeting since March 2020!** During this exciting gathering TAC members learned more about the resources available to them through Rise Above Colorado as well as some of the ways they can engage in the ongoing work of Rise Above Colorado across the state. During the meeting TAC also came together to identify an issue they want to address this year; the lack of safe spaces and events for ALL youth in Colorado.

someone amazing to join our team as Development Director. Learn more about this opportunity [HERE](#)

Summer Constellation Cookbook



Our Colorado Constellation Project partners & RAC staff helped contribute to this summer cookbook. Click the picture above to download it. We hope it prolongs the warm fuzzies of summertime for you!