

2020 - A New Perspective

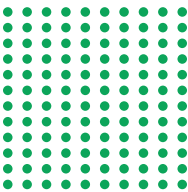
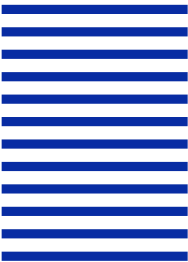
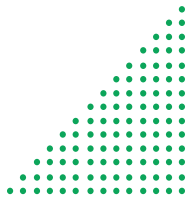
ANNUAL REPORT



A Community Assessment
& Resource Center

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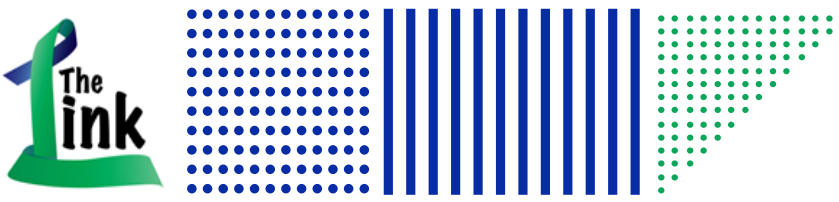


Mission: To ensure assessment driven prevention and intervention services for at-risk youth and their families

Board of Directors

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AT A GLANCE

Juvenile Assessment Center

The Link is a single point of entry for individual attention, screening, assessment and referral for at-risk youth and juvenile offenders in the 17th Judicial District.

The Link provides screening services to the communities of Adams and Broomfield Counties at no charge to families.

The Link exists to support youth through initial contact with law enforcement and those who are at-risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. We connect families to services through individual attention and intentional referral to appropriate resources.

Services

Detention screens – phone assessments for transport to detention by law enforcement

Transports – receive youth transported by law enforcement to The Link

Family Intervention – appointments by referral, call or contact, and walk-in

- Behavioral screens including for suicide risk, human trafficking, mental health, and substance use
- Family intervention and mediation
- Personal Recognizance (PR) Bonds
- On-site Informed Supervision classes
- Coordinated referrals to local resources and service providers

If last year's theme was change, this year's theme was adaptability! 2020 affected our partners and our business, and The Link team responded to challenges and needs.



2019 Total Cases = 1145

In a typical year, The Link would have 400 to 600 opportunities to provide intervention in-person including screening and referral services to youth and their families.

In 2019 The Link received **592** transports and screened **474** youth for detention.



2020 Total Cases = 671

Even after stay-at-home orders lifted and communities adapted to changes through 2020, referrals to The Link and transports were nearly half the 2019 numbers.

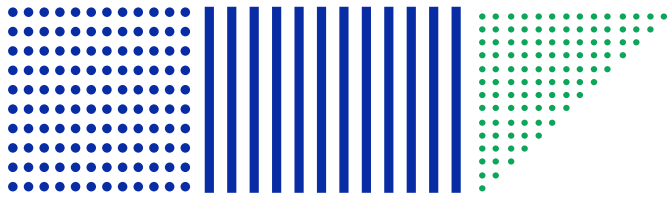
In 2020 The Link received **337** transports and screened **259** youth for detention.

What changed?

There were disruptions to services and as partners and resources were affected, The Link team adjusted individualized referrals for our families and supported navigating the "new normal". Classes and groups that were previously held at The Link were suspended and The Link must again send families off-site for clinical services and full assessments if needed.

What stayed the same?

The center remained open for 24 hours screening and continued to welcome youth and families to The Link for in-person attention throughout the pandemic. The Link team supported youth and families with crisis intervention, mediation, and through recommendations and referrals to community resources.



Thank You

The Link is grateful to the participants of the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), the Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC), and Adams County Department of Human Services (ACDHS) for funding services provided by The Link, including receiving youth 24 hours a day and detention screens every day of the year.

Without those agreements and the generous donations by community members and supporters, The Link's immediate response would not be possible, and early intervention opportunities with the communities' youth might be lost.

Funders

IGA Participants

- Adams County
- City of Commerce City
- City of Brighton
- City and County of Broomfield
- City of Northglenn
- City of Thornton
- City of Westminster

Other Funding Sources

- Adams County Human Services
- Board of Directors and Community Members
- Brighton Legacy Foundation
- Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC)
- Fountainhead Commercial

The Link is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, not part of governmental, judicial, or human services systems. Our Juvenile Assessment Center relies on agreements, grants, and charitable donations to provide free services to youth and their families.



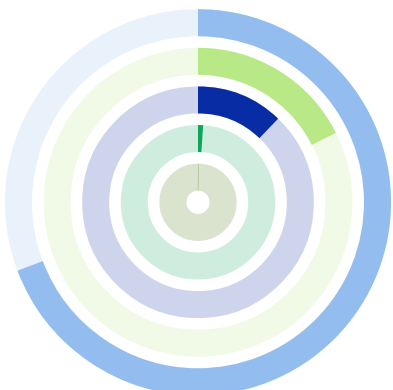
2020 Income

The largest source of funding is the IGA with counties and municipalities. These are funds from law enforcement annual budgets. Partnership with The Link allows for identification of underlying issues that contribute to concerning behavior in a trauma-informed environment. Intervention can prevent and divert youth from expensive systems involvement.

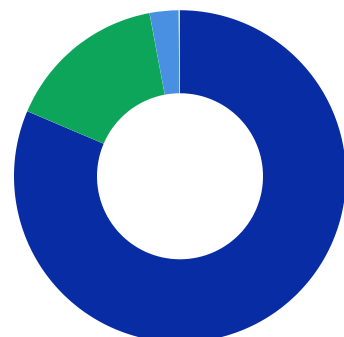


2020 Expenses

Personnel expenses are the largest line item in The Link's annual budget. The Link has 12 full time and 2 on-call employees including 9 intake specialists, an admin assistant, 2 supervisors, a manager of services, and the executive director. Operational expenses include leased office space, business insurance, communications and technology, supplies and client expenses.



- IGA (69.1%)
- CYDC (17.52%)
- ACDHS (12.15%)
- Contributions (1.09%)
- Grants (0.14%)



- Personnel Expenses (81.42%)
- Operations Expenses (15.65%)
- Professional Services (2.82%)
- Board Expenses (0.12%)

The Link remains open to serve the communities of Adams and Broomfield Counties. The staff, leadership, and Board of Directors are looking forward to opportunities that lie ahead. We are invested in the continued work to provide intervention and to divert youth from systems involvement.

Opportunities for Good

The Link team began using a new "built just for us" database and welcomed several new teammates in 2020. As the pandemic affected in-person services and partners, employees used down time for learning and development. We have improved skills and readiness for serving our communities, including two staff members trained to facilitate Family Engagement meetings and four trained facilitators ready to begin Restorative Justice programming when restrictions are lifted and community circles can be safely attended.

Let's Do This Together



Ensure youth, families, and other supports are full partners in services



Build awareness and advocacy for assessment centers and The Link



Collaborate with community and providers in pandemic-related response and recovery



Diversify funding sources and increase revenue



Improve data gathering, use, and reports



Innovate to support community needs



Visit our website for information, resources, to use our referral form, or make a donation.

TheLinkColorado.org
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