Access to Resources

ACCESS TO RESOURCES

Why is this initiative important?

Many at-risk youth (Kindergarten – 12th grade and four years of post-secondary education) would love to participate in high-quality programs, projects, or activities, but face financial of other barriers that keep them from those experiences. Helping young people with access to such opportunities can help level the playing field, provide a positive and hopeful connection to their community, and give them a chance to be the best they can be.

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What are we doing in this initiative?

The Weld Trust will support schools and groups that offer STEM-based or career exploration activities and programming, as well as funding for programs that promote 21st Century skills.

The Weld Trust will fund infrastructure elements, basic needs, special education enhancements and participation fees.

The Weld Trust will fund programming that supports the academic, social, and skills development of youth, including tutoring, mentoring, leadership, English as a Second Language, after-school, sports, robotics and clubs.

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What are the priorities in this initiative?

Fees and Basic Supports

Increase the number of STEM-focused and career exploration.

K-12 In-School Services

Increase participation in school-based programs.

K-12 Out of School Time (OST) Services

Increase participation in out-of-school programs and team sports.

Tutoring/Mentoring

Increase the services available for student success.

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What are our goals for this initiative?

- Permanent adoption of STEM-programming at all Weld County schools by 2030.
- Enhance career exploration programming in all middle and high schools in Weld County by 2030.
- Provide all students in Weld County with a wide range of extracurricular activities by 2032.
- Ensure all students are connected to a trusted, caring adult through a school-based program or club by 2032.
- Support youth in out-of-school programs to gain experience that will help them thrive by teaching 21st century skills by 2030.

Access to Resources Logic Model

Mission Statement: To promote excellence in health and education in Weld County.

Our specific demographic in this initiative is the K-16 population in Weld County. Our goal is to remove obstacles or barriers (physical, financial, or social) that keep young people from participating in programs, services or experiences that will help them be the best they can be.
We focus on programs that support 21st Century skills development, which supports workforce preparedness and academic or social skills.
(K-16 is Kindergarten - 12th grade and four years of post-secondary education.)

Our approach to addressing the strategic issues will be:	1. Expansion of opportunities and removal of barriers K-16 In-School Support • The Weld Trust will support schools/districts and/or groups that offer STEM-based or career exploration activities and programming to their students. • STEM or career exploration activities supported can include academic, excursions, and field trips or experiences. • The Weld Trust will fund programs that promote the acquisition of 21st Century Skills (listed below). • The Weld Trust will fund infrastructure elements, basic needs, transportation, special education enhancements, and costs associated with student participation. Out-of-School Support for K-16 Youth • The Weld Trust will fund programming that support the academic, social, and skills development of youth, including programs that promote the acquisition of 21st Century skills (listed below). • The Weld Trust will also fund items such as tutoring, mentoring, and leadership programs, ESL programs, after-school programs, sports, robotics, clubs, or any other opportunities that help young people thrive. • The Weld Trust also fund items shown to have been a barrier to participation, including basic material of equipment needs, transportation, and fees associated with participation in quality programs.
Partner Organizations	1. K-12 Education System 2. Higher Education 3. Nonprofit Service Providers 4. Government Agencies 5. Other Funders 6. Industry Associations 7. Collaborative Efforts

Access to Resources Logic Model

Activities TWT will undertake	Outputs	Immediate Outcomes 0-4 years	Intermediate Outcomes 4-8 years	Long-term Outcomes/Impact 8+ years
1. Data gathering and reporting **2. Research and surveys** **3. Connecting stakeholders:** • Sharing information • Convening o Education institutions o Businesses o Government agencies o Stakeholder groups o Industry associations o Nonprofits o Service providers o Other funders **4. Funding opportunities throughout the year**	• # of extracurricular, career exploration, and school-based activities, and STEM clubs created, supported, or expanded • # of students participating in out-of-school activities • # of students participating in school-based extracurricular activities • Amount of fees/costs of programs provided to # families • # of Weld County students provided access to technology/ internet in their home or # hot spots, other tools distributed to Weld County students • # of programs funded that include 21st Century skill acquisition	**K-16 In-School Support** • Increased number of STEM-focused and career exploration educational opportunities within schools by 15%, as measured by grantee reports. • Increased participation in extracurricular activities by 15%. Baseline % provided by grant partners. • Increased participation in school-based programs by 15% (parent survey/grant reports) **Out-of-School Support for K-16 Youth** • Increased number of youth served in out-of-school programs by 15%. • Increased youth participation in programs centered on the acquisition of 21st century skills by 15% (grantee reports). • Increased experiential opportunities for youth by 15%. Baseline determined by grantee reports.	**K-16 In-School Support** • Increased participation in STEM-focused and career exploration opportunities by 25%. • Increased participation in extracurricular activities by 25%. Baseline % provided by grant partners. **Out-of-School Support for K-16 Youth** • Increase participation in out-of-school programs by 25%. Baseline % provided by grant partner. • Increase participation by at-risk youth in leadership and experiential programs. Baseline provided by grant partner; goal of 25%.	**K-16 In-School Support** • Permanent adoption of STEM-programing at all schools in Weld County by 2030. • Enhanced career exploration programming is available in all Weld County middle and high schools by 2030 (data platform in Workforce Initiative). • All students who want to participate in STEM programming are given the opportunity to do so (district and school reports) by 2030. • All students have access to a wide range of extracurricular activities by 2032. • All students are connected to a trusted, caring adult through a school-based program or club by 2032 (UWWC data). **Out-of-School Support for Youth** • Youth in out-of-school programs gain experience that will help them thrive by teaching 21st century skills (grantee reports and surveys, by 2030)

ASSUMPTIONS and ECOSYSTEM
* career paths and vocational/technical training opportunities are also covered in TWT's Workforce Development Initiative but the focus here will be on removal of barriers and increasing opportunities so that at-risk youth can participate.

EXTERNAL FACTORS (barriers/facilitators)
The Weld Trust recognizes that there are many external factors that affect the "access to resources". While some of these factors are being addressed in other funding initiatives, these need to be taken into consideration when evaluating progress towards the distal outcomes. Identifying these external factors can help inform funding decisions across multiple initiatives. Some external factors that have been identified include: • Family dynamics including employment, behavioral health, housing stability, food security • Poverty • Transitory families • Lack of transportation • Subjectivity and biases • Language barriers

See: https://www.aeseducation.com/blog/what-are-21st-century-skills
21st Century skills are 12 abilities that today's students need to succeed in their careers during the Information Age. These skills are intended to help students keep up with the lightning-pace of today's modern markets. Each skill is unique in how it helps students, but they all have
one quality in common. They're essential in the age of the Internet.

The twelve 21st Century skills are:

1. Critical thinking
2. Creativity
3. Collaboration
4. Communication
5. Information literacy
6. Media literacy
7. Technology literacy
8. Flexibility
9. Leadership
10. Initiative
11. Productivity
12. Social skills