

PIVOTING TOWARD POTENTIAL



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



CEO LETTER

Dear Friends and Supporters,

What always calls me back to our work is when I hear from students, teachers, families, and administrators about our impact. A student recently completed our SEL survey in their fourth-grade handwriting, with the following statement:

“I have learned that conflicts can be solved without violence”.

This is what makes our work so meaningful. Not only did one student have the opportunity to learn this, but thousands of students did through our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program. While this is just one example of our systemic impact, know that your support multiplies impact over and over in dozens of districts, hundreds of schools, and multiple states even amidst a pandemic. Thank you!



GSN staff bonding through team building activity at May 2021 staff meeting



Students leading Green Space effort at Trinidad High School



Claudia Trujillo, GSN Senior Education Specialist, presenting to students

As we hope you'll see through this year's annual report, GSN was able to *Pivot Toward Our Potential* this past year, embracing new opportunities for systemic impact:

- Merging with two organizations and bringing Alternative Roadmap and Empowering Education into the GSN family. This expanded our services to support student and teacher social, emotional, and mental health and reach disengaged learners affected by COVID-19.
- Pivoting our SEL curricula and professional development to focus on the challenges of the day: *SEL Essentials; Teacher Self-Care; Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice; and Healthy Relationships*. Our team also began translating resources into Spanish.
- Standing up statewide support and connections for principals and superintendents reducing isolation and the burden of finding solutions to COVID-19 educational challenges.
- Growing our organization at a time when our nation struggled with a multiplicity of issues, even launching new innovation around education completion for youth involved in the justice system in partnership with the Attorney General's Office.
- We also expanded our board of directors, launched new college/career pathways, and gained traction on our expansion efforts in Arizona and Ohio.

The 2020-2021 school year (our second year of operating during the pandemic) has now come and gone, and yet again, I am grateful for the innovations and resourcefulness of our organization to respond directly to the needs of the schools and districts we serve thanks to the help of our supporters.

Gratefully,
Wendy Loloff Cooper, CEO

IMPACT

GENERATION SCHOOLS NETWORK (GSN)



59,409
STUDENTS



4,023
TEACHERS



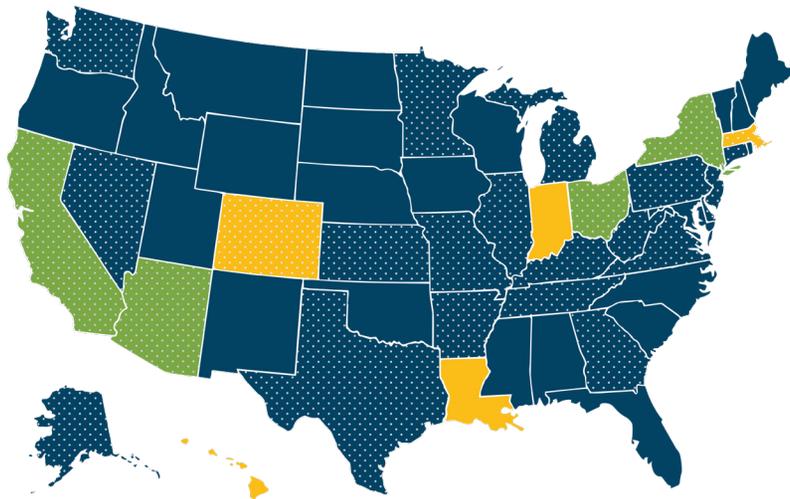
82
SCHOOLS/
DISTRICTS

EMPOWERING EDUCATION

29 STATES
166 SCHOOLS

ALTERNATIVE ROADMAP

2 STATES
10 SCHOOLS

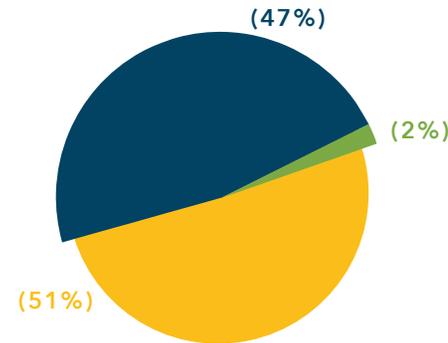


Approved Provider States

District Partners

Supporting Social/
Emotional Learning

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

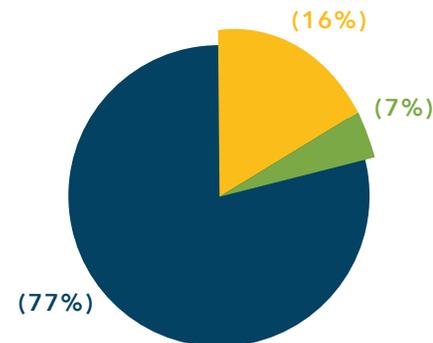


FEEES FOR SERVICE
\$1,297,788 (47%)

FOUNDATIONS / GRANTS
\$1,393,008 (51%)

CONTRIBUTIONS
\$67,990 (2%)

TOTAL REVENUES
\$ 2,758,786 (100%)



PROGRAM SERVICES
\$1,926,486 (77%)

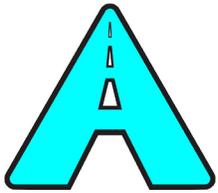
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL
\$392,860 (16%)

FUNDRAISING
\$176,044 (7%)

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$2,495,390 (100%)

MERGERS

GSN expanded programs and services to support student and teacher social, emotional, and mental health, and to reach disengaged learners affected by COVID-19 by merging with two other Colorado-based nonprofits with national reach.



ALTERNATIVE ROADMAP

Alternative Roadmap helps engage disconnected students with age-relatable role models to teach SEL skills in fun, interactive ways to improve self-efficacy, well-being, and career preparedness.



Our goal, when founding Alternative Roadmap, was to help students at-risk find their path. Merging with GSN will provide broader support, better aiding schools in reaching their at-risk student populations.

- Elliot Zettas, Executive Director/Co-Founder of Alternative Roadmap and GSN Senior Manager of College & Career Readiness



EMPOWERING EDUCATION

Empowering Education is a leading provider of online SEL programs with teacher-led, evidence-based, and trauma-informed professional development. These programs were added into GSN's suite of services, expanding SEL curriculum and services for schools looking for an online SEL option.



Empowering Education has been laser-focused on making an SEL program that will be effective, easy-to-use, and fun. By merging with Generation Schools Network, we now can integrate a school's SEL efforts into deeper multi-year transformation. With this merger, our schools can combine SEL with college and career readiness, health programming, transformational leadership and more.

- Noah Teitelbaum, former Executive Director of Empowering Education



LEADERSHIP & IMPROVEMENT



Donna Trujillo, GSN's Vice President of Tiered Services & Special Populations, with principals from Hope Online Learning Academy

PARTNER WITH A PRINCIPAL PROGRAM

GSN kicked off the Partner with a Principal program with five principals, thanks to support from Richard and Judy Tumlinson and Battelle. This program is for principals to sharpen their leadership skills by partnering with an experienced principal.



The greatest benefit is how to balance all the different hats with **mindfulness of student learning** and school climate being the main thing.

- C. Locke



NEW SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT & CRISIS RESPONSE WEBINARS

GSN launched *webinars for school leaders* from Colorado, Arizona, and Ohio to discuss how to utilize Every Student Succeeds Act funds.

The Colorado Rural Education Collaborative (CREC) partnered with the Colorado Rural Alliance and the Department of Education to host a monthly superintendents' forum to support COVID-19 problem-solving.

COLLEGE & CAREER



NEW COLORADO-BASED NETWORKS

GSN's College and Career Readiness (CCR) work expanded greatly by hiring a Senior Manager of CCR and launching the Front Range Equity Network and the Interstate-76 Corridor *Partnerships for Prosperity*. These efforts focus on student achievement and partnering with businesses to create employee pipelines.

SOCIAL CAPITAL PLAYBOOK ADVISORY BOARD

GSN deepened its college/ career readiness expertise by partnering with the Christensen Institute and helping them build their new Social Capital Playbook for schools; GSN CEO Wendy Loloff Cooper served on a Social Capital Playbook Advisory Board with others across the country.



Top image: Staff and students at I-76 College & Career Readiness Convening

Bottom image: Social Capital Playbook graphic

REDESIGN & INNOVATION

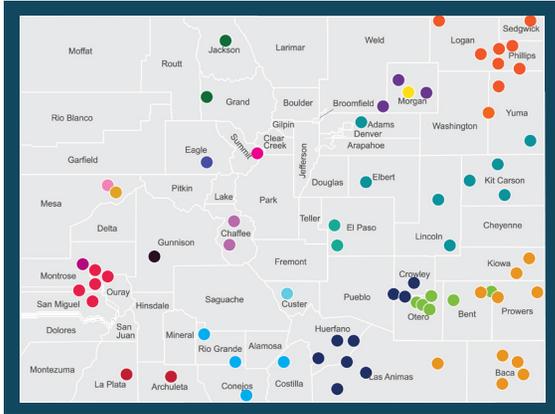


REPRESENTING

56,828 students
3,853 teachers

across

72 school districts



COLORADO RURAL EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE (CREC)

The CREC expanded this year with key initiatives such as the Student-Centered Reporting Solution, Social Emotional Learning, and teacher retention, growing to 72 member districts!



S-CAP System Support Review in Arriba-Flagler



STUDENT-CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY PROGRAM (S-CAP) WRAP-UP

S-CAP creates a peer-based accountability system that factors in the “whole child” and engages the local community in assessing school quality and reaching strategic goals. GSN was able to see value in a fledgling idea at an early stage and get it ready to fly on its own.



JUVENILE JUSTICE EFFORTS

GSN was selected as a School Justice Innovation Grant recipient by the Colorado Attorney General’s Office. This new program focuses on eliminating barriers for justice-engaged youth to re-enter and succeed in school.



HEALTH & WELLNESS

SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING (SEL) EXPANSION & CURRICULUM

GSN is a state and national leader in SEL, and combined with Empowering Education and Alternative Roadmap, reached 120,000+ students in roughly 200 K-12 schools across 30+ states. GSN created new SEL program features: curricular units on *Coping with Crisis*, *Protecting Our Privacy*, and *Exploring Culture, Identity, and Social Justice*, asynchronous teacher professional development, and an online curriculum for grades K-8.

1006 students and 90 teachers participated in the 2020-2021 End-of-Year Advocacy/SEL survey. Overall...



91%

of students feel connected to a caring adult in their school.

97%

of teachers agree that they have developed meaningful relationships with their Advocacy/SEL students.

88%

of teachers feel “mostly confident” or “highly confident” in their ability to support students in their SEL skill development.

84%

of students agree that they develop skills that will help them in school, work, and life during their SEL lessons.

EDUCATION STABILITY GRANT HIGHLIGHTS



Wiggins and Hanover School Districts, with GSN's planning support, provided elementary and middle school students (migrant/foster/homeless) with four weeks of summer learning as part of their Educational Stability Grant.

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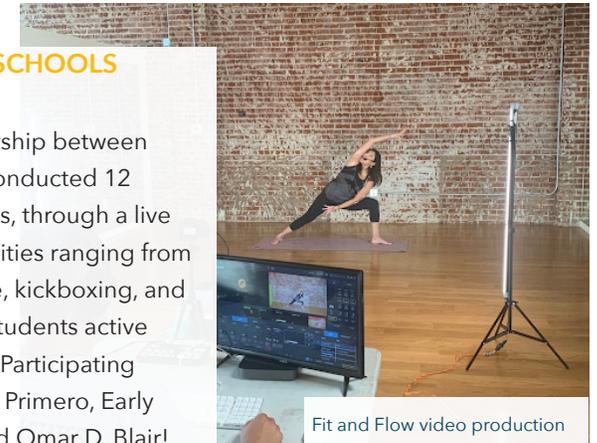
I'm really proud of my community. It's amazing what [we] can do when we want to help.

- Adriana Carrazco, Student Advocate

”

CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOLS

Fit and Flow, a partnership between GSN and SoundOff, conducted 12 unique types of classes, through a live broadcast, with modalities ranging from HIIT/Bootcamp, dance, kickboxing, and BAARE to help keep students active during the pandemic. Participating schools included AXL, Primero, Early College of Arvada, and Omar D. Blair!



WHAT'S NEXT?

UNITS IN SPANISH



GSN demonstrated its commitment to equity by committing to translate all of its SEL unit student materials into Spanish (worksheets, teacher scripts, key vocabulary). For the 2021-2022 school year, the full scope of GSN's units is available with these translations accompanied by family letters (in Spanish) to introduce parents, caregivers, etc. to the SEL topics their students are learning.

NEW ONLINE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COURSES

As a result of continued growth in online and hybrid learning for both students and adults, GSN released new asynchronous courses for teachers. Topics include "SEL Essentials" and "Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion"!

ARIZONA CONFERENCES



Hector Estrada, Principal Rio Rico HS; Panfilio Contreras, Director of AZALAS; Jorge Moreno, AP of Rio Rico HS; Jose Enriquez, CEO of Latinos in Action; Larry Martinez, Senior Education Specialist at GSN

GSN is continuing expansion efforts to additional states, including Arizona. Next year, GSN staff will present at several key conferences in the state, including those focused on rural education, ESSA, Latino administrators, and SEL.

GSN STAFF

FULL-TIME STAFF

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Kirk Banghart
Wendy Loloff Cooper
Jade DesHotel
Jessica Green
Anna Hogberg
Alison Lauge
Lisa Leith
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Kym Myers
Jonathan Padro
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Ellen Sarkisian
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Tina Goar
Karen Kemerling
Kelly Mitchell
Kayon Morgan
Jose Silva
Dan Streeter
Cass Walker Harvey

YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Esmeralda Gutierrez
Jonathan Piper II



GSN staff as of May 2021



GSN staff coming together for large group activity



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