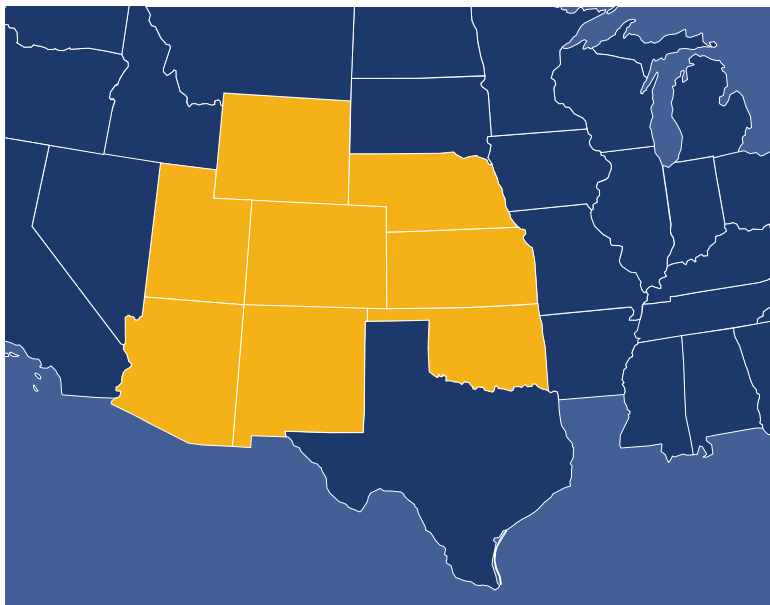




# IMPACT REPORT

## 2023 - 2024



**SINCE 2015...**

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**SERVED OVER  
5,875 STUDENTS  
WITH NEARLY  
\$23 MILLION  
TO ATTEND COLLEGE OR  
CAREER TRAINING**

## Letter from Leadership

Bright Futures has awarded over \$22.7 million since its inception in 2015 to help students attend college or earn an industry credential toward creating a stronger workforce and developing self-sustaining adults. The 2023-2024 school year was its eighth year of support with 1,034 students receiving a financial award.

Beginning in the 2023-24 school year, the Bright Futures award was increased 75% for students attending school or post-secondary training in Weld County. Students attending college or a training program located in Weld County received up to \$3,500 per year, while students attending school in Colorado outside of Weld County or in one of the seven surrounding states received up to \$2,000 per year.

The Bright Futures program is available for every resident who lived in Weld County for their senior year plus at least one other year of high school and graduated within the last six years. This program is also available for HSE/GED recipients and honorably discharged veterans. The 2023-24 academic year welcomed 352 new Bright Futures students from 30 high schools across Weld County.

As a way of giving back to the community, Bright Futures applicants are required to complete 12 hours of community service each year. This equated to over 12,000 hours of community service in the 2023-2024 school year.

Building a more skilled and educated workforce would not be possible without donor support. Every dollar given to Bright Futures goes directly to support students. Thanks to the generosity of donors, Bright Futures has served over 5,875 students to strengthen the vitality of the Weld County community.

Donors to Bright Futures who are Weld County property owners qualify for a credit on their Weld County property taxes. To learn more, visit [www.brightfuturesco.com](http://www.brightfuturesco.com).

Jeff Carlson  
Chief Executive Officer

Lisa Taylor  
Director

## BRIGHT FUTURES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Weston Kurz**, Chair

**Mike Bond**, Chief Operating Officer

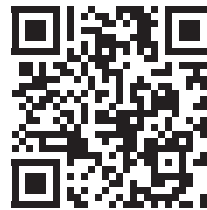
**Perry Buck**, Weld County Commissioner

**Jeff Carlson**, Chief Executive Officer

**Jason Maxey**, Weld County Commissioner

**Chris Peterson**, Member-at-Large

**Rich Werner**, Member-at-Large



**DONATE  
TO BRIGHT  
FUTURES**



**“The aid I received from Bright Futures helped me pursue my passion for sports and exercise science and stay debt-free in college.”**

**- Hogan Searle**

Hogan graduated from University of Northern Colorado in May 2024.

## 2023- 2024 SCHOOL YEAR HIGHLIGHTS

**\$2,420,819**

**AWARDED TO SUPPORT**

**1,034**

**BRIGHT FUTURES STUDENTS**

Bright Futures increased the program benefits for students in Weld County for the 2023-24 school year while maintaining the award for students outside of Weld County. The students attending school or training in Weld County received an additional \$750 per semester, totaling up to \$3,500 for the school year. Additionally, Bright Futures students attending University of Northern Colorado or Aims Community College had a **dedicated Scholar Relations Officer** housed on campus to provide wraparound support for their academic and career interests.



**“Bright Futures really helped me with my certifications by providing me with a scholarship to the training program.”**

**- Evelyn Gomez**

Evelyn obtained two certifications through the Academy for Dental Assisting Careers and currently works as a dental assistant in Greeley.

### During the 2023-24 school year, Bright Futures...

- Students came from 10 school districts serving Weld County
  - 352 attended Aims Community College or University of Northern Colorado
  - 475 attended schools in Colorado (outside of Aims and UNC)
  - 207 attended schools outside of Colorado
- Facilitated volunteer opportunities, job shadows, informational interviews and internships for a myriad of students
- Provided wraparound services for over 80 students at Aims and UNC including connections to industries of interest and check-ins on student welfare
- Conducted mock job and scholarship interviews for students from high schools across Weld County
- Organized college visits for over 75 students at University of Northern Colorado and Colorado State University
- Planned College and Career Fairs for high school students
- Provided presentations to over 20 high schools throughout Weld County to share with students the financial and career assistance they could receive by applying to Bright Futures!



# THANK YOU TO ALL BRIGHT FUTURES DONORS!

**A special thank you to generous donors of Bright Futures who support Weld County students attending college or a career training program to be successful in the workforce.**

*"A good education is a necessary building block toward success. Supporting a young person's education, whether it be pursuing a college degree or technical skills certification, has always been important to us as this ultimately builds a stronger workforce for the entire community. We are proud to support the Bright Futures program. It invests in Weld County students with*

*financial assistance as well as supports career development opportunities such as job shadows and internships. Bright Futures provides a direct impact on educating young adults to be better equipped for their careers."*

**Travis and Jennifer Gillmore,**  
Donors to Bright Futures

## ARE YOU A WELD COUNTY PROPERTY OWNER?

If a Weld County property owner donates to Bright Futures, they are eligible to receive a credit toward the Weld County portion of their property taxes up to 50% of their donation.



**100%**

of all donations directly support Bright Futures students!!

## THANK YOU TO PIVOT ENERGY FOR DONATING \$17,500 IN 2024 PLUS SUPPORTING BRIGHT FUTURES STUDENTS AS AN INDUSTRY PARTNER!

**Industry partnerships** allow Bright Futures students to learn about the needs and demands of the industry while in school to be better prepared to enter the workforce.



*"Pivot Energy is proud to have contributed to Bright Futures in 2024 to launch the Energy Careers Exploration Program. This initiative provides Weld County students with valuable insights into the diverse opportunities within the energy sector, while also connecting them with local career pathways. As a long-time supporter of Bright Futures, Pivot is excited to expand its commitment by supporting the development of new initiatives to drive economic growth and opportunity in Weld County."*

**Samantha Frick,** Senior Manager, Community Engagement and Impact  
**Pivot Energy**



**"Bright Futures has been an incredible source of support throughout my journey at UNC. Their assistance has empowered me to make the most of my college experience and leave a meaningful impact on my community."**

**-Gamaliel Ayala**

Gamaliel is working on an accounting and finance degree at UNC and is a member of Beta Alpha Psi honors organization and the Financial Management Association