2020-2021 Annual Report
We aspire to connect every high school student with a committed adult mentor and a powerful community.
Mission
We inspire and support students to be their best selves through mentoring, learning experiences, and a powerful community.

Vision
Youth are empowered to discover a future of possibility for themselves and their community.

Values
- Community Centered – We belong to a larger community. We work together to support, influence and improve our community.

- Student Leadership – Students are capable, powerful, resilient, knowledgeable, and have much to teach adults. Students have power, voice, and choice in all aspects of the program. Adults are opportunity brokers and guides to student leaders.

- Diversity/Equity/Inclusion – Youth and adults are partners and collaborators in working to disrupt inequity and oppression for personal and social change.

- Integrity – We speak and act with integrity to build and maintain trust. We are committed to bringing our best selves to this work because it matters.

- Not School, Not Work – Our program is active, fun and engaging on topics relevant to school, work, and life.

- Transformation – We work together to learn from data, best practices and each other to transform ourselves, CfY, and our community.
Community for Youth has always been a chosen community of caring, consistent, accountable, and dedicated individuals seeking to create a more perfect world. This year really put us to the test. Without our traditional customs of YMCA Camp Colman rope swings, marshmallows, and climbing walls, we were left with zoom breakouts, technical difficulties, and online community building. Our team, our students, and our mentors showed out! They logged in and tuned in night after night, and found a way to get to the connection, no matter how many barriers were in the way. We navigated a world fraught with peril to stay in support with our community. We provided care packages to our students and their families, we had virtual escape room family groups, and even had some outdoor gatherings when it was safe to do so. Our program felt a little different, but the core was the same: transformation through mentorship.

This year required a group effort, and we thank all the folks that made this a year to remember. We are filled with gratitude and hope for the future, for if we can flourish with your support in times like this, oh how we will thrive in the years ahead.

With gratitude and in service,

Stephen Song, msw
Executive Director

David Roe
Board President
Our Strategy...

Every Student has a mentor; and is developing their personhood:
- We connect incredible mentors with powerful and aspiring students to support each other's transformation.
- Our curriculum and research-based model supports the social, emotional development of our students.

Every student is on a path towards economic stability:
- In a world that is going to require more than a diploma to be successful, we provide career-connected mentoring to support our students post-high school path.
- The Alchemy Project, an entrepreneurial boot camp, provides 21st century skills to support our students' passions and leadership.

Full Cohort Learning Communities

One-on-One mentoring for individualized support.
Youth Mentoring

- We serve South Seattle High School students who are committed to personal growth.
- Each student who joins our program experiences a 1:1 mentoring relationship fit to their personal desires and goals, a community of supportive adults and students, and opportunities to develop identity, learn new skills, and build confidence.
- Weekly activities rotate between 1:1 activities with their mentor, small group activities through family groups, and student-centered community workshops.

The Alchemy Project:

- Sponsored by The Boeing Company, The Alchemy Project offers curriculum that integrates problem-solving, time-management, teamwork, and mindfulness to equip high school youth with life skills necessary to navigate college, career, and community.
- Students choose a problem that directly affects their community, and work as a team with a mentor advisor to brainstorm and pitch their solutions to a group of judges in a competition-style presentation.

"My favorite part of CfY was the food because it was good... JK! I liked the way that everyone made everyone welcome and it felt like a second family to me. Brian and I clicked right away! CfY has helped so much with my mental health this year. I’m so glad I’ve joined; you guys are the best!"

Henok, Student Mentee

"CfY has helped so much with my mental health this year."
**43 students**

**2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR**

- **Seniors**: 39.5%
- **Juniors**: 27.9%
- **Sophomores**: 23.3%
- **Freshmen**: 9.3%

**Program Metrics**

- **Volunteer Hours**: 4,358
- **Student Contact Hours**: 5,492
- **Graduation Rate**: 100%
- **Students of Color**: 90%
- **89%** participated in free or reduced price school meal program

**SCHOOLS**

- Franklin High School: 17
- Cleveland STEM High School: 15
- Rainier Beach High School: 6
- Chief Sealth High School: 6
- Nova High School: 1
- Interagency Academy: 1
- Outside of Seattle Schools: 2

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Our Community

Our Stories.

Presley, Mentor:
"I love how honest and open both students and mentors are in the break out rooms when discussing current feelings and answering bigger life questions.

Since this was my first year mentoring, it took me a few sessions to click into the groove with chatting with high school students. Now I feel really comfortable and relaxed spending time with them.

I enjoyed it when Victoria and I could play games with the group - everyone had a lot of fun with that!"

Victoria, Student Mentee:
"I really enjoyed hanging out with my mentor and the activities: like the puzzle break and the in-person workshop I went to.

It was really fun to connect with people during the quarantine.

Presley and I bonded over our love of science and documentaries. She had lots of great advice when it came to things like college and writing. She was easy to talk to."
MENTEES & MENTORS
CfY would not be possible without the genuine connections created between our amazing mentees and mentors. Even through a pandemic, this community exemplified resilience, compassion, and empathy. Thank you for showing up as your authentic selves.

STAFF
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Vandy Anderson
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Kaylene Chung
Program Manager

Tally Teodosio
Program Coordinator

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Synchronicity Events
Aspire Gala Project Team

UW School of Social Work*

SPECIAL THANKS
We give special thanks to our generous donors and corporate partners. We especially wish to acknowledge Founder and first Executive Director of Community for Youth: Sue VanHaren.

* Indicates new board members for 2020-2021.
Get Involved

You can use your unique skills and resources to make an impact in our community. Whether through mentoring a student, resource-sharing, financial gifts, or sharing your unique story, your investment in youth mentoring will amplify their impact in the world.

Your community is calling. Are you ready to join?

Learn More:

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