

CONTACT US



**EMPOWERMENT CENTER
OF EAST COUNTY**

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@EC2Empowersthekids



@EmpowermentCenterofEastCounty

Empowerment Center of East County



(EC)²

**CULTIVATING THE NEXT
GENERATION OF LEADERS
THROUGH THE ARTS AND
SERVICE-LEARNING!**

Fully inclusive, (EC)^2 programs, are...

FREE!

PROGRAMS

THE ARTS

SUPPORT US

To ensure hundreds of local youth continue to have access to after-school and summer programs at no cost, (EC)^2 relies on the support and generosity of individuals and community foundations.



FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO CONTRIBUTE

Please visit

www.EmpowermentCenterEastCounty.org

CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO EAST BOULDER COUNTY

Initially established as a volunteer-run agency, (EC)^2 (formerly Project YES) has maintained a presence within the Boulder County community since 1994. In June 2016, the organization was renamed and refashioned to better meet the needs of the Lafayette community, which is often referred to as

the County's most under-resourced community for young people.

Since then, (EC)^2 has re-positioned itself as Lafayette's predominant youth services agency, providing local youth with structured and sustained opportunities to tap their inherent capacities to create positive social change in their own lives and in the greater community. Alongside other evidence-based strategies, (EC)^2 continues to employ the arts and service-learning, which have proven effective when fostering youth engagement and promoting youth voice.

CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO YOUNG PEOPLE

(EC)^2 collaborates with multiple agencies, including Boulder County, the City of Lafayette, and local schools and nonprofits to ensure young people, ages 5-18, have access to positive adult mentors and meaningful leadership opportunities.

Of the more than 400 young people who participate in structured programs annually, approximately 85% qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Art for Social Change & Art in the Community programs - Young people develop cooperative public art projects to generate awareness about social issues that reflect their own values and beliefs. Employing multiple disciplines, culminating art projects range from community murals and sculptures to spoken word and podcasts.

(EC)^2 Studios - The organization's youth-led record label provides young people with insight into production and recording and serves as a platform for youth voice.

LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY-BASED LEARNING

Lafayette Peer Empowerment Project (LPEP) - City of Lafayette's youth leadership program serves 6th-12th grade students.

Lafayette Youth Project (LYP) - Youth led initiative increasing young people's voice in decision-making and policy-making.

Nature Kids Youth Advisory Board - Giving young people the platform to provide nature based experiences for low income communities.



MENTORING

In addition to implementing the community's one-to-one mentoring program **Dream Chasers** and **Over Time** combine best practices in group mentoring. Empowering students to ultimately advance their personal and academic goals through skills-building presentations, college and career exploration, tutoring, prosocial recreation and service activities.

OTHER ESSENTIAL SERVICES



(EC)^2 developed **Mindfulness+** to foster resiliency among Lafayette's most vulnerable youth. Offered as a community-based program for high school students and a school-based program for elementary school students, **Mindfulness+** introduces students to multiple therapeutic strategies, including art, somatic, and wilderness therapy. A referral agency, (EC)^2 also connects young people and their families to other local essential services, and serves as the "hub" for **Lafayette Communities That Care**, a multi-year, citizen-led teen substance abuse prevention program.