

CU Office of Access & Engagement

2014-2025



Framework

The RLC was established in 2014 as a grassroots group of community leaders connected with the University of Colorado.

Resident leaders are united in representing and providing a voice for families in Aurora, northeast Denver and other surrounding neighborhoods.

The RLC began through the participation of 10 community members. After Sept. 2017, we have grown to include 24 active members who organize and connect with hundreds more.

Hard working members include parents, young professionals, congregational leaders, older adults and students.



The RLC Mission

We build relationships by empowering local leaders, advocating to preserve the diversity of the community and using its values to improve the quality of life for our families and neighbors.

The RLC Vision

We envision an informed community through equitable access to quality schools, health resources and sustainable careers that will boost economic development.



Aurora by the Numbers

- **Economic development:** 10.7% of Aurora residents live below the poverty line and the per capita annual income is **\$31,993**.
- **Cultural diversity:** 20.6% of residents are foreign born and 32.8% of people speak a language other than English at home. There are over **160** languages are spoken in Aurora Public Schools.
- **Health:** 12.9% of people under the age of 65 do not have health insurances.

[City of Aurora Demographic data \(2024\)](#)



Montbello by the Numbers

- **Demographics**: 32.9% of the population under 18 years old. 54.8% of individuals over five years old spoke Spanish at home. Approximately 15.8% of the population of all ages were below the poverty line.
- **Cultural Diversity**: 65.4% residents of Mexican ancestry make up 58.5% of the total population. Black or African American: 20.8%. White (alone, non-Latino): 7.4%. Asian: 1.97% and two or more races (non-Latino): 2.46%.

[City of Denver Demographic data \(2024\)](#)



Networks Members Represented – 2016-2023

Kenton Elementary School
Montview Elementary School
Aurora West Preparatory College Academy
Christ's Church Apostolic Inc.
Aurora Police Department
National Association for Color People
Aurora Key Community Response Team
Northwest Aurora Pastors
Colorado Black Women for Political Action
Hinkley High School Latino Parents
Aurora Community Connections
Neighbors in Aurora Community
Colorado Burma Round Table Network, CBRTN
Colorado African Organization
Myanmar Christian Fellowship
Integrated Nutrition Education Program
Latino Research & Policy Center
Aurora City Council Ward I, II, III

Neighbors Hidden Brook Apartments
Colorado Alliance for Health Equity Practice
University of Colorado Denver
Colorado Early Colleges Aurora
DAWN Clinic
Denver Health
Burma neighbors in Aurora Community
African Fellowship Group
Anschutz Health & Wellness Center
Asian Pacific Development Center
Aurora Mental Health
Colorado Karen Community of Denver
Karen Baptist Church
Mango House
Crawford Elementary School
Stride Community Health
Centro San Juan Diego Hispanic Ministry
CU College of Nursing

St Therese Catholic Church
Mosaic Church
Aurora Economic Opportunity
Coalition
First Baptist Church of Aurora
Arapahoe Health Department
Community College of Aurora
Elkhart Elementary School
Rise Colorado
YAASPA
Vega Collegiate Academy
City of Aurora SBDC
CU School of Public Health
CU Department of Familia
Medicine
East Colfax Community Collect.
The Fax Partnership
Kaizen Food Rescue
CU Boulder School of Business

Leadership Development

OA&E is committed to supporting and guiding RLC members by conducting leadership development sessions with active community members.

Sessions include:

- Conduct 1-1 meetings / Connection Campaigns
- Effective planning and organizing
- RLC credential
- Research and analysis
- Public speaking
- Prepare meeting agenda
- Community networks



Community Leadership

- **Lay Say Wah**
Internship, Community Outreach and Interpretation
- **Mu Dah Di**
Community Outreach and Interpretation
- **Maria Saldaña**
Community Outreach Consultant
- **Binisha Shrestha**
Community Outreach
- **Lourdes Lozano**
Small Business Owner and Community Connector
- **Brise Morales**
Small Business Owner



Community Leadership

Creation of Group of Interpreters

Htoo Paw

Karen

Aye Aye Aung

Karen

Gilda Bullon

Spanish

Khin Sandar Win

Burmese

Khin Myo Than

Karen, Burmese

Min Kyaw Win

Burmese



University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus



RLC Member Participation with Anchor Institutions

2015

Community Campus Partnership CU Employer Summit
Community Wealth Building Conference
Anchor Institutions Executive Meetings
Presentation to Department of Family Medicine
Presentation to Human Resources - University of Colorado

2016 - 2018

Center for Bioethics and Humanities
Children's Hospital Colorado Health Needs Assessment
Anschutz Medical Campus 9Health Fair



2016 - 2018

Community Campus Partnership Steering Committee

2018 - 2020

Quarterly Meeting with Community Campus Partnership Team

2021

Introduction to the Office of Diversity Equity Inclusion & Community Engagement

2022 - 2024

Panel Participation Health & Society, CU School of Medicine CU School of Medicine Service Learning



Public Testimonies

- RLC Community Learning Sessions and Community Academies
- Board of Education
- City Council Meetings and Town Hall Meetings
- RLC Action Meeting
- Anschutz Medical Campus



Connection Campaigns

2015

The first 10 resident leaders listened to over 340 neighbors.

2016 - 2017

A second campaign with 500 residents participating. The top community priorities were educational attainment, quality schools, and economic development.

2017

A third campaign was conducted with Aurora residents sharing concerns around economic development.

2022-2024

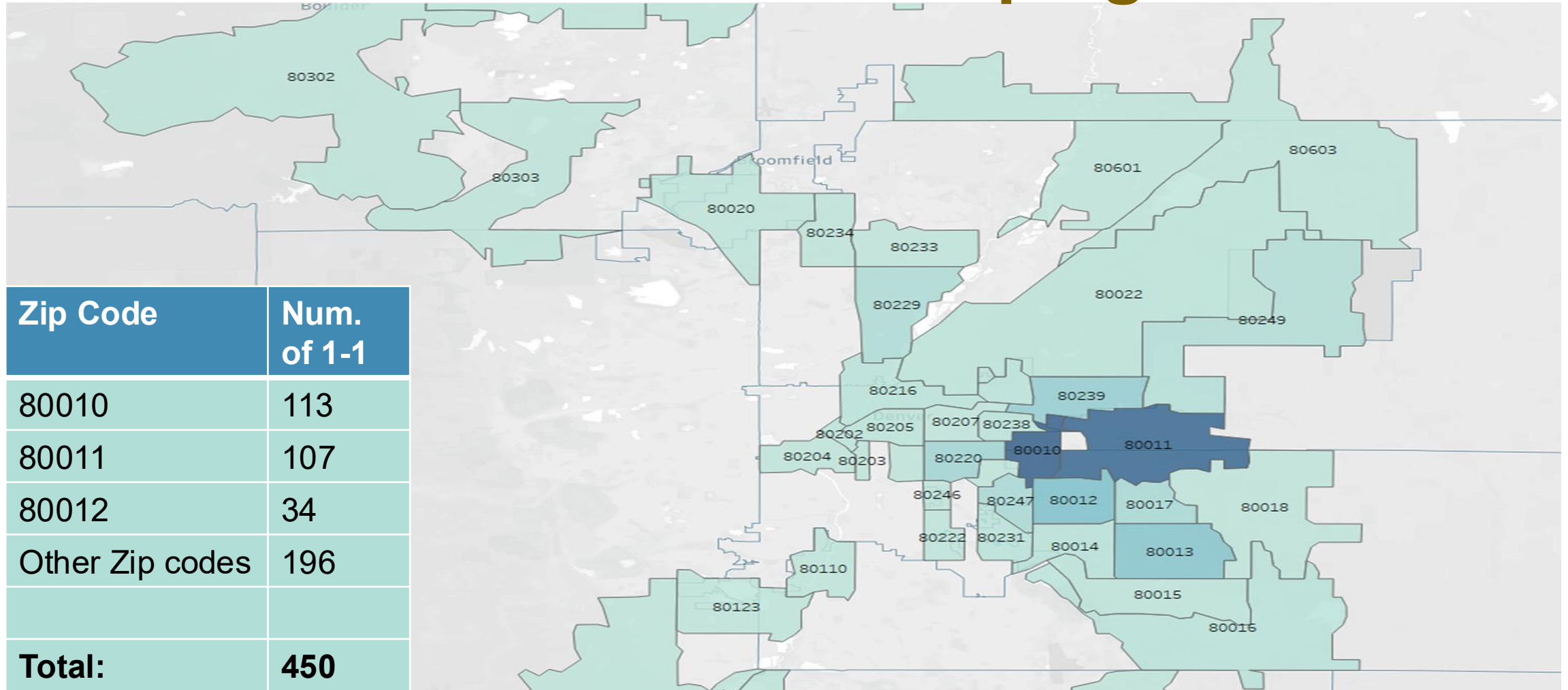
Two winter campaigns were conducted with Aurora and Montbello residents with a large number of community members sharing that youth gun violence and mental health were their main concerns. Over 1,600 1-1 meetings.

2025

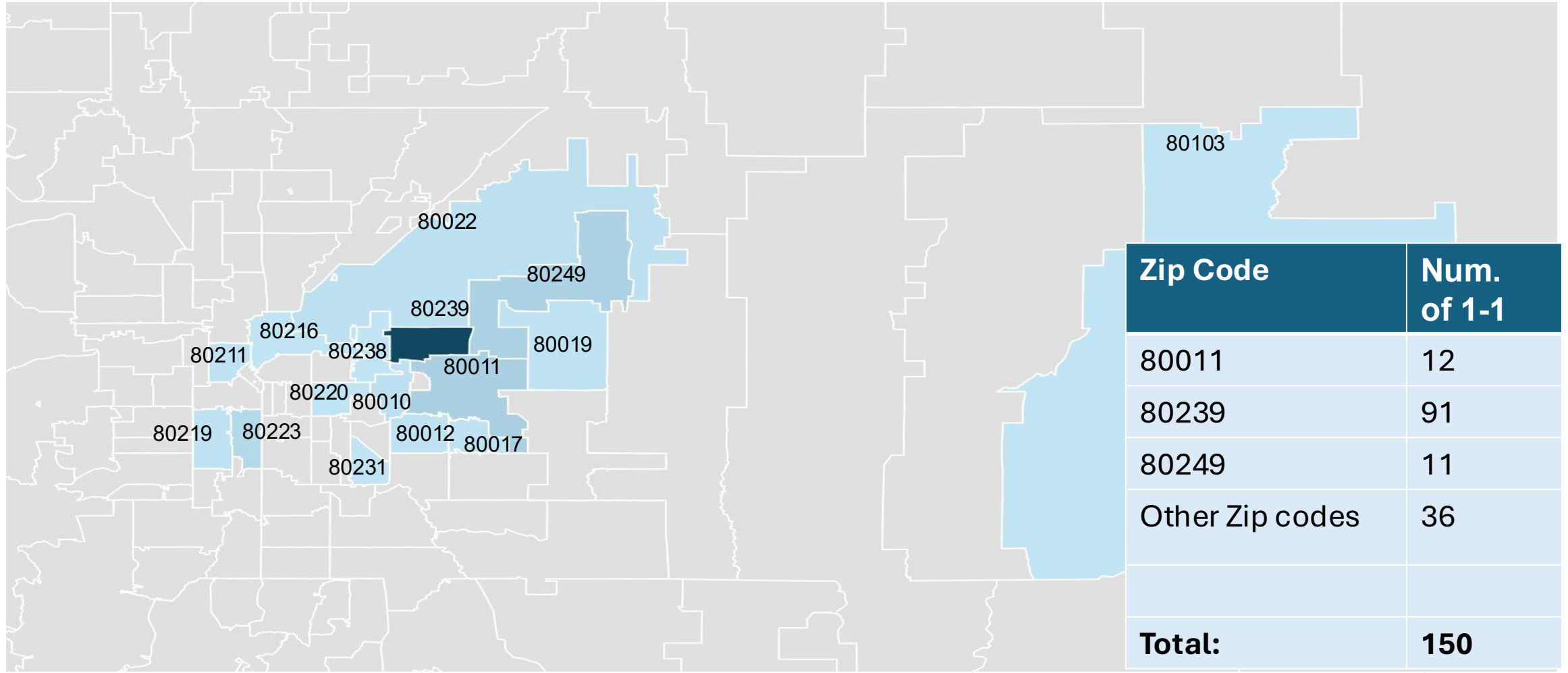
Over 75 community members shared their concerns on public safety, healthcare services, and economic development.



Winter 2022 Connection Campaign

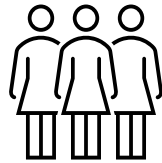


Spring 2024 Connection Campaign



Hopes / Aspirations

Health 170



Health: “My hope is that I stay healthy, safe, and live a long life.”

Economic Opportunity 157



Stability: “My aspirations are to be financially stable and be able to afford basic human needs like food and rent.”

Safety 125



Safety: “My goal is that my family feels safe in our community.”

Housing 73

Education 95

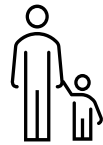
Concerns

Safety 196



Safety: “I am concerned about safety in the community, especially with all the recent shootings.”

Health 139



Health: “I am worried that we may get sick, and that can leave us without housing, or we can lose our job.”

Employment 124



Employment: “My main concern is not finding a good paying job to pay bills and provide for my kids.”

Economic Opportunity 99

Education 69

RLC Learning Sessions



RLC Learning Sessions

February 2023

Aurora City Councilmember Ward I

Aurora City Councilmember Ward II

March 2023

Aurora Police Department

July 2023

Aurora Public Schools

Aurora Youth Violence Prevention Program

August 2023

Aurora Police Department

Aurora Mayor

November 2023

Aurora Public Schools Superintendent

Aurora Police Department

June 2024

Denver Police Department

July 2024

Aurora Police Department

August 2024

Denver Police Department

February 2025

Aurora Police Department

RLC Community Academies



RLC Community Academies

August 2024

Safety and Violence Prevention

Aurora Police Department

Denver Police Department

CU Firearm Injury Prevention Initiative

Aurora Fire Department

Denver Fire Department

September 2024

Mental Health & Wellness

Aurora Public Schools

CU Department of Psychiatry & Pediatrics

Children's Hospital CO

Vuela for Health

CU Health Equity in Action Lab

August 2025

Safety and Violence Prevention

Aurora Police Department D

Denver Police Department District 5

September 2025

Mental Health & Wellness

CU Anschutz Department of Psychiatry

Aurora Public Schools

Mile High Behavioral Health

Grupo Vida

October 2025

Environmental Assessment

CU Anschutz Sustainability & Waste

Adams County Health Department

GreenLatinos

Food Justice NW Aurora

RLC Collaborators Visioning Retreat, 2019



Some of the Collaborations

Results of RLC Work

- Rebecca McClellan
State School Board Member
- Dr. Anne Keke
APS Board of Education
- Christie Imholt
Aurora Public Schools
- Michael Giles Jr
Aurora Public Schools Superintendent
- Katy Anthes
State Education Commission
- Kate Garvin
Aurora Public Schools
- Jessica O'muireadhaigh
Aurora Public Schools
- Crystal Murillo
Aurora Ward I
- Mayor Mike Coffman
City of Aurora
- Janiece Mackey
YAASPA
- Nicholas Martinez
Transform Education Now
- Program Officer
CO Health Foundation
- Program Officer
The Denver Foundation
- Program Officer
Chinook Fund
- Reid Hettich
Mosaic Church
- Ryan Mockabee
DAWN Health
- Coordinator
CO Humanities
- Ruben Medina
Aurora Ward I
- Sheryl Harrington
CU Department of Family Medicine
- Renu Gupta
CU Firearm Injury Prevention
- Dr. Debbie Carter
CU Dept of Psychiatry

RLC State Board of Education Candidate Forum 2017



Community Action Meeting March 2023



Ways to Collaborate with CU Office of Access and Engagement - RLC

- Funding: Learning Session & Community Academies
- Presentations in RLC Meetings: Specific items identified by community leaders
- Volunteer: Connection Campaigns, internship, data analysis, grant writing, other
- Formal Partner (MOU): RLC panel participation, interpretation, technical assistance, community connector/navigator, expert/guidance during research, other



University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**

THANK YOU

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