

# 2024 ANNUAL REPORT



**Making the Game of  
Soccer Accessible to  
Kids Who Want to Play**



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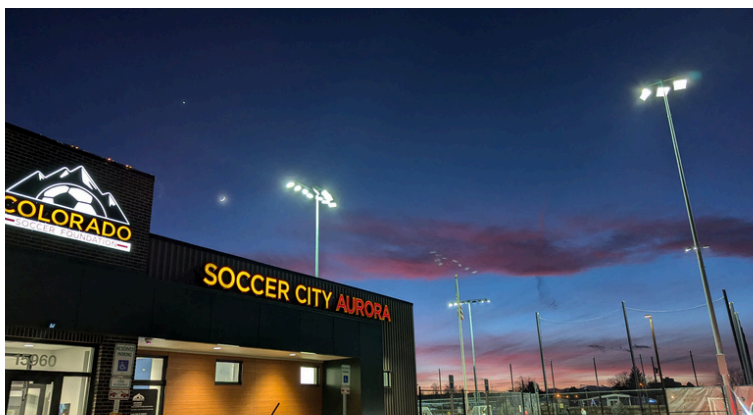




# Welcome to Soccer City Aurora

A buzz lives under these lights,  
extending play into the nights.  
Thousands of smiles stretch ear to ear.  
Sports"human"ship is in the air.  
A simple game, some might say,  
that changes lives every day.

*Written by Emily Fay, Director of Programming. December 2024*



**THANK YOU** to the Cherry Creek High School marketing students for their help with the design of CSF's 2024 Annual Report.

# Who PAYS Here

In 2024, we welcomed **over 129,000** visitors to Soccer City Aurora (SCA) for pick up play, practices, tournaments, skills trainings, and our Soccer After School program.

29

DIFFERENT  
COUNTRIES



41

DIFFERENT  
SCHOOLS



10

DIFFERENT  
COLLEGES





# CSF Programs

The Colorado Soccer Foundation (CSF) is committed to **expanding the field of opportunity**. Youth sports are becoming less accessible as the costs of registration fees and travel continue to increase. The CSF encourages kids of all ages and abilities and from all backgrounds and communities to access our facilities and join our programs. We are committed to affordable, neighborhood-based soccer programs that deliver a high-quality experience and allow kids to take the game as far as they want to go.



**PICK  
UP  
PLAY**



**SOCCER  
AFTER  
SCHOOL**

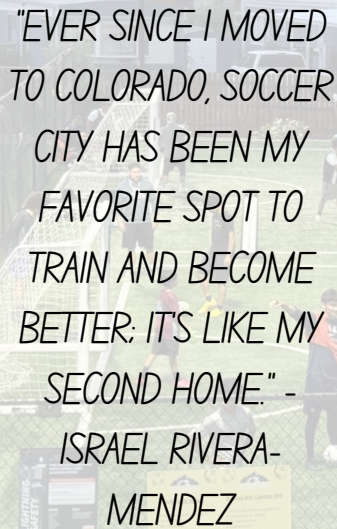


**SKILLS  
SESSIONS,  
LEAGUES, &  
TOURNAMENTS**



# PICK UP PLAY


## *Impact*



"EVER SINCE I MOVED TO COLORADO, SOCCER CITY HAS BEEN MY FAVORITE SPOT TO TRAIN AND BECOME BETTER. IT'S LIKE MY SECOND HOME." - ISRAEL RIVERA-MENDEZ



141 AVERAGE DAILY CHECK-INS

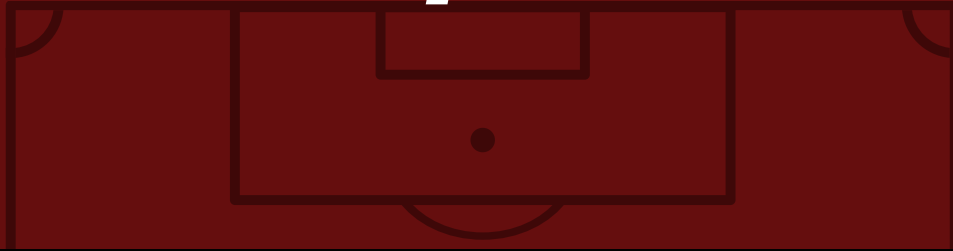


Soccer City is a safe and accessible space to play six days a week **without the need for referees, coaches, or parents**. Players have access to soccer balls, pinnies, and a game timer/supervisor that allows them to decide their teams and pace of play! **Student memberships are \$5 per month and scholarships are available.**



# PICK UP PLAY

## *Impact*



### **PICK UP PLAY SURVEY RESULTS:**

A 2024 SURVEY OF **151 MEMBERS** HIGHLIGHTED SOCCER CITY AURORA'S POSITIVE IMPACT ON PLAYERS **PHYSICAL, SOCIAL, AND MENTAL WELL-BEING:**

- **FREQUENT VISITS:** 56% VISIT SOCCER CITY AURORA 2-3 DAYS A WEEK; 17% VISIT 4-5 DAYS.
- **MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS:** 85% REPORTED IMPROVED WELL-BEING.
- **STRONGER COMMUNITY TIES:** 85% FELT A DEEPER SENSE OF BELONGING.
- **SOCIAL GROWTH:** 87% IMPROVED PEER RELATIONSHIPS; 86% EXPERIENCED ENHANCED SOCIAL SKILLS.



### **WHAT DOES SOCCER CITY MEAN TO YOU?**

*"IT FEELS LIKE A COMMUNITY TO ME, PEOPLE FOCUSING ON THEIR PASSIONS AND BUILDING BONDS."*  
– GERARDO MAGANAITS

*"LIKE A SECOND FAMILY. YOU COME AND PLAY PICK UP SOCCER AND YOU MEET NEW PEOPLE AND GAIN FRIENDS."*  
– SAMUEL ADDAI-OPOKU



# SOCCER AFTER SCHOOL

## *Impact*



“

"THE SOCCER AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM HAS POSITIVELY IMPACTED OUR SCHOOL CULTURE. IT HAS ALLOWED US TO STATE THE EXPECTATIONS FOR ON AND OFF THE FIELD, ENCOURAGING STUDENTS TO HOLD THEMSELVES ACCOUNTABLE, RESPONSIBLE AND WITH INTEGRITY. WE HAVE NOTICED A MAJOR IMPROVEMENT IN STUDENT BEHAVIOR, SPORTSMANSHIP, AND SELF-CONFIDENCE. THIS PROGRAM HAS ALLOWED US TO PROVIDE OUR STUDENTS WITH A SPORT THAT THEY ENJOY ALONGSIDE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TEACH A MIX OF SPORTSMANSHIP, SOCIAL EMOTIONAL, & ACADEMICS."

-COACH ESME, SMITH ELEMENTARY

”

**34** School & Community Partners

A total of **877** **unique** 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> athletes participated in 2024

Sincere appreciation to **64** dedicated Coach Mentors

TOTAL PLAYERS  
BY SEASON



**851**

SPRING  
Season

**873**

FALL  
Season





# SOCCER AFTER SCHOOL

## *Impact*

92%

of participants self-reported qualifying for **Free and Reduced Lunch**

75%

of players shared that this was their **FIRST time** playing on an organized sports team

*CSF raised 83% of the program cost to ensure families are not turned away if they are unable to pay.*



# SKILLS SESSIONS

## *Impact*

*"THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING SO MANY KIDS FROM SO MANY DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS AND CULTURES TO PARTICIPATE AND DEVELOP THEIR SOCIAL AND PHYSICAL SKILLS." – SAMUELS E.*

Our Summer Skills Sessions, also known as "Jovencitos" or "Youngsters", originated through community informed design in 2021. We've experienced 100% growth in participants year-over-year.

**200** youth registered in 2024!



- Open to ages 4-13
- Sessions 3X per week
- \$2.50 per session / pay what you are able fee structure

*"OUR STUDENTS HAVE LOVED BEING PART OF THIS PROGRAM, AND WE'RE GRATEFUL TO THE DONORS FOR BRINGING THE LAREDO COMMUNITY TOGETHER. LANGUAGE IS NO BARRIER DURING GAMES AND PRACTICE, AND EMILY AND THE STAFF HAVE BEEN INCREDIBLE IN SUPPORTING OUR TEAM." – LAREDO*

***This is the lowest per-hour cost sports training in Aurora***



# LEAGUES & TOURNAMENTS

## *Impact*

Through the generous support from the City of Aurora, we have provided low-cost community league play for **high school students** and women's intergenerational teams in our Sunday nights League. We also organize two annual community tournaments, the Colfax Cup 5v5, and the Copa De Los Muertos 7v7. **Sunday League and community tournaments served 834 youth in 2024**, which indicated a high demand. For many of our youth this was their first tournament experience!

**Team fees were subsidized based on need ranging from total amounts of:**

**40% - 100%**



THANK  
YOU!

# Donors & Partners

## 20,000+

Anonymous  
City of Aurora  
Civitas Resources, Inc  
Daniels Fund  
Swallow Charitable Foundation  
Gateway Fund II at the Denver  
Foundation

## \$10,000 - \$19,999

Adama Foundation  
Colorado Rapids MLS  
Dicks Sporting Goods  
Foundation/PUMA  
Kaiser Permanente Foundation

## \$5,000 - \$9,999

City of Aurora International  
and Immigrant Affairs  
Jodi Asarch  
LaMar's Donuts & Coffee  
Singer Family Foundation

## \$1,000 - \$4,999

Bombel Fund  
Capelli Sport  
Colorado Gives Foundation  
Craig Jones  
Humphrey's Foundation  
Paola Ramirez  
Redden Family Foundation  
Sutherland Foundation  
Sharon Schneider  
Wood Foundation

## \$1 - \$999

ALAN BADER	GARY ANDREW
ANDREW STINE	HAIFA NASRALLAH
BETH HELFRICH	JAY HAMMER
BRIAN HOLCOMBE	JEFFREY CHAPMAN
CHELSEA NELSON	JOE & KELLEY GARDNER
CHRIS PAUTLER	KONA ICE
CHRIS OGBONNA	KEVIN GILBERT
CINDY HALL	KIRAN SITLAULA
COURTNEY ERRICO	KRISTEN SARVIS
DANE ERICKSON	LISA SHOOK
DANIEL DROLLER	LUKE HAEMER
EMILY FAY	NEAL A MENDEL
EMILY GARNIER	NICOLE SHUMER
ERIKA HERNANDEZ	NOAH EISENBERG
EVAN & MC HUSNEY	SARAH M BATT
EVAN WEISSMAN	STEPHEN SAHLI
	SUSAN OAKES

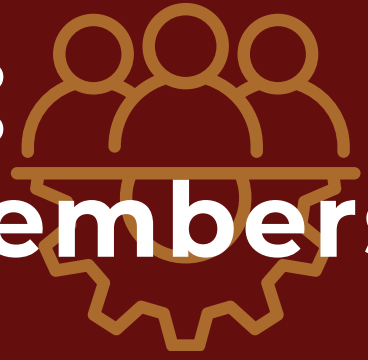
## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ADAMS COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
ADAMS 14 SCHOOL DISTRICT  
ALBION FC / CASA  
ARAPAHOE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH  
AURORA COMMUNITY CONNECTION  
AURORA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY COALITION  
AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT  
AURORA PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
B-ELITE /RUSH SOCCER CLUB  
CHILDREN'S DIABETES FOUNDATION  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL COLORADO  
COERVER CLINICS  
COLORADO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION / IMATTER  
COLORADO RAPIDS YOUTH SOCCER CLUB  
COLORADO SOCCER ASSOCIATION  
DENVER AFTERSCHOOL ALLIANCE  
DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS  
DENVER PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT  
DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HOPE ONLINE CHARTER ACADEMY  
IRON SHARP  
MI PUEBLO MARKET  
POSITIVE COACHING ALLIANCE  
RESCHOOL COLORADO  
SOCCER WITHOUT BORDERS  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS - CO STRIKERS



# 2024 TEAM:

## Staff & Board Members



Curtis Gardner  
Executive Director

Jodi Asarch  
Development Director

Wilmer Barrera  
Engagement Director

Emily Fay  
Program Director

Maher Babiker  
Operations Manager

### **Supervisors**

William Baird  
Kimberly Pascual

### **Soccer City Assistants**

Aiden  
Andres  
Cesar  
David  
Daniel  
Emi  
Evelyn  
Giancarlo  
Itzia  
Lisa  
Malak  
Perla

### **Summer Coach Mentors**

Aiden  
Betzael  
David  
Erica  
Gabriel  
Isaac  
Jaeshon  
Lesley  
Nery  
Nunu  
Malak

### **Contract Services**

Fantastic Cleaning  
2A Security  
The Balanced Act LLC  
Elite Referee LLC

### **Board Officers**

Andy Stine  
*Board Chair*

Paola Ramirez  
*Vice Chair*

Aaron Nagel  
*Treasurer*

### **Board Members**

Jeff Chapman  
Evan Husney  
Lee Zarzecki  
Emily Garnier  
Sharon Schneider  
James Davies

# 2024 Financials

TOTAL REVENUE

**\$832K**

TOTAL EXPENSE

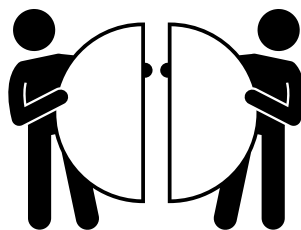
**\$828K**

NET INCOME

**\$4K**

Our financial strategy relies on both **earned and contributed income** to support long-term **sustainability**. As we fundraise for annual operating and programming costs, we are also building a **deferred maintenance fund** for capital repairs and ongoing maintenance needs for Soccer City Aurora.

50%  
EARNED  
INCOME



50%  
CONTRIBUTED  
INCOME

You can see our audited financials on our website at  
<https://coloradosoccerfoundation.org/reports/>



# Vision for the Future

*Expand the Field(s) of Opportunity! <<<*

**Our game plan is clear -- expand the field of opportunity by creating more Soccer City facilities.**



The strong demand for pick up play and accessible soccer programming at Soccer City Aurora (SCA) demonstrates the pressing need for more facilities like SCA. As soccer continues to grow in popularity, especially with North America hosting the Men's World Cup in 2026, and the women's professional soccer team coming to Denver, we are confident that soccer's reach will continue to expand. Kids deserve the opportunity to play soccer and experience all of the social, emotional, and physical benefits the game has to offer. *Please help us transform lives through the power of sports!*



**[Donate Here](#) or**



