



2025-26

ADAMS 14 IMPACT REPORT

PREPARED BY

KIDS FIRST HEALTH CARE

www.kidsfirsthealthcare.org



OUR HISTORY

For **48 years**, Kids First Health Care has been a trusted community partner in supporting the **health and well-being of students and families across Adams 14**.

Our roots in this community run deep—**Kids First proudly launched Colorado’s very first school-based health center here**, helping to shape a proven model of care that removes barriers and keeps kids healthy, learning and thriving.

Today, Kids First operates **four school-based health centers in Adams 14**, bringing high-quality, integrated pediatric care directly onto school campuses **where students already are**. Our school-based health centers provide **essential clinical care, at no cost to Adams 14**.

Our Commerce City community clinic serves patients from **birth through age 21**, ensuring continuity of care from early childhood through adolescence and young adulthood.

Together, these sites provide comprehensive medical, behavioral health, and preventive services that **support both academic success and lifelong wellness**.



OUR PATIENTS

Kids First Health Care is the **only nonprofit pediatric health care provider serving core Commerce City**, and we are proud to be a safe, welcoming place for families—regardless of insurance status, income or circumstance.

We are also the **only school-based health center provider in Adams County**.

We believe every child deserves access to high-quality care, and we are committed to serving those who often have the fewest options.

Today, 71 percent of Kids First patients are insured through Medicaid and CHP+, and **21 percent are uninsured, relying on Kids First as a critical health care lifeline**.

Through our school-based and community clinic model, Kids First Health Care **continues to advance health equity in Adams 14**—meeting children and families where they are, responding to community needs, and ensuring that access to care is never determined by zip code or ability to pay.



OUR PERFORMANCE

ATENCIÓN MÉDICA PARA NIÑOS Y JÓVENES
KIDSFIRSTHEALTHCARE.ORG



Kids First Health Care continues to **receive strong media attention for its innovative, community-based and co-location approach** to pediatric health care.

These earned media highlights recognize Kids First as a trusted leader **advancing equitable access to integrated medical, behavioral and oral health services** for children.

Having a highly skilled, mission-driven nonprofit like Kids First Health Care in Adams 14 **strengthens the entire community—improving health outcomes, supporting families where they are,** and ensuring children are healthy and prepared to attain powerful futures.

[Denver7 News](#)

[CBS4 Denver](#)

[Colorado Community Media](#)

[Colorado Community Media](#)

[Univision Colorado](#)

[Denver Post](#)

[CBS4 Denver](#)



Kids First Health Care has received significant recognition this year, highlighting both the organization’s impact and the strength of its leadership.

The agency was selected as the **recipient of the Economic Development Award for Leadership** at the 2026 Commerce City Business Appreciation Awards—underscoring its vital role in advancing community health and economic stability.

Executive Director **Whitney Gustin Connor** was awarded the **Inspiration Award** by the Colorado Youth Healthcare Alliance, recognizing her longstanding commitment to advancing health equity and championing school-based health care across Colorado.

Kids First was also honored with a nomination for Nonprofit of the Year by the Westminster Chamber of Commerce.



OUR IMPACT

UNIQUE PATIENTS

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 1,905 unique patients were seen across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



MEDICAL VISITS

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 4,140 medical health visits were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



OUR IMPACT

MENTAL HEALTH

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 1,866 mental health visits were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



WELL-CHILD CHECKS

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 988 well-child checks were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



OUR IMPACT

VACCINES

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 2,803 vaccines were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



ORAL HEALTH

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 1,358 oral health screenings were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



OUR IMPACT

DEPRESSION SCREENINGS

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), 1,117 depression screenings were provided across Kids First Health Care's five clinics in Commerce City.



ENROLLMENT

Over the 2025-26 school year (Aug. 1 - April 30), Kids First Health Care helped 263 children across Commerce City enroll in Medicaid or CHP+.



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Kids First Health Care plays an essential role in supporting children and youth across the Adams 14 community, ensuring students have access to high-quality, compassionate care right where they learn. Their school-based and community clinics strengthen families, reduce barriers to health services, and make a measurable difference in student well-being and stability.

Keith Morey
Director of Economic and Community Vitality
City of Commerce City

Kids First Health Care fill a gap in our community for ensuring that all children and youth have access to a medical home. Because they provide care for those who use Medicaid or are uninsured, they are helping to prevent potential health issues for those most at risk. Having behavioral health care on-site is a further demonstration of their commitment to whole person care. ECPAC greatly appreciates our partnership with Kids First and their dedication to not only providing healthcare to children and youth but their efforts to ensure they do this with dignity and respect for those they serve.

Lisa Jansen Thompson
Executive Director
Early Childhood Partnership of Adams County



OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Suncor is committed to supporting student achievement, and we recognize that young people’s physical, mental, and emotional health are essential to their ability to succeed in the classroom. Our partnership with Kids First Health Care helps ensure that students in Adams County School District 14 have access to high-quality, school-based care. That access translates into fewer absences, more instructional time, and stronger educational outcomes. With staff who are deeply connected to Commerce City and its schools, Kids First truly represents and serves the local community.

Brandy Radey
Senior Advisor, Community Relations
Suncor

Kids In Need of Dentistry (KIND) is thrilled to have such a strong partnership with Kids First Healthcare for so many reasons! To start, they spearheaded the effort to transform the South Platte Crossing Building into the C4 initiative, which in addition to housing the flagship KIND clinic, has changed how Adams County residents access services for the better. Day to day they have been a phenomenal partner in providing care; our status of next-door neighbors enables patients to walk directly from our clinic to theirs and vice versa, giving our families one fewer barrier to care and ensuring a warm handoff between clinics. Finally (though definitely not all) Kids First Healthcare was incredibly generous with their network and status as a keystone community member when they connected us with an affordable office for our administrative staff at Junction 72. KIND truly can't ask for a more steadfast partner in service to our shared community, and we are so grateful for our ongoing collaboration which we see reaching far into the future.

Brian Kirn
Communications and Philanthropy Manager
Kids In Need of Dentistry



OUR PATIENTS

A student was seen for some follow up lab work at school. Our providers noticed that the student's anemia was worsening, and they were having some worsening stomach pain and stool changes. We had concerns for possible GI ulcer or GI bleed, and needed an ASAP evaluation by a GI specialist. The student didn't have insurance, and family was worried about specialist costs. Our enrollment coordinator met with the family that day (staying late after work hours) to get immediate coverage for the patient, so they could be seen the following day by GI and scheduled for a endoscopy. It was determined that the patient had acute gastritis causing abdominal pain, anemia, syncope and fatigue. After treatment by GI in conjunction with management with the school-based health center, the patient has been doing much better, and has resolution of symptoms!

Through effective collaboration between therapy and medication management, Kids First Health Care successfully supported a student in achieving remarkable progress. The patient worked consistently in therapy while our nurse practitioner managed their medication regimen, creating a comprehensive treatment approach. The student reported feeling more positive and emotionally stable, with increased motivation to engage in daily activities and future planning. Most notably, their academic performance improved dramatically, with better focus, attendance, and grades. The student also demonstrated enhanced overall functioning, including improved relationships with peers and family, as well as greater self-confidence. This case exemplifies how integrated mental health care, combining therapeutic intervention with appropriate medication management and strong professional collaboration, can create meaningful, lasting change in a young person's life.



OUR OUTREACH

Kids First Health Care has demonstrated highly effective outreach in Commerce City, working proactively to connect families to essential care and remove barriers that often prevent access.

Through trusted community presence, partnerships and culturally responsive engagement, we meet families where they are—ensuring they understand their options and feel incredibly supported.

One powerful example is a family served through this outreach: a father who had recently lost his job and was caring for his children on his own. Unaware that he and his children qualified for Medicaid, he had not sought care due to cost concerns.

Through outreach efforts, Kids First Health Care was able to guide him through the enrollment process, securing Medicaid coverage for his entire family. Just as importantly, the children were able to be seen right away, receiving long overdue vaccinations and essential care.

Today, they are established patients with a consistent medical home at Kids First Health Care, ensuring ongoing access to the preventive and primary care they need to stay healthy and thrive.

This story reflects the broader impact of Kids First's outreach in Commerce City—meeting families with compassion, removing barriers and connecting them to the care ALL children deserve.



DENTAL IN ADAMS 14

Salud Dental’s partnership within Adams 14 plays a vital role in **expanding access to essential oral health services for students**, ensuring that dental care is both accessible and integrated into the school environment.

Working alongside Kids First Health Care, Salud Dental helps extend the reach of comprehensive, school-based health services—connecting with students across the district through screenings, preventive care, and treatment that **support their overall health and academic success**.

This strong collaboration reflects a shared commitment to meeting students where they are and **removing barriers to care**, allowing more children and youth to receive the dental services they need to thrive.