# STATE OF SUMMER 2018

AN OVERVIEW OF INVESTMENTS, RESULTS, AND FUTURE TRENDS
OF YOUTH PROGRAMS PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE





# ENGAGING OUR COMMUNITY

#### ONE ALBUQUERQUE YOUTH CONNECT

The mission of "ABQ Youth Connect" is to enrich the lives of the people of Albuquerque and create a community of safety and inclusion by connecting Albuquerque's youth to opportunities in the community.



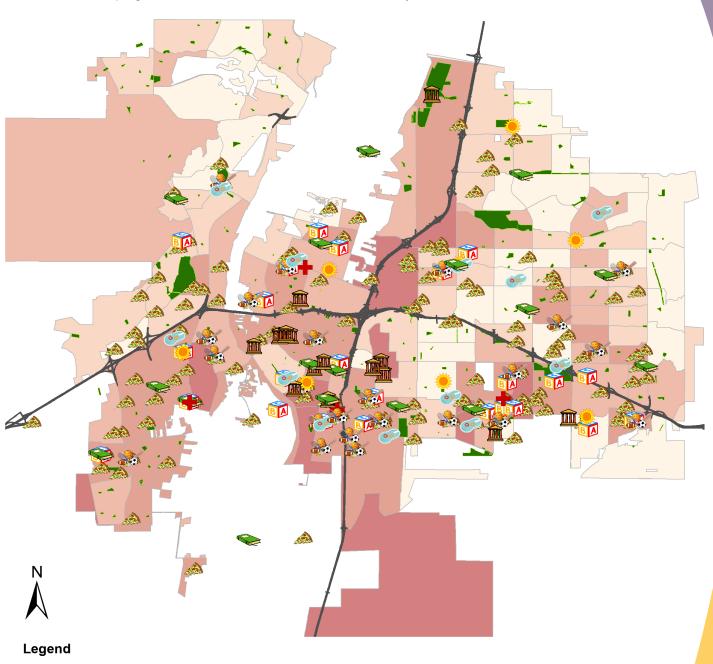
The City of Albuquerque has a pivotal role in serving youth in Albuquerque. Expanding access to effective youth programs in order to keep youth off the streets and out of harm's way is a top priority of Mayor Tim Keller's administration. The City Council supported this significant effort by providing approximately one million dollars in additional funds in the FY19 budget.

Family and Community Services, Parks and Recreation, Cultural Services, Senior Affairs, and the Transit Departments work collaboratively to provide summer and out-of-school opportunities for children and young people.

During Mayor Keller's first summer in office, many departments took steps to expand opportunities for youth and families. Each community center opened up 25 additional slots, increasing enrollment by 31%. Family and Community Services also began offering an array of Teen Nights at community centers ranging from Glow-in-the-Dark Dodgeball, to MMA Night, to a Basketball Tournament, and more. Parks & Recreation expanded the hours at four, popular pools; distributed 70,000 free pool passes, and increased swim lesson enrollment by 17%. The Transit Department worked with other departments to distribute 1,500 free summer bus passes to youth.

#### City of Albuquerque Youth Program Sites

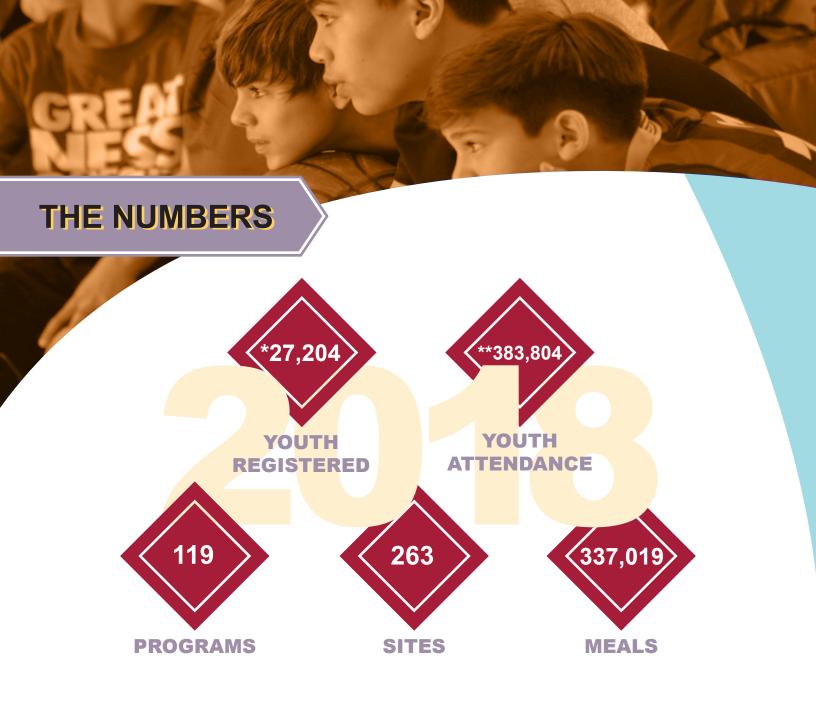
The west side of Albuquerque is an area of great population growth. Many families in this part of town have experienced difficulty in registering for summer programs. This year, the City took steps to address the challenges and to ensure that more families on the west side have access to and participate in summer programs. These efforts will increase in the next year.



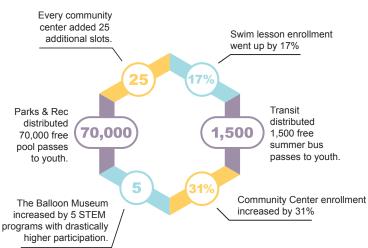
#### **Facility Type**



Opportunity index incorporates % in poverty, % unemployed, and % without a highschool education to determine which neighborhoods have higher or lower levels of need









#### **SKILLS FOR SUCCESS**

The City is focused on ensuring that all children have access to an array of leaning opportunities that include outdoor adventures, the arts and cultural & community engagement. Taking part in these programs help kids improve their academic skills as well as important social, artistic, and athletic skills.

**EARLY LEARNING** – An array of activities and experiences that impact developmental changes in children prior to their entry into kindergarten.

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURES** – Activities that get youth outdoors and exploring the wonders of Albuquerque's environment.

**HEALTH AND FITNESS** – Programs and activities that enhance youth overall well-being by encouraging movement and physical activity.





**FUN AND EDUCATION** – Programs that provide academic support and foster school success.

**THE ARTS** – An assortment of creative activities for youth and families.

**CULTURAL & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** – Programs that engage youth in meaningful, intergenerational, community focused activities that recognize and support cultural activities.

WWW.CABQ.GOV/YOUTH-CONNECT

#### **OUR STAFF & OUR KIDS**

IN 2018 THE CITY HIRED 1,090 STAFF MEMBERS WITH AN AVERAGE AGE OF 18

76%
BEING
YOUTH OF

The City of Albuquerque has a long-standing tradition of offering a multitude of summer employment opportunities for youth. Jobs include recreation leaders, swim instructors and lifeguards, the Bosque Youth Corps, tennis and pickleball instructors, cashiers, as well as various internships and other opportunities across departments.



Investment in Summer Youth Employees by Year







"Metro League was really cool. I swam at Wilson Pool, and we had awesome coaches. The swim meets and water polo games were really fun." - Tristan Gibson



"The Bosque Youth Corps has taught me about conservation and the efforts it takes to care for such a beautiful natural resource that is cherished by our community" - Ben Work

"I love my swimming lessons because I get to kick and I like to splash – and to jump in!" - Denally Ordonez

"I loved working with the kids that are a part of the families that make up the communities of ABQ. I believe the ability to swim and knowledge of water safety is a vital skill that is invaluable to a child's wellbeing and it was an honor and joy to pass that knowledge on to the youth of the Horizon program." -Jordan Busse



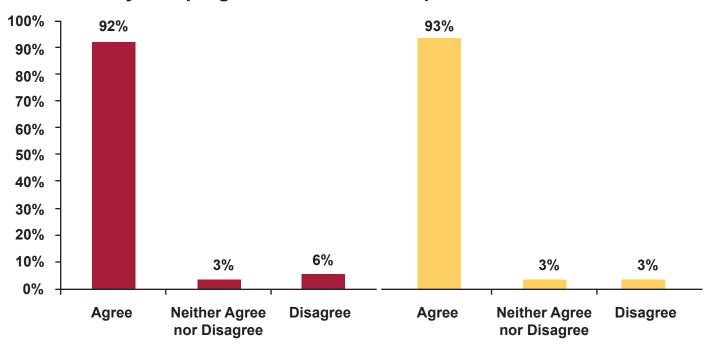
#### **SURVEY RESULTS**

Mayor Keller is committed to expanding investment to create quality and inclusive out of school time activities for young people in Albuquerque. To ensure that the City's expanded investment in programs work for youth and families, regular evaluation is being implemented. This summer, parents who had children enrolled in City summer programs were surveyed.

Surveys were sent by email and parents were given two weeks to fill out the questionnaire. A link to the survey was also placed on a number of City webpages. In all, 919 parents completed the survey. Overwhelmingly, parents were very happy with their experience in the City's summer youth programs and are likely to recommend that other families send their children to these programs. A full report of the survey findings, including feedback around improvements to City summer youth programs will be released this fall.

### I was satisfied with my family's experience with the City's summer youth programs.

#### I would recommend the City summer youth program to other parents.



Strongly Agree and Agree responses are collapsed into an "Agree" category. Strongly Disagree and Disagree responses are collapsed into a "Disagree" category. Number of responses are 918 and 916 respectively.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

#### **ONE ABQ YOUTH CONNECT**

In the coming year, ONE ABQ Youth Connect will work to increase partnerships between the City, local non-profit organizations, and businesses to increase the investment in the number, variety, and quality of opportunities available for youth and families in order to keep youth off the streets and out of harm's way.

#### **EQUITY & INCLUSION**

Summer youth programs are an important tool in making the city a safer and more inclusive place to live. This requires ensuring that all Albuquerque families have equitable access to the City's youth programs. Going forward, the City will work to identify and mitigate barriers to participation, especially amongst families of color; offer a wider range of linguistically and culturally appropriate programs; and provide more outreach to communities that have been traditionally underrepresented. The City is committed to increasing employment opportunities for youth of color and disadvantaged youth.

#### **EVALUATION & DATA**

One of the major goals of the City is providing programs that all Albuquerque families find accessible and valuable. The City plans to increase the use of data and analysis to evaluate how well goals are reached. In the next year, the City will be working to develop better systems to integrate all of the data that is currently being collected by City departments implementing youth programs. The City will identify ways to collect additional data on the effectiveness of these programs. Data will collected on program participation and satisfaction, as well as on participation and the experience of summer youth staff.

## ONE ABQ YOUTH CONNECT



#### For more information, visit the following:

www.cabq.gov/mayor
www.cabq.gov/youth-connect
www.cabq.gov/culturalservices
www.cabq.gov/family
www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation
www.cabq.gov/seniors
www.cabq.gov/transit

#### **ONE ABQ YOUTH CONNECT**

Would like to thank all of our partners.

\*Partners are currently contracted to provide services on behalf of the City of Albuquerque.

