



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://www.thinklikeageniusfoundation.org/#!/challenge/dyttb>

## PROTECTING AND NURTURING POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH IN YOUTH WAS THE FOCUS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL THINK LIKE A GENIUS FOUNDATION CHALLENGE

### *Youth teams competed to solve local community issues*

*Denver, Colo., August 4, 2018*--- Mayor Michael B. Hancock and Ryan Harris, Denver Bronco Champion, Super Bowl 50, helped kick-off the Think Like a Genius 2018 Annual Challenge on June 16th. Twenty-eight young people, between the ages of 14 and 19, and their Adult Team Leaders from some of the Denver area's largest youth organizations spent part of their summer vacation working in seven teams to help develop and implement programs to improve mental health for youth in their communities. Girls Inc. of Metro Denver took 1<sup>st</sup> Place, while the Cope Boys and Girls Club of Metro Denver took 2<sup>nd</sup> Place and The Mayor's Youth Commission took 3<sup>rd</sup> Place.

Presented by the Think Like a Genius® Foundation, the TLGF Challenge is an annual event that support Metro Denver teams to develop and implement viable solutions to community issues by tapping into the creative talent of local inner city youth. Using the Think Like A Genius® Roadmap to Success™ program, the teams gathered on Saturday, June 16th, to develop their ideas and plans for improving the impact of mental health issues for youth in their community. They then implemented their plans from June 16<sup>th</sup> to August 3<sup>rd</sup>, and presented their results to a panel of judges on Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Winners received cash awards of \$3,000 for first place, \$1,500 for second place, and \$750 for third place.

Teams confirmed in the Challenge for 2018 are from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Denver, Girls Incorporated of Metro Denver, Colorado Uplift, the Mayor's Youth Commission of Denver, College Track, Aurora, and St. Charles Recreation Center

Think Like a Genius Foundation received support from Corporate Mentors from Morgan Stanley, DTC, Rachio, RICHO, CenturyLink and Daniels Fund.

Last year's very successful 2017 Challenge had teams develop ways to help prevent bullying in their community (school, social media, etc.)

**Deja Maestas- 2017, Youth of the Year, Cope Boys & Girls Club of Metro Denver. Member of the Think Like a Genius Foundation Youth Leadership Board-**

" Think Like a Genius Foundation is an outlet, a door for something more for yourself, something more for our youth in our communities. It shows you the impact you can have on yourself, your community and the world to help see that our future is brighter."

"It empowers you and your community to create the world you would like to see and live in. It's an opportunity that allows to feel you can create change."

The Think Like A Genius Foundation is a Colorado-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in 2010 that helps youth realize their potential by teaching them how to set and attain their goals. The Think Like A Genius process has been used for more than 20 years to help Fortune 500 companies and others find innovative solutions to their most pressing issues.

For more information about:

- the Think Like A Genius Foundation <http://www.thinklikeageniusfoundation.org>
- the 2018 Challenge <http://www.thinklikeageniusfoundation.org/#!/challenge/dyttb>
- how to participate as an individual or corporate sponsor, contact:  
Eric Siler at 720-988-8854 or [esiler@thinklikeageniusfoundation.org](mailto:esiler@thinklikeageniusfoundation.org).

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