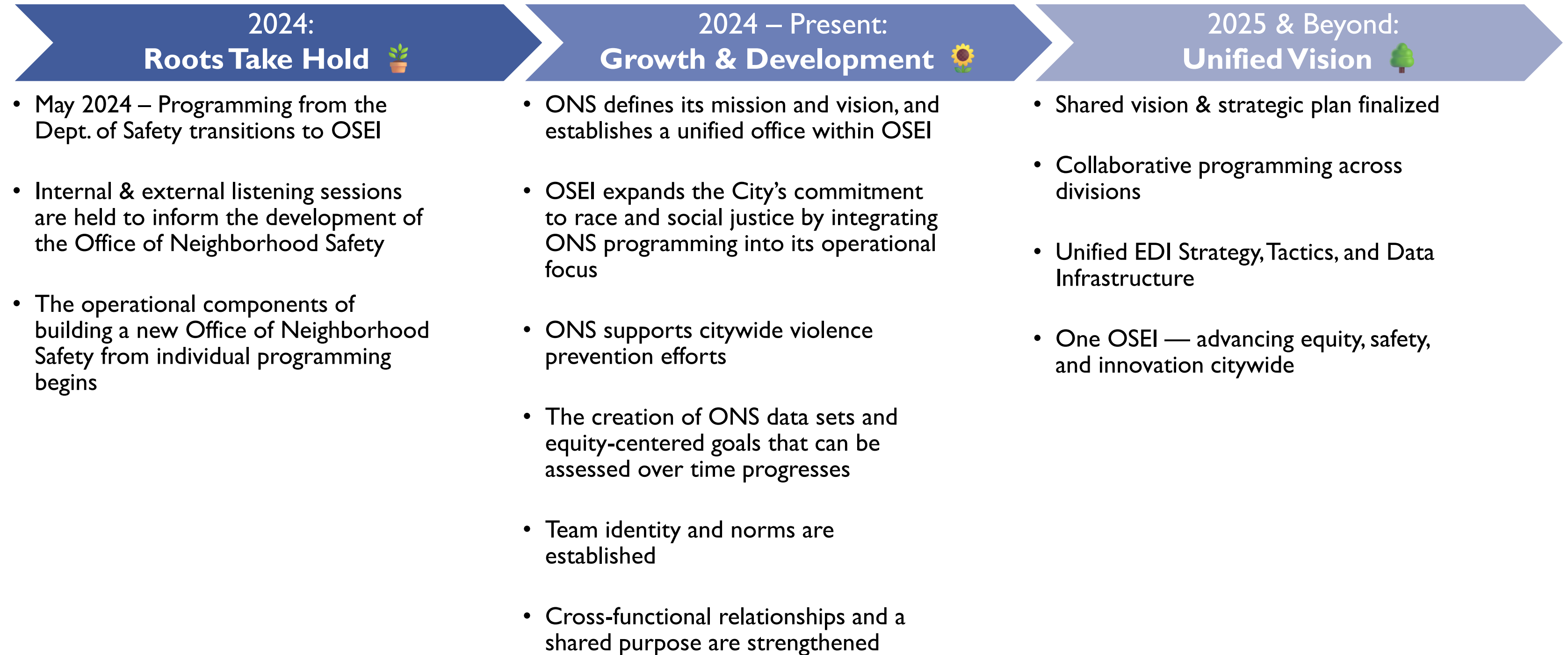


Office of Neighborhood Safety



Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) Timeline



Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS): Equity-Centered, Focused, Impactful

Equity-Centered	Housed within an equity office, ONS centers social justice, data, and community voice to build trust, direct resources where harm is greatest and expand opportunity instead of deepening disparities.
Focused Coordination	ONS functions as a focused, coordinated system that moves Denver from fragmented responses to a clear prevention-to-intervention continuum.
Integrated Response	Each operational component has a clear role but functions as one engine: screening and assessment identify need; diversion and prevention steer youth away from deeper system contact; interruption stops immediate harm; and justice-involved youth who are arrested are connected to supportive services.
Unified Impact	The result is a unified community safety model that interrupts cycles of violence, strengthens family and community capacity, expands pathways to opportunity, and invests in safer neighborhoods..

Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS): Continuum of Services

RISK/NEED	LOWEST	LOW TO MODERATE	MODERATE TO HIGH	HIGHEST
TARGET POPULATION	General Youth Population	Youth Showing Early Warning Signs or Risk Factors: Truancy, Minor Behavioral Issues	Youth with Multiple Risk Factors: Family Function, Substance Use, Minor Delinquency, Exposure to Violence	Young Adult: Older Adolescents, Early Adulthood
SYSTEM INVOLVEMENT	None	Minimal: School counseling, community groups	Moderate: Some juvenile justice contact, child welfare involvement, regular mental health services	High: Corrections, intensive probation, long-term therapeutic placements
GOAL	Foster positive, safe environments for all youth through proactive, broad services that build protective factors and lower community risk, preventing violence before it emerges.	Deliver targeted supports to youth showing early warning signs or specific risk factors to prevent involvement in or victimization by violence.	Provide intensive, individualized, multi-agency services for youth with complex risk factors or problematic behaviors to prevent violence and reduce system involvement.	Provide crisis-focused and rehabilitative services for youth and young adults with significant violence histories or deep system involvement to interrupt cycles of harm and support successful community reintegration.
PRIMARY STRATEGY	Promote Protective Factors	Address specific risk factors and building resilience	Deliver intensive, trauma-informed interventions that disrupt pathways to violence and provide comprehensive, coordinated support.	Provide crisis intervention, rehabilitation, and coordinated community reintegration to halt violence and ensure long-term safety.
SERVICES	- Universal prevention programs – social emotional learning in schools - Community positive youth development - after school clubs; team sports; mentorship - Public awareness campaigns - anti bullying; mental wellness outreach - Safe supportive schools - trauma informed practices; restorative discipline - Parental education - positive discipline and caregiver skill building	- Targeted mentoring - one on one relationships for at risk youth - Conflict resolution and anger management - short workshops and skill practice - Academic support and tutoring - focused help to improve school engagement - Thematic group counseling - grief, family conflict, and other focused groups - Skill building programs - social skills, refusal skills, and decision making	- Individual and family therapy - Intensive case management - Diversion programs from juvenile justice - Specialized school programs for at-risk youth - Substance abuse treatment - Trauma-informed care	- Hospital-based violence intervention - Residential treatment facilities - Intensive parole/probation supervision with integrated services - Gang intervention and desistance programs - Reentry support for youth returning from incarceration - Crisis intervention teams - Long-term therapeutic interventions for severe trauma/PTSD

Youth Violence Prevention (YVP)

What is Denver's Youth Violence Prevention Initiative?

A comprehensive, metro-wide strategy, rooted in community, equity, collaboration, interdependence, best practices, and collective action to drive systemic change.

Focused on individuals who are 11-24 years of age and at the greatest risk of being impacted by violence.

What is Denver's Youth Violence Prevention Programming?

YVP programming is 100% grant-funded to community-based organizations and providers, with the intention of centering young people most impacted by violence, building trusting and transformational relationships, and offering holistic, wraparound support that fosters long-term healing, belonging, and flourishing.

Centering those youth/students ages 11-14 who are at the greatest risk of being impacted by violence and are not system-involved.



Whole Person Focused

We support youth and families as full human beings, nurturing their mental, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual well-being



Healing-Centered

We respond to trauma, mental health, systemic oppression, and generational harm with culturally responsive, whole-person healing that prioritizes connection and transformation.



Relentlessly Consistent

We earn trust through presence, follow-through, and a long-term commitment to walk alongside youth and community. We never give up, especially on those who have been failed or overlooked by systems of support



Grounded in Love

We embody a love that holds those closest to harm with deep empathy, unwavering dignity, and a judgment-free presence, believing that to truly love humanity is to labor for its healing and collective liberation



Rooted in Equity

We know that many forms of violence are rooted in systemic oppression, racism, and disinvestment. We seek to address root causes, providing direct services and advocating for systemic change



Data Driven



Youth & Community Led

Juvenile Diversion & Deflection

A proactive, equity-centered approach to youth accountability and development that redirects youth away from formal court processes into individualized plans that mentor, stabilize, and support youth and their family.

Municipal Diversion & Alternative to Citation

The Municipal Juvenile Diversion Program and the Alternative to Citation Program provides an alternative sentencing option for youth cited for Municipal Ordinance Violations. Programming focuses on identifying underlying issues contributing to negative behavior, holding youth accountable for their actions, and creating a diversion plan that supports positive youth development.

Family Focus

Under ONS, Diversion has expanded its approach, where parents play key role as stakeholders and participants in the diversion plan of their children from the initial intake through the end of the process.

Programmatic Impact

Jan-Oct. 2025:

- 168 clients completed Diversion and ATC (90.50% completion rate), with 87 clients pending completion.
- 95% in-person intake
- Reduced the time spent on diversion from 6 to 3 months

Runaway, Outreach, Notification, & Intervention (RONI) Project

Ensuring the safety of youth by understanding the reasons behind running behavior, preventing future incidents, and providing ongoing support. This includes identifying the needs and goals of both the youth and their families and addressing them through services and resources offered by the Office of Neighborhood Safety in collaboration with our community partner organizations.

Who We Serve

- 17 Years of Age & Under
- Youth who reside in Denver, have runaway from Denver/Denver nexus
- Voluntary Referrals

Intake/Outreach Specialists

- Notifications to Professionals/Systems/Schools
- Safety Planning/Harm Reduction
- Assessing Youth & Family Needs
- Collaboration to Support Youth & families to Thrive

2025 Data (approximate)

- Over 700 Runaway Reports: 53% Female 44% Male 3% Non-binary/Transgender
- 71.2 % BIPOC

Denver Anti-Trafficking Alliance Multi-Disciplinary Team (DATA MDT)

The DATA MDT provides a holistic and multidisciplinary collaboration to identify and respond to children and youth at risk of or experiencing human trafficking with a Denver connection. The DATA MDT commits to approaches of healing and justice that are trauma-responsive, survivor-centered, and culturally responsive. We seek to alleviate the harm caused by systems and the gaps within them by building trust with youth and families by providing services and support.

Who We Serve

- 24 Years of Age & Under
- Youth identified as high risk for human trafficking/sexual exploitation or confirmed victim of human trafficking/sexual exploitation

Youth Outreach Specialists

- Safety Planning/Harm Reduction
- Wraparound Support
- Advocate for Youth's Wants & Needs
- Walk Alongside our Youth

2025 Data (approximate)

- 53 New Referrals: 66% BIPOC 81% Female 10% Nonbinary/Transgender
- 23-46 rereview cases monthly
- 11-18 Missing/high priority cases monthly

Helping Youth Pursue Excellence (HYPE) Program

The HYPE Program has multiple service options for justice-involved youth who are 14-18 years of age

- Educational Support
- Restorative Services – Victim Impact Group
- Community Service (youth and young adult) – Pay off restitution
- Community Engagement – food boxes, Food Truck, Youth Summit
- Vocational Program – 10-week comprehensive professional learning opportunity that gives youth a chance to “earn as they learn”. Sixty-two youth successfully completed 3 tracks in 2025 and were paid an hourly wage of \$18.81 for a 24-hour work week

Safe City Youth Leadership Team

A team of 14 individuals 14-24 years old, representative of Denver

- Established by youth to give other youth from diverse social & economic backgrounds the opportunity to exchange ideas on anti-crime/violence issues to effect policy changes with local and national leaders
- Program combines leadership training, youth employment, peer-centered pro-social activities, civic engagement learning projects and volunteer projects
- Team hosts Annual Safe City Youth Summit in the spring for 400 youth

Community Violence Solutions

The Gang/Group/Gun Intervention Program provides long-term, structured & personalized support for critically at-risk individuals in Denver with 90% of our clientele being Black and Brown community members—facing life-threatening circumstances or potential incarceration. Our approach addresses survival-based behaviors that have become normalized in marginalized communities.

Through coordinated case management, mentoring, violence interruption, and service navigation, we help clients build safer, more stable lives. We collaborate with nonprofits, faith-based groups, and community organizations to deliver holistic, culturally responsive care.

Community-aligned Our Interventionists work directly in the community, meeting clients in their everyday environments; at home, school, work, or in social settings. We are not a supervisory program and do not require clients to report to us but instead, we go to them. This approach reduces stigma, builds trust, and allows us to better understand how daily interactions shape behavior and outcomes, leading to more informed and effective support

Community Mobilization

Community Partnerships

ONS funds Secondary Prevention, Gender-specific Intervention, and Violence Interruption services within the community.

Current providers include: The Struggle of Love Foundation, the Gang Rescue and Support Project (GRASP), Life-line Colorado, Tha Myx, Seeing our Adolescents Rise (SOAR), The Denver Dream Center, Collaborative Healing Intervention within Communities (CHIC)

Safe Haven Network

A responsive network of faith-based institutions and community organizations that mobilizes within 72 hours of a violent incident to offer communication, resources, and — most importantly — hope to communities directly impacted by gun violence. Activations may include prayer walks, partial engagements with resource tables, or full-scale events featuring food, beverages, services, and spiritual support

Outreach Collaborative

A monthly convening of approximately 15 outreach organizations to discuss community issues, align efforts, and collaboratively plan events that support neighborhood safety and engagement

Colorado Youth Detention Continuum (CYDC)

Detention screening and pretrial release services for youth ages 10–17 arrested in Denver and charged with a misdemeanor or felony.

State Oversight

CYDC is overseen by the Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Youth Services, implemented locally by Juvenile Services Planning Committees and district coordinators, and advised by a Statewide Advisory Board of juvenile justice professionals.

City Administration

The City serves as the administrative backbone that operationalizes CYDC locally by aligning fiscal, HR, contracting, data, and compliance functions to deliver equitable, effective detention screening and pretrial services.

Operational Focus

CYDC manages youth referrals to secure detention, assess risk, and provide support. CYDC only holds youth with severe offenses to minimize unnecessary justice-system involvement. When detention is necessary, CYDC ensures supports address root causes and promote positive youth development.

Effective Intervention

In 2024/25, CYDC served over 300 youth and maintained a 6% or less recidivism rate, along with failure to appear rate.

ONS Data Systems

ONS Data are on a continuous improvement journey to a full-stack, modern, impact-generating data system

Past State

- Disjointed data systems
- Tedious, repetitive, manual data entry
- No data-driven insights



Current State

- Digital data system for each program
- Save 100+ hours per month of staff time; data-driven program insights
- Systems remain disconnected from each other



Future State

- Establish new CCD standard for modern data systems
- Fully automated data entry, storage, analysis, and visualization
- Rigorous, comprehensive storytelling of ONS's impact



Questions?

