



July 15, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COLORADO RESIDENT SPENDS SUMMER HIKING FOR KIDS

Emily Beehler is spending her summer hiking trails and summiting peaks in an effort to give Colorado's kids the opportunity to follow her footsteps.

Beehler, 24, is participating in the Colorado Mountain Club's MountainUp crowd-fundraising program. Her goal is to hike 100 miles and summit as many 14ers as possible this summer to raise money for the CMC's Youth Education Program.

[MountainUp](#) is a choose-your-adventure campaign that allows Colorado residents to set their sights on a personal milestone, set a fundraising goal and set themselves up for a rewarding summer outdoors. The campaign is running from July 1-Aug. 31 to raise funds for conservation, outdoor skills education and Colorado's leading voice for the mountains.

Beehler is currently a youth counselor for the Youth Education Program, spending her days working with children who rarely get to experience the outdoors. She decided to MountainUp and donate the proceeds to YEP to help create even more opportunities for kids to get outside.

"Some of our YEP kids get here and ask us if Woolly Mammoths live in the mountains. It's always awesome to work with kids who have never explored our state before, because by the end of the day you can tell you've changed their whole perspective," Beehler said.

Beehler's experiences and interactions with the YEP participants have also changed her own perspective on Colorado,

"A lot of those kids come from some tough backgrounds. Many of the kids we work with wouldn't be able to afford our most basic classes if it weren't for the scholarships the CMC provides. I want to help make sure there will be enough of that money for the future," Beehler said.

The funds she raises will be put toward YEP scholarships, adding new programs and growing the number of kids impacted through YEP. To contribute to Emily's campaign and learn more about her story, visit her [ColoradoGives page](#).

To learn more about MountainUp or to sign up, visit www.cmc.org/mountainup.

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About CMC: *The Colorado Mountain Club is the state's leading organization dedicated to adventure, recreation, conservation and education. Founded in 1912, the CMC acts as a gateway to the mountains for novices and experts alike, offering an array of year-round activities, events and schools centered on outdoor recreation.*