

# RITE NOW @ ROP



## **Colorado Qualifying House Youth Support Historic Pack Burro Race**

This past Sunday, the young men and staff of the Colorado Qualifying House had the unique opportunity to support a true Colorado tradition—the annual “Run Your A\*\* Off” Pack Burro Race in beautiful Idaho Springs, CO.

Joining 84 spirited teams from across the region, the youth helped prepare and manage course reception areas, ensuring runners, burros, and spectators were warmly welcomed. Their contributions included setting up areas for food, drinks, seating, and shelter—creating a festive and supportive environment for all involved. The students were excited to support this fun and meaningful event, knowing that all proceeds from the race would directly benefit local organizations and community efforts.

Pack burro racing is a sport indigenous to Colorado, rooted in the state’s rich mining history. In the early days, miners would lead burros loaded with supplies through the rugged mountain terrain in search of gold and silver. Since riding the animals was not possible, the miners and their burros formed close, hard-working partnerships. Today’s races honor that legacy and the enduring spirit of the miners and their animals and in 2012, Colorado officially recognized pack burro racing as its summer heritage sport, further solidifying its place in the state’s cultural and historical fabric.

The young men of the Colorado Qualifying House not only learned about this unique piece of history but also played an active role in preserving and celebrating it through service and community involvement.