

Rural Solutions
Executive Director's Activity Report
For October 2009
Submitted by Jackie Reynolds

Highlights of October

- Well. Then there was the Legislative Breakfast. It was going to be a great event with around 60 people registered. Thanks to Debbie and her committee for all the hard work to make this event successful. It would have been successful too! Nice snow though.
- The State Strategic Use Funds (SSUF) grant and the NECLAG/ARRA grant began September 1st. The grant will fund the *Getting Ahead Program* in the counties in NE Colorado. The grant is a collaborative effort with the following organizations:
 - Rural Solutions in Logan County
 - Washington County Connections,
 - Resource Center in Yuma County.
 - Prairie Family Center in Burlington.
 - Morgan County Family Center.
 - Pam Gibbs, facilitator, in Sedgwick and Phillips counties.
 - Rose Padilla, facilitator, in Elbert and Lincoln counties.
- Centennial Mental Health has received a grant through the work of the First Lady of Colorado, Jeannie Ritter. I have been asked to represent Rural Solutions on the advisory council for this project. The "Centennial Mental Health's Communities Coming Together for Mental Health Initiative" met for the first time in Yuma in October with community stakeholders who are interested in integrated mental health services in Northeast Colorado.
- The FDC training (training for family resource workers in our region) continues to go well. We met twice in October in Akron.
- Rural Solutions received a grant through the Office of Suicide Prevention for Project Safety Net. This grant will provide more support for our current suicide prevention programs. In addition, Maranda and CMH staff will become ASIST trainers for NE Colorado. They will then provide ASIST trainings to professionals who work with people who may be suicidal. This training is expensive and intensive so we are excited to bring it to our region. This is a great collaborative effort with CMH.
- Don't forget that we have a small meeting room in our office if you need to use it, holds about 8 comfortably with phone conferencing available.

Financial News

- Safety Net Grant will be around November 15, 2009. Total grant for year one: \$52,175.

- Our accountant Dave Kauffman met with Michelle to complete our 990 tax return, due November 15th. He is doing a review of our financial records this year.

Preventing Suicide Initiative and Office of Suicide Prevention Grant for Seniors.

- Please see Maranda's monthly report.

Health Disparities Grant

- Please see Michelle's monthly report.

Rural Philanthropy Days Continuation Grant

- We have scheduled a QuickBooks for Nonprofits for November 20th.
- We are working on a new edition of the RPD Newsletter for November.
- We have also scheduled a Social Media/Online Giving Training on January 26th in Fort Morgan.

Fatherhood Initiative

- Please see Glenda's report.

Community Connections

- October 8th: Attended Washington County Action Team meeting in Akron.
- October 14th: Had a very interesting phone conference with Courtney Drake, NE contact person, from El Pomar. They are very interested in our Resource Directory and its effectiveness in our region. They want to create such a directory in other regions in Colorado and wanted to know if we might be interested in such a project. Wow! Interesting thought. RS goes Statewide.
- October 15, 22nd: Bridges out of Poverty training in Morgan County.
- October 16th: FDC training in Akron.
- October 20th: Attended Linking Yuma County meeting in Wray.
- October 20th: Attended "Centennial Mental Health's Communities Coming Together for Mental Health Initiative" meeting in Yuma.
- October 26th: Attended local CASA meeting in Sterling.
- October 27th: Attended Progressive 15 Logan County lunch meeting at NJC.
- October 27th: Participated in phone meeting for the "Centennial Mental Health's Communities Coming Together for Mental Health Initiative" advisory meeting.
- October 28th: Gave the "Understanding the 990 Form" presentation to Help for Abused Partners Board.
- October 28th: Attended the 211 meeting in Sterling.
- October 30th: Cancelled the 2009 Legislative Breakfast.
- October 31st: Postponed the Getting Ahead Facilitator Training until November 10th.

Upcoming Events and News:

- November 5th and 6th: Child Abuse Study Summit in Denver. This summit is designed to bring together resource agencies/organizations in NE Colorado and funding resources. We will have good representation group from the region.

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Reynolds
November 1, 2009