

**Rural Solutions  
Executive Director's Activity Report  
For February/March 2011  
Submitted by Jackie Reynolds**

**Highlights of February/March 2011**

- Second Wind Fund fundraiser event is April 16<sup>th</sup> at Riverview Golf Club in Sterling. Staff are working hard to make this event successful—and fun! Please attend.
- Logan County DSS staff provided a child abuse training for Rural Solutions and Help for Abused Partners staff in February. There was quite a lot of discussion about whether Rural Solutions' staff were classified as mandated reporters.
- I completed a Bridges out of Poverty training in February in Fort Morgan with about 40 professionals attending.
- The SSUF grant continues to go well. In February and March, 10 programs have been meeting throughout the region. Some are completed and some are still in progress. Several classes are scheduled for April through June when the grant ends. I have attached information I gave to human services directors when I met with them in March 24<sup>th</sup>. We have exceeded the goal of the grant and provided the program for almost twice as many people in the region than we anticipated. Daniel Brisson, evaluator from the University of Denver has met with several groups and interviewed investigators. He is also working on evaluation collection for the program. There have been several graduations in March, which are the most fun to attend!
- I have almost finished the small 211 project with Weld County United Way to expand/update this database. Around 30 agencies/organizations throughout the 7-county region were added or updated in the database.
- I have been working on yearly evaluations but have not completed them. They will be completed by May 1st.
- The steering committee for the 2012 Rural Philanthropy Days project met again in early March. Rural Solutions will continue to provide some support to the project for the next few months. The RPD event will be held in June 2012, most likely in Morgan County.
- I continue to meet with Phillips County social services staff, Nici Bishop from economic development, and Trisha Herman from Phillips County Education Services to develop programs and services in the county, including the Getting Ahead Program and Job Club classes developed by the Workforce Center.

**Financial News**

## Community Connections

- February 3<sup>rd</sup>: Maranda and I attended United Way of Logan County awards banquet. The Second Wind Fund was awarded United Way funds to work with young people in Logan County.
- February 16<sup>th</sup>: Attended annual NECALG luncheon in Akron. Rural Solutions was featured during the meeting.
- March 2<sup>nd</sup>: Attended RPD meeting in Yuma.
- March 3<sup>rd</sup>: Attended the Governor's Bottom-up Economic Development Plan Initiative Northeast Regional Meeting in Haxtun.
- March 9<sup>th</sup>: Attended meeting at Weld County United Way office in Greeley to visit their office and review the 211 project. Met with staff and Steve Romero to discuss the future of 211 in the region.
- March 12: Delivered 3-hour Bridges out of Poverty training to CASA volunteers and Logan County resource center mentors.
- March 15: Attended Linking Yuma County meeting in Yuma.
- March 15<sup>th</sup>: Visited GAP class in Phillips County for the evening.
- March 21<sup>st</sup>: Attended CASA Advisory Committee meeting in Sterling.
- March 21<sup>st</sup>: Attended Executive Director's support group meeting by phone. We discussed the book Who Moved My Cheese and the implication of the books' message to leaders.
- March 23<sup>rd</sup>: Ate lunch with Scott Bates from CDPHE. Scott is the director for the Colorado Children's Trust Fund.
- March 24<sup>th</sup>: Met with human services directors at their monthly meeting to discuss the Getting Ahead Program, the successes of the program in each of the counties and possibilities for sustaining the program after the grant ends.
- March 28<sup>th</sup>: 211 staff was in our office to meet with organizations in the region to continue development/updating their database.
- March 29: Attended the Blending and Braiding: Making the Most of Public Funding workshop in Akron.
- March 31<sup>st</sup>: Attended the Northeast Child Protection Safety meeting in Sterling.

## Upcoming Events and News:

- April 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturday: Second Wind Fund fundraiser event in Sterling.
- June 1<sup>st</sup>: Rural Solutions Annual Golf Raffle drawing in Sterling.
- June 17<sup>th</sup>: Legislative Breakfast in Akron.
- June 29<sup>th</sup>: Rural Solutions Annual Meeting. Location to be determined.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jackie Reynolds  
Executive Director  
April 1, 2011