



# RURAL SOLUTIONS

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*Mission Statement:*

*"It is the mission of Rural Solutions to collaborate to address issues and create positive solutions for the health and well being of our diverse communities in Northeast Colorado."*

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

9 a.m.

Logan County Central Services Building  
Sterling, Colorado

<b>Board of Directors</b>		<b>Present</b>
<b>Rick Agan</b>	Washington County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Lisa Ault</b>	Sedgwick County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Sandy Baker</b>	Area Agency on Aging	<b>X</b>
<b>Colette Barksdale</b>	Lincoln County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Patricia Brewster-Willeke (Becky Meyer)</b>	Rural Communities Resource Center	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Fred Crawford</b>	Logan County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>John Crosthwait</b>	Northeast Colorado Health Department	<b>X</b>
<b>Mary Gross</b>	Morgan County Family Center	
<b>Celia Hardin</b>	Eastern Colorado Workforce Center	
	Yuma County Department of Social Services	
<b>Liz Hickman</b>	Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc.	<b>X</b>
<b>Judy McFadden</b>	Phillips County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Kindra Mulch</b>	Kit Carson Health and Human Services	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Judy Fehringer</b>	Eastern CO Services for the Developmentally Disabled	<b>X</b>
<b>Steve Romero</b>	Morgan County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Ruth Seedorf</b>	Baby Bear Hugs	<b>X</b>
<b>Debbie Zwirn</b>	County Commissioner	<b>X</b>
<b><u>Ex-Officio Members</u></b>		
<b>Sheila Anzlovar</b>	Northeast Colorado Child Resource and Referral	
<b>Glenda Bang</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Maranda Miller</b>	Rural Solutions Project Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Jackie Reynolds</b>	Rural Solutions Executive Director	<b>X</b>
<b>Michelle Sharp</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Mickie Sjoberg</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	
<b>Jerri Spear</b>	CO. Dept. of Human Services Field Administrator	

- A. Call to Order – 9:08 a.m.
  - a. Changes to the Agenda
  - b. In-kind Reporting – Members filled out in-kind reporting sheets and were reminded to include time spent on Rural Solutions work during the month.
  - c. Proxies Discussion – none.
  - d. Introductions were made.
- B. Consent Items
  - a. Minutes of January 6, 2010 meeting will be reviewed at March’s meeting.
  - b. January 2010 Financial Statement –Restricted and Unrestricted numbers need to be included in the report. Ruth moved to accept the report. Steve seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.
  - c. January 2010 Executive Director’s Report – Jackie reported on statistics she collected from work completed in January 2010. They included: mileage 6125 miles we visited all 10 counties, Staff talked to about 352 people in some capacity of Rural Solutions, and staff trained 1,048 people. Other information is in her monthly report. Rural Solutions has about \$90,000 invested in CD’s.
  - e. Project Coordinator’s Report
    - Health Disparities – Michelle is making rounds doing site visits, getting geared up to do health fairs and working on health surveys.
    - Suicide Prevention Programs – Maranda will be doing a presentation to highlight suicide prevention programs.
    - SSUF/Getting Ahead Project –Jackie reported that the classes have now started and Mickie’s report provides information about location and available classes.
    - Fatherhood Program – Glenda – A trainer has been hired in Lincoln County to provide fatherhood classes.
- C. Committee Reports
  - a. Finance Committee – Mary Gross – No report.
  - b. Fundraising Committee – Rick Agan – Golf Raffle – No report.
- E. Old Business
  - a. Board Commitment and Conflict of Interest Statements – Members were reminded to sign these statements.
  - b. Board Contributions – Lisa reminded board members of the importance of personal board members contributions.
  - c. Second Wind Fund – Jackie reported that this new program is proving to be a very complicated process. We are working to complete the paperwork needed, including

creating an LLC and applying for a new tax number. We will have to decide on the reimbursement level for providers soon.

- d. Women's Wellness Connection – Jackie reported that we are in the process of developing this program in NE Colorado.

#### F. New Business

- a. Legislative Day Report – Lisa Ault – Lisa reported on the Legislative Day that she and Jackie attended in January at the State Capitol.

- Attorney General John Suthers reported on the statistics and issues of the medical marijuana laws. There was discussion about the implications in all our organizations around the use of medical marijuana with our clients as well as with our staffs. We may have to re-examine our current personnel practices and rules.

- State Treasurer Carry Kennedy reported that state funding levels are at the levels in 2001, when there were 4.1 million people in Colorado. Now the state's population is 5 million. Statistics show that there are 20,000 more higher education students, 200,000 more people on Medicaid, 80,000 more K-12 students, and 10,000 more prison inmates. She also reported that Colorado did not lose any money from their investments last year. The Colorado checkbook is online for everyone to access.

- Susan Kirkpatrick, DOLA director, reported that there should be no cuts to DOLA funding, but the state may abolish her position and have the Lt. Governor oversee DOLA.

It was a very interesting day.

- c. Bridges out of Poverty Trainings Schedule – Jackie asked about the need for additional trainings in the region for board members' staffs. The board advised her to schedule a central location training for new staff members and a training for Morgan County as many staff were not trained at human services. Colette instructed Jackie to look into establishing the system to provide CEU's to case workers by working with people at Colorado Department of Human Services.
- a. Maranda's Kickoff Event Presentation – Maranda Miller presented her kick off presentation for Project Safety Net and suicide prevention activities available for the suicide prevention work of the organization. She has scheduled a series of the presentations for groups in the region. Colette would like to have Maranda send out the information about the suicide grief groups to the mortuaries in the other counties.
- b. Special Events Discussion – Debbie Zwirn – Jackie and Debbie were discussing symposiums. Talked about not doing one if it is a forced topic, RCRC and Washington County Connections has been working with the Forty Assets and maybe we could do a symposium with the Forty Assets group. There was discussion about sponsoring a

symposium in the next year or so as we have not had one in several years. There are many projects in the region for young people, including suicide prevention activities and the Forty Assets project. Jackie suggested a workshop of bringing together a several professionals for individual workshops. Lisa charged the Special Events Committee to meet to begin planning a symposium for either April 2011 or September 2010. After discussion, the Board also decided to reschedule the Legislative Breakfast in June. Debbie will ask Greg, Cory and Jerry what their schedule's look like.

- c. Strategic Plan Work – Michelle will put out the plans on the website and let everyone know so they can review the information. We will discuss them at the next board meeting.
- d. Grant Ideas/Possibilities—A new SSUF grant coming out. Ruth is thinking about writing but has not finalized plans. Kit Carson County will be writing for a Regional Nurse Family partnership for Lincoln, Kit Carson and Cheyenne counties. There is also an ADAD grant, for drug/alcohol reduction in the schools and communities, due March 7<sup>th</sup>. Liz suggested partnering on this grant if possible.
- e. Other -The child abuse rate study has now been completed. Jackie wrote for a grant to provide more training with funds from this grant and didn't get that funding. Ruth went to the play Eventide at the Denver Buell Theater and wanted to let everyone know that Liz's name is mentioned in the program as providing expertise to the subject of the play. Baby Bear Hugs did get the health and nutrition grant and will be implementing them into their home visits. Baby Bear Hugs will be doing a Nurturing Parenting program in Yuma in March. Anyone is invited to attend. Centennial Mental Health is providing Mental Health First Aid training throughout the region in the next few months. Judy Fehringer with ECSDD is sponsoring a presentation on the challenges of parenting a special needs child. Judy will send Michelle the flyer to disperse out on email. Jackie asked the group if their agencies have a webinar service or have a need of one. Rural Solutions is examining the possibility of signing up for such a service.
- f. Adjourned at 11:00 for Sally's Presentation. Started at 11:15

G. Guest Speaker 11:00 a.m. Sally Henry—Centennial Area Health Education Center –  
“Health Workforce Shortages”

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 3, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

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Steve Romero, Secretary

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Date

