

**Rural Solutions**  
**Executive Director's Activity Report**  
**For September 2010**  
**Submitted by Jackie Reynolds**

**Highlights of September 2010**

- We "passed" our Fatherhood Project audit visit with minimal violations. The new Fatherhood Project, Round 4, begins October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- We will have the SSUF audit, Second Wind Fund audit, and Women's Wellness Connection initial visit this month.
- Exciting things are happening with the Bridges out of Poverty/Getting Ahead Program work that we are doing. I want to discuss this further in the meeting this month.
- Fran from 211 spent 4 days in our office in September, working on updates for the 211 system that will hopefully be accurate and useful in our region. She will return on October 25<sup>th</sup> to continue updating the system using our knowledge of our region.
- The Colorado Health Foundation conducted a site visit for the proposed Healthy Living Colorado grant. There seems to be a new trend for funders with site visits BEFORE they fund as well as much more auditing DURING the grant. I believe that oversight is needed and indeed does improve our programs, but it is very time and resources consuming. Interesting trend that will impact staff's time and resources.
- I was asked by Clint from the Colorado Rural Health Center to attend a meeting in Byers to discuss the possibility of creating an Eastern Colorado Community Foundation. There was interest in the concept and the group plans to meet again.
- I met with Heidi Zajic-Eckland a couple of times this month. She is the new office manager for the CSU Engagement Office Project here in Sterling. I think we might have a chance to work with this project on a project or two. She would like to attend one of our board meetings to talk about this new program in NE Colorado.
- I met with Kelly Hiznay from the Advocates for Young Adults out of Louisville. They are in the process of hiring staff for the VITA program they hope to develop in NE Colorado. They will hire several positions with education credits and monthly stipends soon. Know anyone who needs a job and education funds?

## Financial News

- The Women's Wellness Connection grant began in September. It is a 5-year grant.
- I continue to be optimistic that we will receive the Colorado Health Foundation grant.
- We will be working with 211 to sub-contract for some of their funds to help make this system accurate for our region.
- Michelle has worked very hard this month getting ready for the Getting Ahead Project grant audit. I would like to commend her on her knowledge of Rural Solutions' financial status and her willingness to work so hard to keep our finances so well organized and accurate.
- Michelle fell on the sidewalk outside our office on Monday, August 30. She continues to wear a hand brace.

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

### Rural Philanthropy Days Continuation Grant

### Community Connections

September 3<sup>rd</sup>: Met with Workforce Center to help set up nonprofit organization.

September 13-17<sup>th</sup>: Fran from 211 was in our office updating their database.

September 10<sup>th</sup>: Attended Second Wind Fund Affiliate meeting.

September 27<sup>th</sup>: Attended the quarterly Colorado Children's Trust Fund meeting.

September 28<sup>th</sup>: NE3 Consortium meeting here in Sterling.

September 29<sup>th</sup>: Attended an informational about Community Foundations in Byers.

### Upcoming Events and News:

Staff and I are working on a plan to visit all counties in Northeast Colorado in October and November with a very systematic plan. We need to visit schools, your offices, chambers of commerce, etc., to talk about Rural Solutions and the programs we offer. We'll be in your county soon!

Respectfully submitted,

Jackie Reynolds  
Executive Director