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Do you know someone who could benefit from receiving this newsletter? Please forward his or her e-mail address to teri.erickson@ojc.edu

Southeast Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days

Update

growing together



Colorado Nonprofit Association hosts “sampler” in La Junta

Approximately a dozen representatives of area non-profit organizations attended a special “sampler” training hosted by the Colorado Nonprofit Association on Oct. 23.

The event was held on the Otero Junior College campus in La Junta and was an opportunity for nonprofit organizations to “sample” what the Association has to offer to organizations. It included information about how non-profits benefit from the Association, as well as a training based on the latest communications strategies based on “Principles and Practices for Nonprofit Excellence in Colorado.”

Facilitated by Colorado Nonprofit Association employees Gerry Rasel and Londell Jackson, the workshop was one of a series offered in association with the Southeast Rural Philanthropy Days Leadership Team. In 2013, the Team is planning one full-day event to be held in Lamar. Look for details in the near future.



Southeast RPD is on Facebook!

Want more ways to stay connected to Southeast RPD? Visit our Facebook page and be sure to “like” us. Connect to our page under Southeast Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days.

AVRMC plans 9Health Fair

The Arkansas Valley Regional Medical Center has scheduled its annual 9Health Fair for April 6 at the Otero Junior College Banquet Room in La Junta from 7-10 a.m.

Individuals age 18 and over are encouraged to attend the health fair, which annually serves approximately 300 individuals through free and low-cost health screenings. The local event has over 25 volunteers each year.

In the late 1970s, John F. Brensike, a physician conducting heart disease research at the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D.C., became involved in cholesterol screenings. As he traveled the country, he observed a high level of interest from communities to provide screening services. However, he noted that few screenings were available and the quality varied. He also noticed that there was no mechanism to provide health education and medical follow-up to the community. From there, Dr. Brensike started the National Health Screening Council for Volunteer Organizations (NHSCVO) as a means of promoting preventative health maintenance. Through this organization, the health fair concept was born. In Colorado, NHSCVO approached Al Flanagan, then president of KBTU Channel 9 in Denver. The television station recognized this effort's value to the community and agreed to provide both financial and media support to help launch the first health fair.

In 1980, along with support from hundreds of medical and non-medical volunteers, the Lions Clubs of Colorado and the Colorado National Guard, the first 9Health Fair was staged. To this day, all three groups remain steadfast in their important roles with the 9Health Fair as important in-kind sponsors.

In 1987, 9Health Fair became a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. With the sole mission of promoting health awareness and encouraging individuals to assume responsibility for their own health, 9Health Fair has helped save thousands of lives. To date, 9Health Fair is the only program of its magnitude and that has become a community institution as a result of the NHSCVO initiative. Since its inception, 9Health Fair has impacted over 1.7 million individuals.

Upcoming grant deadlines

Below is a list of some of the upcoming grant application deadlines for Colorado foundations.

February

Feb. 15 – Colorado Health Foundation

Feb. 21 – Chinook Fund

March

March 1 – Brett Family Foundation

March 1 – Adolph Coors Foundation

March 1 – Donahue Foundation

March 1 – Helen K. & Arthur E. Johnson Foundation

March 8 – Caring for Colorado

March 25 – Animal Assistance Foundation

April

April 1 – Gates Family Foundation

April 30 – Bonfils-Stanton Foundation

April 30 – Herbert E. Parker Charitable Trust



More information on these funders can be found in the Colorado Grants Guide, available online at many local libraries. Always contact a funder before applying to ensure their giving guidelines and grant deadlines have not changed.

Recent grant awards

Below is a list of recent grant awards made in the region:

Bent County

- **The Pioneer Historical Society of Bent County** received \$4,314 from the El Pomar Foundation to fund a technology project to purchase a Past Perfect Networking System. The new system will allow the processing of artifacts anywhere in the building and will be able to link all users and computers at the same time. The grant will allow the museum's all-volunteer staff to continue cataloging each of the artifacts in the collection so that there is an accurate record that will be safe for future generations.



Crowley County

- **Kids' Campus** received \$20,000 from the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation for general operating support.

Kiowa County

- **Kiowa County** received \$39,519 from Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) to develop and install environmental education exhibits at the Kiowa Creek Natural Area in Eads. The grant funds will be used to produce and install exhibits and interpretive signage in the restored historic barn that houses the environmental education center. The barn is the trailhead for a 3,300 foot trail in the natural area. The new signage will enhance visitors' experiences at the site.
- Kiowa County Economic Development Foundation received \$10,000 from the Cooper Clark Foundation toward "Our Homeplate Project" which is spearheaded by a former Eads High School student, Jordan Barnett, and is designed to resurrect the north baseball field in Eads.



Otero County

- **The Koshare Foundation, Inc.**, received a \$10,000 grant from the BNSF Foundation and \$1,000 from the Quick Foundation to assist with restoration of the Kiva's murals.

Multi-County

- **Bent, Otero and Crowley County Early Childhood Council** received \$10,000 from the Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation for professional development.
- **Southeast Mental Health Services** received \$10,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts Fast-Track Grant Program for a historical and cultural mural in Lamar; \$11,500 from the Colorado Garden Show, Inc., for a horticultural therapy and meditation garden in La Junta; \$2,500 from the Office of Women's Health for training in the Stanford Model of Chronic Disease Self-Management; and \$10,000 from the Colorado Trust for general operating expenses.

Share Your News!

Do you have news to share? Information and photos for this newsletter may be submitted to Teri Erickson at teri_erickson@ojc.edu. Please include your contact name and phone number in case follow-up is required. Items will run in future issues on a space-available basis. All items to be edited for space and content.

Future deadlines are by noon on:

April 10
July 10

Non-profit news

Prowers Conservation District has busy 2012

The Prowers Conservation District (PCD) was very busy in 2012. Among the activities the District has been involved with are:

- A sixth grade poster contest that Colorado Association of Conservation Districts (CACD) puts together. Three schools participated: Lamar, Alta Vista and Wiley, with 250 students taking part. The top two went to the CACD annual meeting in Vail in November. Saige Owens from Lamar won second place in the state.
- The District helped Prowers County with a tube setting contest at the Sand and Sage Fair. This is a yearly event that the Prowers Fair Board and PCD put together to see how fast a person can set water tubes from one side of a ditch to the other.
- The PCD received a Colorado State Conservation Board (CSCB) grant for \$25,000 for a Rangeland Enhancement Project. This is a 50-50 grant in which each participant puts up a mile of fence and is reimbursed for up to \$2,500 of their project. There were 14 applications and 10 applicants were selected to participate.

The Prowers Conservation District is looking forward to their 70th Annual Meeting that will be held in March. Details are still to come but anyone wanting additional information may contact Carla Warman at (719) 336-3437 ext. 122 or e-mail carla.warman@co.usda.gov.

Southeast Health Group expands services

Beginning in February 2013, Southeast Mental Health Services, under the umbrella of Southeast Health Group, will offer a full range of outpatient physical health services to complement the mental health and substance abuse services already provided by the non-profit group.

The new prevention, screening and treatment services are targeted toward those individuals living with severe and persistent mental illnesses and addictions. This particular cohort dies, on average, 20 years sooner than their same-age peers. The main reason for this disparity is the adverse side effect of psychoactive medications causing obesity, diabetes and other chronic health problems that often go untreated. This cohort of individuals with multiple chronic conditions, including mental health and substance use disorders, make up 25 percent of the current expense to Medicaid.

The changes Southeast Health Group is making in its program will address the physical health needs of this population, lengthen their lives and drive down the cost of health care.

HuLa plans upcoming events

Starting Jan. 14, with collaboration from the Colorado Department of Education, South Central Council of Government and Trinidad State Junior College, the **Huerfano- Las Animas (HuLA) Counties Early Childhood Advisory Council** will start its Expanding Quality in Infant and Toddler Care Program.

The training has an emphasis on early childhood teachers, childcare providers, childcare center teachers and directors and family childcare providers but is open to anyone interested in expanding their knowledge. The 16-week program will be held on Monday nights from 6-9 p.m. at the Aguilar School. Upon successful completion, participants will receive a certificate from the Colorado Department of Education. This course can be taken for college credit (ECE 111) through TSJC, with additional work required.

On Feb. 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dr. Dennis Driscoll, pediatric dentist, will see children age one and over for preventative oral health screenings at the Las Animas County District Health Department.

April 2013 is the month of the child. Free child health fairs will be held on April 27 at the Walsenburg Community Center and April 28 at Cimino Park in Trinidad. Agencies and organizations that want to participate are currently being sought.

For more information on any listed events, please contact Jennifer Sanchez McDonald, council coordinator, at (719) 845-0463.