



COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
SUCCESS STRATEGIES FOR COLORADO NONPROFITS

Northwest Rural Philanthropy Days Host Community Selection Process and Criteria

Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) is a statewide program that promotes in Colorado's rural communities. By providing nonprofit leaders the resources they need to lead effective and sustainable organizations, program participants are better able to increase mission impact, build collaborations and achieve grant funding goals.

The RPD conference is scheduled to return to the Northwest in September 2022. The region includes Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco, and Routt counties. This unique conference provides a forum for quality professional development opportunities close to home as well as networking with other community leaders in the region and relationship building opportunities with statewide funders. RPD not only creates the space to educate each other on regional needs but also work towards collaboratively addressing community-wide issues in the region.

CRC is seeking proposals from communities interested in hosting this dynamic event. We have seen successful proposals from individual towns, as well as across multiple communities in a county.

Benefits of Hosting:

- ✓ Host community is spotlighted to funders
- ✓ Excellent opportunity to highlight the needs of the host community
- ✓ Host community typically has larger representation at the RPD event
- ✓ Boosts local economy
- ✓ Presents an opportunity to assert the value of the nonprofit world in host community
- ✓ Reinforces collaboration between nonprofits and the host community

Requirements of Hosting:

- ✓ Host facilities that are ADA accessible and can accommodate 150-300 people for:
 - Formal and informal reception space (seated dinners)
 - Plenary sessions (all conference registrants + presenters and guests)
 - Break-out groups (5-8 small breakouts + 2-3 large sessions)
- ✓ A range of lodging options that can accommodate 200+ people
- ✓ Availability of presented locations
 - From September 6-8, 7-9, 13-15, 14-16, 20-22, or 21-23, 2022. Final conference dates to be determined in conjunction with program stakeholders and the selected host community
 - Lack of other competing priorities in the community in September 2022
- ✓ Host Community Support
 - Engagement of political and business leadership and a willingness to be involved in the event, e.g. Steering Committee and event participation, financial support
 - Identified nonprofit and philanthropic community support and commitment, including names & organizations
 - Specific fundraising prospects
 - Availability of a local coordinator with appropriate skill set
 - A willingness of community members to undertake regional outreach to engage nonprofits, funders and government officials
- ✓ Willingness and ability to showcase the region's heritage and diversity. Examples include: cultural diversity, music, arts, entertainment, unique history, agricultural heritage, and key regional initiatives/projects

Regional History:

- ✓ Preference is given to communities who have not previously hosted a Rural Philanthropy Days conference, or have not done so in recent history. Previous host communities include:

2017: Craig, Moffat County
2013: Winter Park, Grand County

2009: Steamboat, Routt County
2005: Granby, Grand County

Application Process:

Intent to Host: Please submit a one-page letter outlining your interest in serving as the RPD host community by **September 17, 2021** to Elizabeth Berkeley at berkeley@crcamerica.org. We encourage you to communicate with us before the deadline if you're interested and/or have any questions about the commitment or process. Your letter should include the following:

- ✓ How the community will meet the requirements of hosting RPD, as outlined above.
- ✓ Who in your community is "on board" and committed to hosting RPD? Please also indicate those that will serve as members of the Steering Committee.
 - Which specific individuals in your community have agreed to step into a leadership position if asked in planning this conference? (Traditionally a Steering Committee co-chair is from the host community.)
 - Please list any commitments you have secured from the local government or community leaders to participate.
- ✓ The features of your community that you are excited to showcase while hosting this conference.
- ✓ Which set of proposed conference dates work best for your community? Are there any listed which will not work?

Host Community Interview: Each community that submits an Intent to Host letter will be asked to have a phone interview between September 29th and October 6th.

Final Selection: The 2022 Northwest Rural Philanthropy Days host community to be selected by October 7, 2021. All applicants will be alerted in writing of the final community selection.

Community Tour: After the 2022 Northwest Rural Philanthropy Days host community has been selected, the nominating members of the host community are asked to organize a brief community visit to tour some of the facilities mentioned in the proposal, and address any additional follow up questions on October 20th, 2021.