



2016 Annual Report

Working together has its benefits!



NWCCOG Mission Statement

The purpose of the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments is to be responsive to our members' needs and interests by providing guidance and assistance in problem-solving, information sharing and partnership building, advocating members' interests and needs with local, state and federal entities, and providing quality services to our membership that are relevant, effective, and efficient.

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In addition to all the good work in each of our nine major programs highlighted in this annual report, 2016 was the year of a smooth leadership transition at NWCCOG. I was honored to complete the year as Executive Director, following Liz Mullen, and building upon the very solid organizational scaffolding which she bestowed.

To a person, NWCCOG employees embody a deep sense of mission and purpose in delivering services and funding across a broad region. Federal dollars account for more than 60% of NWCCOG's overall budget and ALL funding for 5 of our 8 major programs (which includes Colorado state funds derived largely from federal programs). So it comes as no surprise that the winds of change in Washington D.C. have created anxiety for many of NWCCOG's employees and citizens reliant on our services. We need to continue to tell our story.

I have often said that all policy is a work in progress. Our mission is one of responsiveness. It is likely that we will have to adapt many of our program models to changing conditions. We have that in our DNA at NWCCOG, and I embrace that opportunistic viewpoint.

One thing we are actively exploring in a number of programs is leveraging our skill base with fee for service models that can diversify the revenue base. We already do this with the Elevator Inspection program. We are currently most active in this exploration with Weatherization, our longest running program, and non-emergent medical transportation (mobility), our newest program.

One of my passions is helping provide tools to our elected leaders and managers to help them raise the bar for local governance across our region. I am actively searching for tools to share innovation and best practices. If you have any ideas, please share them.

To that end, as members, you can expect to participate in surveys – yes, a series of surveys -- over the course of this year as we move toward strategic planning and budgeting for 2018 in the midst of a very dynamic situation.

Leading NWCCOG has been a joy, with skillful employees and a strong institutional identity. This has allowed me the luxury of focusing on opportunities for adding value. I look forward to hearing your thoughts as we look ahead.

Jon Stavney

Jon Stavney
NWCCOG Executive Director



JON STAVNEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
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Established in 1972 by Governor John Love's executive order, the **Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG)** is a voluntary association of county and municipal governments that leverages the benefits of collaboration and provides services which are more effectively managed at a regional level. NWCCOG is located in the northwest central mountain region of Colorado just west of the Front Range, and represents the counties of Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, and Summit. The region is designated by the State as Planning and Management Region 12. Many NWCCOG programs achieve critical mass by extending far beyond the 5 county area. Characterized by high elevations, quintessential mountain resorts, and natural beauty that attract the world to Colorado, much of the region served by NWCCOG remains disperse, rugged, and rural.



THE REGION



LAKE DILLON AMPHITHEATER - Dillon , CO

The Economic Development District (NWCCOG EDD), established in 2012, promotes and coordinates economic development efforts throughout the 5-county region. Our mission is to be a regional leader, working cooperatively with the private and public sectors to enhance the economic conditions and improve the region's economic prosperity. The EDD brings together the essential partners from all sectors to determine the most appropriate strategies to advance the prosperity of the region.

NWCCOG EDD is led by a board of directors comprised of representatives from local governmental jurisdictions, private sector, and other economic development stakeholders. As a federally-designated district, the NWCCOG EDD receives annual funding from the Economic Development Administration (EDA).



RACHEL LUNNEY
Director

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Setting the stage - The work of the EDD is driven by a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) that is updated every 5 years. In 2016, the CEDS planning process for calendar years 2017 – 2022, involved hosting many county-wide and community meetings. A broad range of regional stakeholders – including local governments, the business community, education providers, workforce groups, non-profits, and other community groups – discussed strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in each county and the region as a whole. This input was used to create a strategic road map to ensure there are clear objectives to help build our region's capabilities and capacity.

Reinforcing partnerships and providing resources - Leveraging on the work being done in the local communities, the EDD was able to promote and support efforts such as Startup Weekend, tech programs at co-working spaces, workshops of the Colorado Fiscal Institute's "Count Me In" program to educate residents on important ballot issues and their impacts on their communities, and educational opportunities presented by the Small Business Development Center –which was hosted by NWCCOG.

Facilitation and collaboration - The NWCCOG – EDD facilitated a collaboration between Grand and Clear Creek Counties, the U.S. Department of Economic development, and Freeport McMoran to successfully obtain a \$100,000 EDA grant for Economic Resurgence, Resiliency, and Action Plan in light of the imminent closure of Henderson Mine and Mill. This grant was matched 1:1 by Freeport McMoran for work to begin in 2017.

The EDD also served as regional coordinator of the Colorado Health Links Work Well Collaborative, which has helped build a healthy workforce through funding and developing worksite wellness programs tailored to 74 businesses and more than 10,000 employees in the region.



Tech Training - EVO3 Workspace



Start-up Weekend - Elevate CoSpace

KEY METRICS

5 Counties Served

1 Employee

18 Resource Bulletins Created

4 Quarterly Updates

2773 Website Visits

northwestcoloradoregion.org

ELEVATOR INSPECTION PROGRAM



STEVE ALLEN
Director

Total Elevators Inspected in 2016:

City of Aspen	264
City of Glenwood Springs	103
City of Steamboat Springs	166
Eagle County	262
Grand County	7
Summit County	121
Town of Basalt	35
Town of Carbondale	30
Town of Dillon	24
Town of Eagle	31
Town of Fraser	9
Town of Frisco	43
Town of Granby	14
Town of Grand Lake	6
Town of Gypsum	18
Town of Hot Sulphur Springs	3
Town of Kremmling	4
Town of Minturn	2
Town of Red Cliff	2
Town of Vail	293
Town of Walden	1
Town of Winter Park	57
Non-Members w/in Region	259
Outside Region 12	124
TOTAL	1878

Established in 1993, the Elevator Inspection Program (EIP) inspects and issues permits for commercial and residential conveyances (elevators, lifts, dumbwaiters, and escalators) to ensure safe conveyances throughout the region.

In July 2008, NWCCOG became the only inspectors in the region for this specialty by entering into a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment - Division of Oil and Public Safety as the Authority Having Jurisdiction under the Elevator and Escalator Certification Act.

NWCCOG's elevator inspectors work cooperatively with each jurisdiction's building department to implement the program in that jurisdiction and standardize elevator codes to streamline the regulatory structures across the region for vendors. The EIP now serves Clear Creek, Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Lake, Moffat, Pitkin, Routt, and Summit Counties, which includes most of the cities and towns within those counties.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

A Year of Certification & Celebration - Elevator Inspectors David Pickett-Heaps, and Chris Vasquez earned their Qualified Elevator Inspection (QEI) certification from the National Association of Elevator Safety Authorities (NAESA) which sets high standards of safety for elevators and related equipment.

Director Steve Allen earned certification for Inspection Supervisor also from the NAESA. This rare and difficult achievement has only been accomplished by two QEI professionals in the Western Region of the United States.

A year of Growth - The region experienced an increase of 41 new elevators.

Geolocation Mapping for All Elevators - Cora Winters headed a team to provide Geographic Information Systems (GIS) map locations for all elevators, including a link to all inspection reports for each elevator. It is an ongoing monumental task and the team did an excellent job streamlining the process to manage all of the reports. The Elevator Inspection Site Finder is available on the NWCCOG website's Elevator Inspection Program page.

KEY METRICS:

Funding Source - 100% Fee For Service

6 Employees - 10 Counties

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Weatherization, also known as the Energy Management Program, weatherizes low and moderate income homes to reduce fuel consumption and heating costs. It was established in 1977, and this year marks 40 years of service. Services include insulation, caulking, weather-stripping, the installation of storm windows, new energy-efficient furnaces and refrigerators, and safety checks.

NWCCOG is a local administering agency under the U.S. Department of Energy - Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), and is under contract with the Colorado Energy Office (CEO) Weatherization Program. Weatherization has helped reduce operating costs of hundreds of affordable housing units in the region. In addition to reducing energy consumption and heating costs, the weatherization process corrects any health and safety problems found, such as gas leaks and carbon monoxide problems. In addition to weatherizing homes within the NWCCOG region, NWCCOG also weatherizes homes in Chaffee, Clear Creek, Garfield, Lake, Moffat, Park, Rio Blanco, and Routt Counties.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Weatherization completed 118 jobs which were prioritized based on the age of the home, the type of heating systems in place, the percentage of income our clients spent on covering the utility bills, and other factors. Some clients were spending nearly 17% on utility bills when the average should be under 4%. Other criteria considered were families with children under six, adults over 60, and those with disabilities. Using those and other factors we prioritized the homes in order to provide the biggest impact.

Outcomes - In the 112 homes that received air leakage work there was an average reduction in energy costs of 19%, 9 homes had a 50% reduction, and one home's leakage was reduced by a whopping 60%.

Diversifying - The Weatherization Program has branched out in the last year into two other programs that dovetail nicely with our skill sets: the Colorado Affordable Residential Energy Program (CARE) and the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP). CARE is an income qualified weatherization program that provides most of the same treatments on houses as the WAP program but to a slightly different demographic. We have built relationships with 5 of the CARE providers in our territory and look forward to expanding that program into 2017. CIP is an emergency response system for people who have qualified for the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP). If a heating system breaks or malfunctions during the heating season we provide them with temporary heat or, replace their current set-up with a high efficiency heating system.

ENERGY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - WEATHERIZATION



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Key Metrics

118 - Homes Weatherized
8 Employees
13 Counties
Service Area = 24,000 sq miles
Funding: 74% Fed, 11% State,
14% NPO



ANITA CAMERON
Director of Business Lending
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The Northwest Loan Fund (NLF), established in 2013, offers business loans in the 9 Northwest counties of Colorado (Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit). The NLF loans money for expansion, acquisition, and start-up. Loans can be used for equipment, inventory, working capital, and business occupied Real Estate.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Nine Businesses Benefit From NLF Loans

The loan fund made 9 loans for a total of \$594,000 and created more 29 jobs.

Business Loans and Education

Anita Cameron, Director of Business Lending, speaks with every caller to guide them on the best lending options for their project. She also created a workshop for business owners called "Insider Tips for a Bullet Proof Loan Application" to help applicants understand the process. Anita personally conducts the workshop throughout the NLF Territory.

NORTHWEST LOAN FUND



Viking Lodge & Ski Shop, Winter Park



Coulter Lake Guest Ranch, Rifle



Rocky Mountain Adventure Rentals, Eagle-Vail

This is a sample of 2016 NLF clients:



Vail Brewing Company, Eagle Vail and Solaris Center Vail Village

KEY METRICS (Since 2014):

9 Counties Served
1 Employee
26 Outstanding Loans
\$1.7 Million
71 Jobs Created
Funding: 93% Fed, State & Comm. Dev. Block Grant (CDBG), 7% Fees & Interest
Website: NorthwestLoanFund.org

Because broadband internet services are so vital to regional and local economic development and quality of life, the NWCCOG continues to support the ongoing collaboration efforts to move the strategic plan forward. The Regional Strategic Broadband Plan, developed in 2013, remains the roadmap to support the efforts in Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit Counties, the City of Glenwood Springs, and the Town of Carbondale.

Nate Walowitz, the NWCCOG Regional Broadband Coordinator, continues to work with all participants, the State of Colorado Office of Information Technology, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and broadband providers to promote broadband service development and deployment.

The project is funded by a grant from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and matching funds from each participating county and local government.



NATHAN WALOWITZ
Regional Broadband Coordinator
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Funding Sources:
75% DOLA
25% Member Dues Match

BROADBAND

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

- **The NWCCOG Broadband Steering Committee** has worked in a number of areas to either deploy or improve broadband in the 7 County project area. Among the variety of local governmental broadband initiative support:
 - NWCCOG worked on broadband plans for Pitkin and Summit Counties and the Towns of Fraser and Winter Park.
 - We assisted the Town of Gypsum and Eagle County to obtain a significant increase in bandwidth at very competitive pricing.
 - The team also work closely with the Town of Red Cliff in completion of their communications tower construction project and their application to the USFS for a microwave communications site at Ski Cooper that will allow access to the CenturyLink fiber network at the ski area base.
- **Focus on the creation of an open access Regional Middle Mile Transport Network** to assist NW Colorado communities gain lower cost, reliable, redundant internet access. The network will be an open information superhighway that will be available to government, schools, internet service providers and private organizations across all of Northwest Colorado. The team is creating an approach and collecting data to ensure the network will meet our members' needs. This network will be designed and operated to include many benefits. Here are just a few:
 - Reduce the costs of reliable, redundant broadband transport and bandwidth throughout the region. Sharing the cost of the network across all participants will allow broadband to expand,
 - Multiple paths to Gigabit Internet backbone access points in Denver and Salt Lake City,
 - Dynamic active management to ensure reliable routing of network traffic around outages and network congestion, and
 - Provide network security to allow all government partners, including public safety, to meet their security requirements.

For complete broadband updates visit our website at NWCCOG.org/programs/broadband

ALPINE AREA AGENCY ON AGING



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Director

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The AAAA, established in 1978, is the designated regional planning and service agency for aging services in Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, and Summit Counties. Funding through the Federal Older Americans Act and State funds are used to finance activities necessary to achieve elements of a comprehensive and coordinated community-based system for seniors and their families.

Services are for persons 60 and older, especially those with the greatest social or economic need, and their family caregivers. Services offered are intended to assist older adults to live independently and with dignity, in their own communities, by removing barriers and providing assistance and supportive services.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

A year of change - After the departure of the previous AAAA director the formation of a new team was imperative. Erin Fisher, the previous AAAA Program Specialist, was promoted into the Director position, and Amanda Rens-Moon became the new Program Specialist. CJ Grove, the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Volunteer Coordinator and TJ Dufresne, the SHIP Medicare Counselor, completed the AAAA team. While transitions are often challenging, the group coalesced around the common goal of promoting aging with independence and dignity for seniors and their caregivers in the region.

Senior Gap Analysis - In collaboration with the Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and NWCCOG member counties and jurisdictions, the AAAA commissioned a senior services gap analysis in summer 2016. The report from National Research Center, Inc., the entity which also compiled the 2010 gap analysis, compares the current data with past data, creating a robust and complete analysis of the barriers and achievements of senior supports and services in Region 12.



Winners of Senior Awards at May 2016 Ceremony

Respite Training -The AAAA, in partnership with the Summit County Community and Senior Center, hosted a train-the-trainer REST (Respite Education & Support Tools). This event provided the tools and knowledge necessary for the attendees to provide respite training to volunteers. This training is the foundation of AAAA's new caregiver respite volunteer program, which will be an exceptional support for the many overwhelmed caregivers in the region.

Additional Training and Program Enhancements - Here's a sample of training classes held and improvements made during 2016:

- Strategic Planning Session to refine and reconfirm the AAAA mission and vision statements.
- Diversity Trainings to improve LGBT cultural competency. In March, the AAAA attended Project Visibility training in order to be more informed, sensitive to, and supportive of LGBT elders.
- The AAAA started a new publication in 2016 called the Independent Living Times, a quarterly magazine designed to provide regional resources and information for older adults. Find them in Senior Centers, doctors office waiting rooms, online, and many other locations.
- The AAAA launched a resource-rich website in 2016!

For more information about our programs for seniors, caregivers, and resources for aging well check out our new site www.alpineaaa.org



NWCCOG's Amanda Rens-Moon hosting the "Being Mortal" discussion at Summit Community & Senior Center



Volunteer preparing meals at Minturn Senior site.



WHO WE SERVE: Consumer Age Groups



36%
Male

64%
Female

KEY METRICS

Funding Sources:

- Federal - 42%
- State - 49%
- Non-Profits - 6%
- Dues - 3%

Meals Served: 20,361 -
100% of recipients said
this program helped them
live independently in their
own homes.

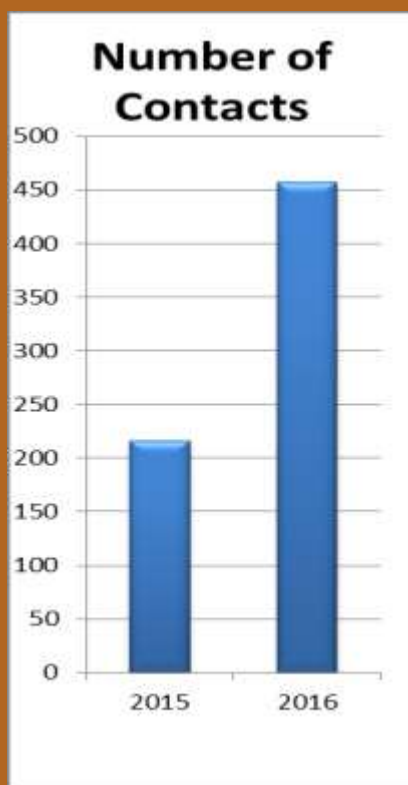
Medicare Assistance for
Unique Contacts: 722

159 seniors received free
legal assistance

SHIP MEDICARE ASSISTANCE



TJ DUFRESNE
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The Medicare SHIP Program is an important part of the services NWCCOG provides for the 65 and older population and for those who are Medicare eligible due to a disability. After the introductory year, there was a call for more availability to individual Medicare assistance, more community education opportunities, and more chances to learn about Medicare fraud and prevention.

Despite a freeze on volunteer training last year, the Medicare SHIP program served the Medicare population well in 2016. The number of contacts doubled in nearly every demographic measure reported compared to the inaugural Medicare counseling open enrollment period.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Outreach and Education - It is very difficult to simplify Medicare and all of its moving parts, but the team identified the types of topics that were important to talk about. Those topics were then incorporated into a level of interactive conversation that personalized the contact to each individual.

SHIP Medicare Assistance made use of connections beyond the senior meal sites through outreach and educational events. Partnerships throughout the region helped reach the Medicare eligible population beyond those who congregate at the meal sites.

Medicare Basics - A Medicare Basics workshop was developed that is perfect for those newly enrolling in Medicare. It assists consumers with the complexity of learning about Medicare and all of the Parts of Medicare, enrollment deadlines, and the dreaded Medicare Part B and Part D penalties.

Medicare Basics education is now offered at events for large employers that have employees readying to enroll in Medicare or will transition from an employer sponsored health plan to Medicare. The team routinely helped individuals decide whether to stay on their employer sponsored plans, retiree health plan through their employer, or to partially or fully enroll in Medicare.

Referrals - Referral sources were tracked to our SHIP Medicare Assistance Program to evaluate where and how to place additional referral and partnership emphasis.



Medicare Workshop Participants

The Alpine Area Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), which came under the auspices of NWCCOG in 2015, is a member of the federally funded Corporation of National and Community Service's (CNCS) Senior Corps program. Senior Corps programs operate in every state and territory in the United States. RSVP is America's largest network of volunteers consisting of more than 500,000 people. Senior Corps utilizes the talents of individuals who are 55 or older in Eagle County. These volunteers give their time to local non-profit organizations and government programs tackling tough issues and building stronger communities.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Alpine Area RSVP operates in Eagle County with a **team of 133 volunteers who have donated a total of 17,205.64 hours of service** to their community in 2016. Independent Sector values volunteer service at \$23.56 per hour which means our incredible team of volunteers **donated a total of \$405,364.88 in services** last year.



Eagle County RSVP Volunteers



CJ GROVE

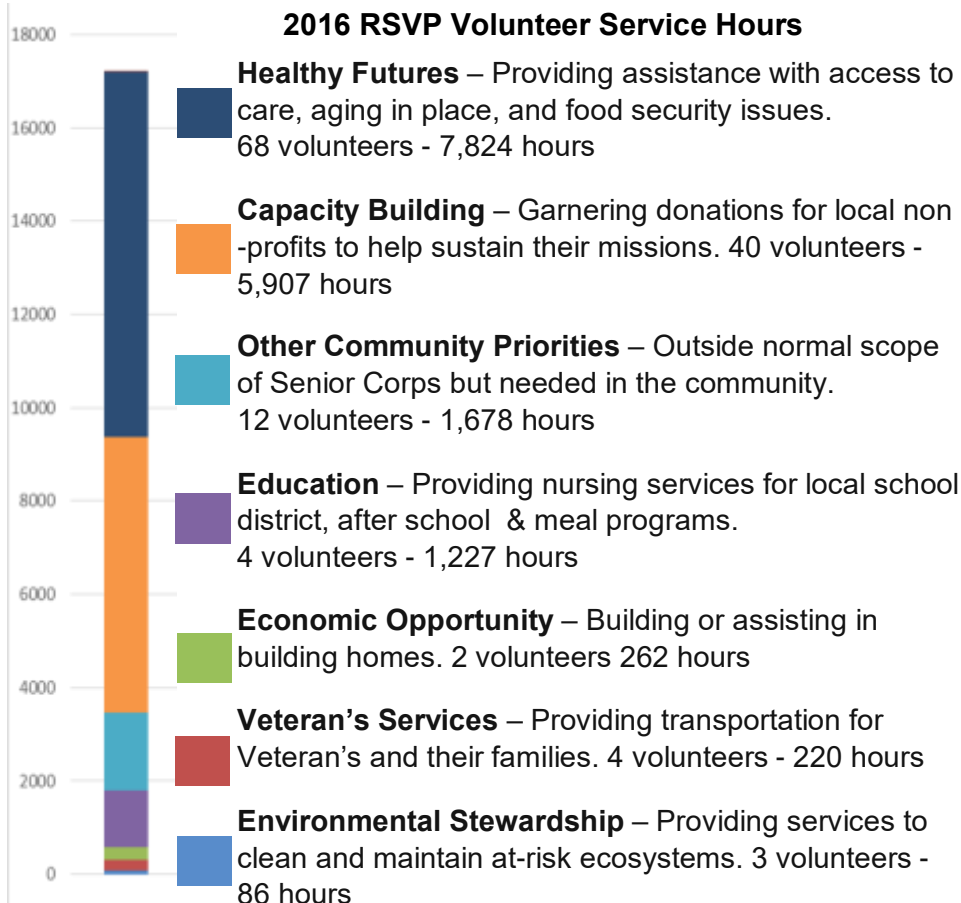
Volunteer Coordinator

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Sue Mott receiving Presidential Lifetime Achievement award for over 10,000 volunteer hours from Jeanne McQueenie.





SUSAN JUERGENSMEIER
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The Regional Transportation Coordinating Council (RTCC) was formed in 2012, as a result of Rural Resort Region's initiative - *Seniors in Our Mountain Communities: Challenges and Opportunities*. This project identified the gaps in transportation services; traveling within counties and traveling across county boundaries to access healthcare facilities and other services. In response, the RTCC was formed to be the coordinating council for a 8 county rural area of northwest Colorado including Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Park, Pitkin, Routt, and Summit Counties.

The RTCC, under the leadership of Susan Juergensmeier, works to improve transportation options for veterans, older adults, people with disabilities, and low-income adults. Our focus is on coordinating the existing public and private transit providers with other human services providers in a system that is easily available to individuals from anywhere in the region.

The Mountain Ride Transportation Resource Center and a regional billing project for Medicaid Non-Emergent Medical Transportation (NEMT) is the backbone of the project and is funded through the state Medicaid Program.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL

Riders of all ages take advantage of the services provided by Mountain Ride Transportation Resources.



A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Trip Numbers Growing - During the past year, 8,470 one-way trips were coordinated and booked through the Mountain Ride Call Center. That is an increase of 74% from last year's 4,864 one-way trips. Most were part of the regional NEMT Medicaid billing project. This project is a pilot demonstration coordinated with Colorado Department of Healthcare Policy and Finance and Human Services Departments of participating counties within our region and NWCCOG.

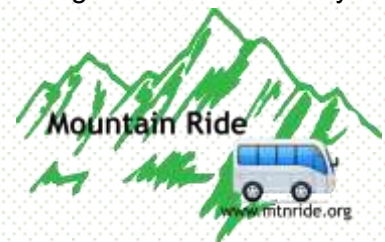
Special Award - During the Annual Senior Awards Ceremony held in May, the RTCC team was recognized with the NWCCOG Region 12 "Friend of the Seniors" award for their work in helping older adults get much needed transportation.



RTCC Staff - Molly Tompkins, Susan Juergensmeier & Chelsey Voden

2016 ONE-WAY TRIPS
 Scheduled and Reimbursed

Eagle	747
Grand	3,660
Jackson	68
Pitkin	224
Summit	444
Garfield	4
Routt	1,043
Park	2,280
TOTAL	8,470

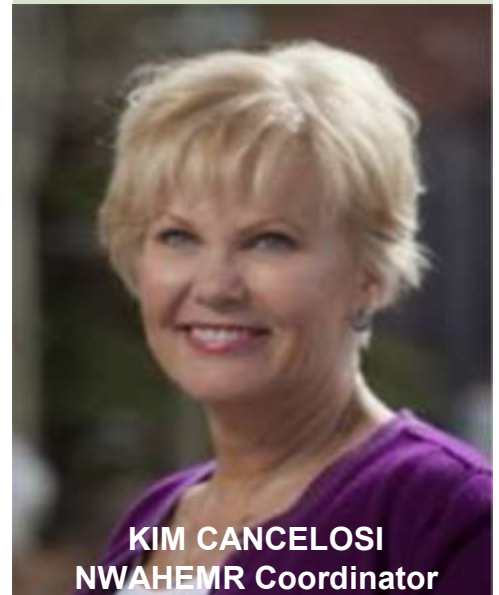


The Northwest All-Hazards Emergency Management Region (NWAHEMR) established in 2003, consists of the ten counties located in Northwest corner of Colorado. It is comprised of Eagle, Garfield, Grand, Jackson, Mesa, Moffat, Pitkin, Rio Blanco, Routt and Summit Counties. The Executive Board made up of each county's Emergency Manager, meets on a regular basis to develop strategies to improve the emergency preparedness of the region through the use of homeland security grant funds from the State through the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. NWCCOG provides fiscal management and program coordination for the NWAHEMR.



A LOOK BACK ON 2015...

Risk Assessment Completed - The regional Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA) process to identify capability targets and resource requirements necessary to risks was completed, along with an updated Regional Strategic Plan.



KIM CANCELOSI
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NORTHWEST ALL-HAZARDS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REGION

Credentials Tracking System Implemented - Emergency response personnel in ten counties trained and implemented the credentialing process that aligns with the State's new system. Under this system, first responders are provided with identification cards that are scanned when they report to an incident and equipment is tagged with identification. This scanning provides immediate information on the qualification and location of the individual and the equipment delivered to the incident, emergency, or training and exercise. Training took place in Rifle on the basic operation, functionality and uses of the Dragonfly software to produce an All-Hazards type Incident Plan or Event Action Plan.

Additional Equipment Purchased - Under the 2015 grant, upgrades, mobile apps, and identification cards were purchased for the credentialing project. Public works has two mobile generators/light plants that are to be housed in Craig and Rifle so first responders in the region can have access to the lights during nighttime responses. The NW region healthcare, coroners, EMS, and Public Health Function groups purchased two Porte Count Quantitative Respirator Fit Testers to be placed in Summit and Garfield Counties so agencies can test various types of respirators. Additionally, they purchased MAXAIR powered air purifying respirators to optimize respiratory protection against airborne particulates. This equipment is ideal for transport, patient care in Emergency Departments, or in-patient units. The Animal Rescue Response Team Trailer allows for the sheltering of pets and companion animals not allowed in Red Cross Shelters. The trailer will store the equipment and is deployable anywhere within the region to safely house pets in close proximity to the Red Cross Shelters. (See photos on page 18.)



2016 Rio Blanco Fire



Grand Lake, Colorado

WATER QUALITY/QUANTITY COMMITTEE



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The Water Quality and Quantity Committee (QQ) comprises municipalities, counties, water and sanitation districts, and conservancy districts in the headwaters region of Colorado located in Grand, Summit, Eagle, Pitkin, Park and Gunnison counties. QQ's purpose is to facilitate and augment the efforts of member jurisdictions to protect and enhance the region's water quality while encouraging its responsible use for the good of Colorado citizens and the environment.

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Celebrating 30 years! 2016 marked Barbara Green's thirtieth year of work with NWCCOG and QQ! In 2017, Lane Wyatt celebrates thirty years with QQ as well. Barbara and Lane have been instrumental to QQ's successes over the years and have worked tirelessly to protect and improve our regional rivers and streams. We are grateful for their work!

Protecting local government authority - QQ continued to educate state leaders on the important role local governments play in environmental regulation. QQ completed a major research project that compares local development regulations affecting water quality and environmental protection to state and federal regulations. Local government regulations often take into account a more local perspective creating a big picture view of a community that local governments are best equipped to consider.

Protecting water quality - QQ worked with affected stakeholders to respond to proposed changes to statewide water quality standards in the 2016 Reg. 31 Basic Standards Rulemaking before the Water Quality Control Commission (WQCC). QQ focused on several proposed changes to temperature standards, examining whether those changes would be protective of aquatic life in the QQ region. Due in part to QQ concerns, the WQCC delayed making any changes to those statewide temperature standards. QQ continues to work towards temperature standards that alleviate problems for dischargers while also ensuring the protection of aquatic life.

Cooperative adaptive management - QQ continued working with Watershed Services, QQ member local governments, and various other stakeholders to create a memorandum of understanding to develop an attainable water clarity standard in Grand Lake. An agreement was signed in early 2016, and the group began monitoring and implementation work towards the clarity standard.

KEY METRICS

QQ operations are 100% funded by QQ member dues.
Includes a \$100,000 Legal Defense Fund Account balance.



John F. Williams Photography

WATERSHED SERVICES

A LOOK BACK ON 2016...

Grand Lake Clarity – In April 2016 NWCCOG along with Grand County, the River District, Northern Water and the Bureau of Reclamation were successful in modifying the Grand Lake clarity standard with the Colorado Water Quality Control Commission. This is the only water quality standard in Colorado for the protection of lake clarity. What is unique about this change in the standard is the parallel MOU that was developed by these parties which lays out a framework to optimize Colorado Big Thompson operations for the protection of clarity, and establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to evaluate that effort. This framework will be in place for five years until the next WQCC triennial review of the standard. In the meantime the Bureau of Reclamation has initiated a project to evaluate structural and operational changes to the Colorado Big Thompson Project to achieve the highest level of clarity attainable in Grand Lake consistent with the protection of water rights, aquatic life, and overall water quality in the Three Lakes System.

Other Water Quality Planning Activities – In December 2015, Watershed services participated in WQCC Regulation 93 Rulemaking, with special attention on issues related to French Gulch and Wellington Oro Mine Superfund site. Throughout 2016 we have been involved in Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) stakeholder group developing a consensus approach to regulation of nutrients in Colorado. In general, pollution from nutrients discharged by domestic wastewater facilities in the headwaters are not a significant problem and we are working toward an approach that looks at this issue in a site specific manner.

Review and Comment on Development Applications – Watershed Services works with members to evaluate potential water quality implications of development proposals, wastewater treatment plant site applications, 1041 permit applications, and other land use matters. In 2016 20 projects were referred to NWCCOG for review.



LANE WYATT
Director

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Watershed Services Programs provide the counties and municipalities of Region 12 with expertise in watershed planning, water quality regulatory programs, and technical assistance. The major responsibilities of the program include the Regional Water Quality Management Plan; permit reviews; and technical assistance to members. Watershed Services coordinates with QQ on most water quality issues.

NWCCOG AT WORK

WEATHERIZATION



Examples of the Weatherization team installing storm windows, repairing a vent pipe, and fixing an air leak.. Their efforts help low-income homeowners save hundreds of dollars each year in energy costs.

NORTHWEST LOAN FUND

The Northwest Loan Fund helped businesses acquire loans for equipment, operations, and acquisition. These clients, SingleTrack Trails and Coulter Guest Ranch, are recent loan recipients.



NORTHWEST ALL HAZARDS EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT REGION



During emergencies, when people are moved to a Red Cross Shelter, their pets are housed nearby. The Frisco elementary second graders collected stuffed animals that were donated for future training.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT



Governor John Hickenlooper visits Summit County to discuss the economy, and the Colorado Health Links Work Well Collaborative meets to discuss business engagement with the Work Place Wellness Initiative.

NWCCOG STAFF



Each year in June, the entire staff of the NWCCOG

gets together for a morning of fun and celebration, sharing “wins” with other team members, followed by lunch, and educational meetings in the afternoon. It’s a great way to stay connected even with such a geographically diverse group.

Nate Walowitz and Jon Stavney in Jackson County celebrating major milestones with Jackson’s broadband strategy achievements.



BROADBAND



RETURN ON MEMBERS' INVESTMENT

Member dues qualify NWCCOG to receive federal and state funding for an array of regional programs and services for which individual jurisdictions are not individually eligible. Some programs simply have better critical mass at a regional level. In 2016 membership dues totaled \$206,464, and though this was only 4.3% of NWCCOG's total revenues of \$4.8 million, those dues helped pay for core internal support services and made NWCCOG eligible for Federal funding of slightly more than \$1.3 million and state funding of slightly less than \$1.3 million. Each of the programs pay into an indirect cost (administration) fund which helps NWCCOG cover the cost of operations.

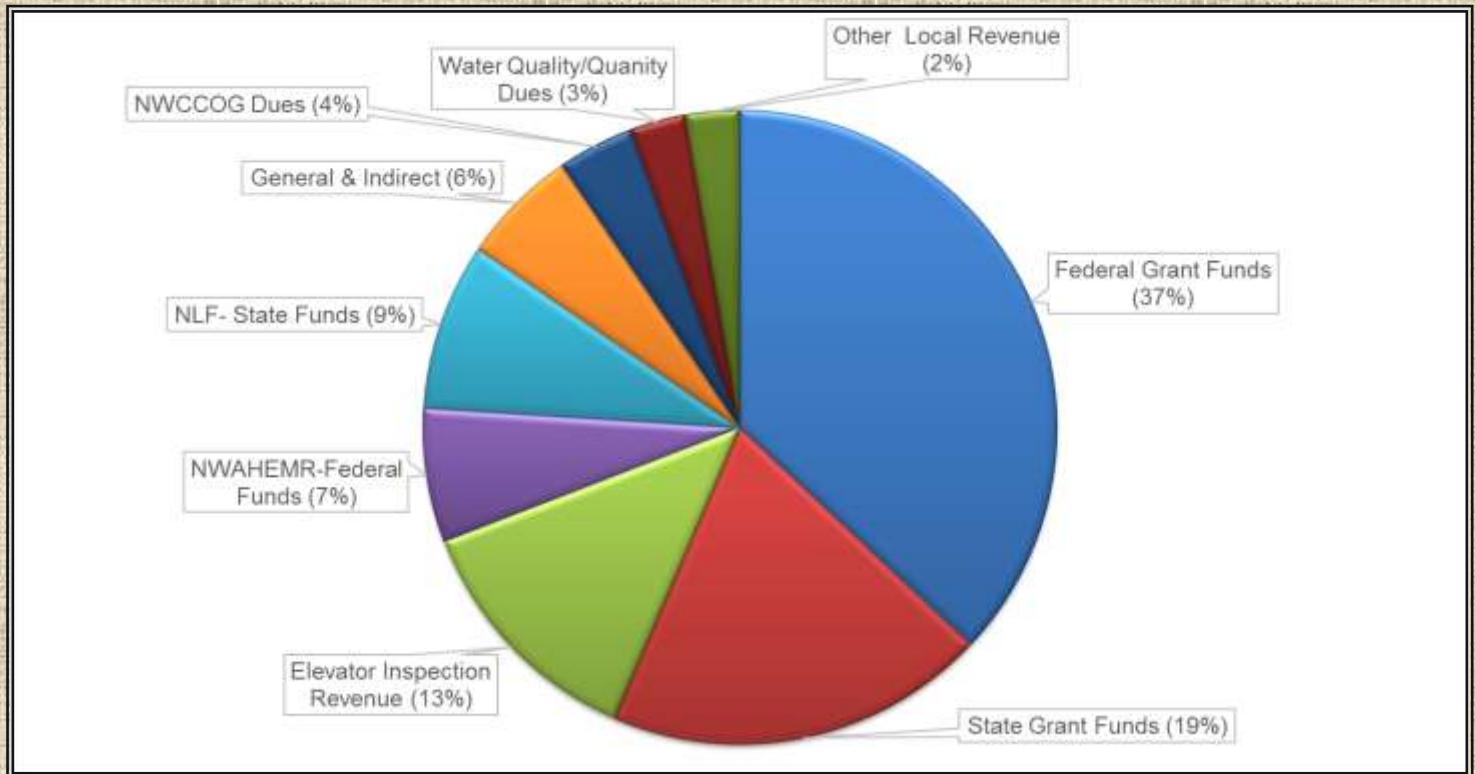
At NWCCOG, the Elevator Inspection Program also helps fund our delivery of basic member services by covering the cost of their program through fees. In 2016 EIP provided a net surplus of just under \$50,000. The Weatherization program in 2016 launched two fee-for-service pilot programs through a partnership with Energy Outreach Colorado which in 2017 will help diversify the revenue stream for that program. Utility partners for weatherization include: Xcel Energy, Atmos Energy, Black Hills Energy, Colorado Natural Gas, and Holy Cross Electric.

NWCCOG would like to thank the many local, state, and federal partners who make possible the delivery of local services including:

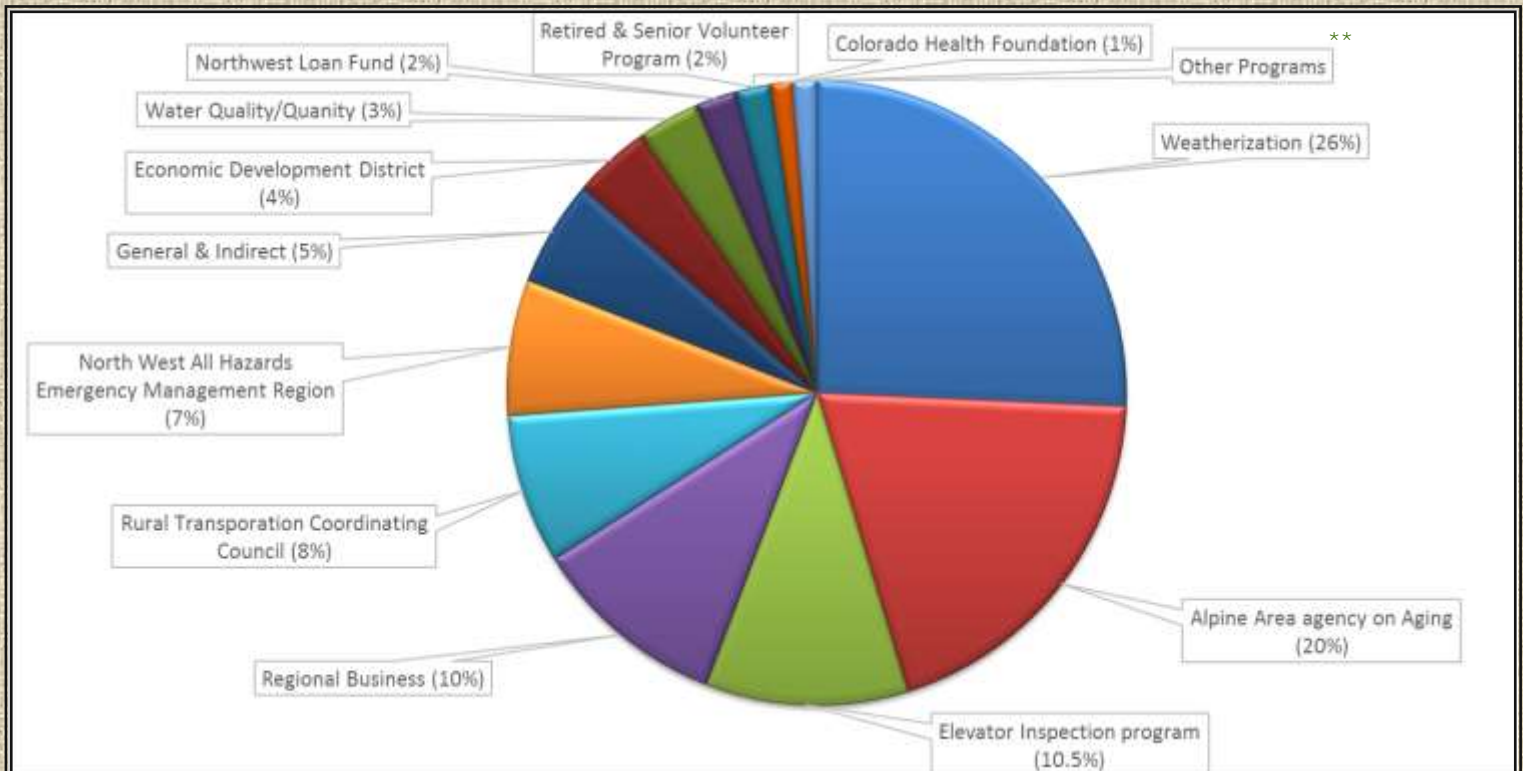
U.S. Department of Energy	Weatherization Assistance Program
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	(Older Americans Act Funds) AAAA
U.S. Corp. for National and Community Service	RSVP
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services	Weatherization (LEAP)
U.S. Federal Transit Administration	Mountain Ride Call Center
U.S. Department of Homeland Security	NW All Hazards Emergency Management
U.S. Economic Development Administration	Economic Development District
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Dev (HUD)	Northwest Loan Fund (CDBG grants)
Colorado Energy Office (Severance tax funds)	Weatherization
Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)	(Div. of Transit and Rail) Mountain Ride
Colorado Department of Human Services	(State Unit on Aging) AAAA
Colorado General Fund	(State funds for Senior Services) AAAA
Colorado Health Care, Policy and Financing	AAA Dental program, Mountain Ride NEMT
Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA)	Broadband Program, Mini-Grants, QQ studies
Colorado Office of Economic Development (OEDIT)	Northwest Loan Fund
Colorado Dep. of Public Health & Environment (CDPHE)	Watershed Services

2016 FINANCIALS

TOTAL REVENUES BY FUNDING SOURCE:
\$5,298,533



TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM:
\$5,131,832



** Other Programs: Water QQ Committee (.64%), Water Shed Services (.33%), Regional Assistance Hub (.21%), Small Business Development (.05%), Colorado Bark Beetle Coop (.02%)

2016 Council

The NWCCOG would like to thank all those who served on the 2016 Council for helping to make all of these accomplishments possible.

Eagle County

Jeanne McQueeney, Commissioner

Dillon

Carolyn Skowrya, Councilmember

Kremmling

Thomas Clark, Mayor

Grand County

Kristen Manguso, Commissioner

Eagle

Anne McKibbin, Mayor

Minturn

Matt Scherr, Mayor

Jackson County

Betsy Blecha, Commissioner

Fraser

Jeff Durbin, Town Manager

Montezuma

Molly Hood, Trustee

Pitkin County

Patti Clapper, Commissioner

Frisco

Deborah Shaner, Councilmember

Red Cliff

Valerie Blevins, Trustee

Summit County

Karn Stiegelmeier, Commissioner

Glenwood Springs

Kathryn Trauger, Councilmember

Snowmass Village

Alyssa Shenk, Councilmember

Aspen

Bert Myrin, Councilmember

Granby

Paul Chavoustie, Mayor

Steamboat Springs

Walter Magill, Councilmember

Basalt

Denise Tomaskovic, Recorder

Grand Lake

Kathy Lewis, Mayor Protem

Vail

Patty McKenny, Town Clerk

Blue River

Michelle Eddy, Town Administrator

Gypsum

Jeff Shroll, Town Manager

Walden

Suze Kanack, Town Clerk

Carbondale

TBD

Hot Sulphur Springs

Robert McVay, Mayor

Winter Park

Drew Nelson, Town Manager

Photo Credit: Todd Powell - Summer on Main Street Frisco

2016 NWCCOG Staff & Contractors

Steve Allen

Director, Elevator Inspection Program

Spencer Alley

Outreach Coordinator, Weatherization

Neal Ashforth

Auditor/Inspector, Weatherization

Mike Bugielski

Auditor/Inspector, Weatherization

Anita Cameron

Director of Business Lending, Northwest Loan Fund

Kim Cancelosi

Coordinator, NWAHEMR

TJ Dufresne

SHIP/SMP Coordinator, AAAA

Erin Fisher

Director, Alpine Area Agency on Aging

Jodi Flory

Contractor, GIS

Barbara Green

QQ General Counsel

CJ Grove

RSVP Volunteer Coordinator, AAAA

Torie Jarvis

Co-Director, Water Quality/Quantity Committee

Doug Jones

Field Supervisor, Weatherization

Susan Juergensmeier

Mobility Manager, RTCC

Mike Kurth

Contractor, Fiscal Officer

Judi LaPoint

Contractor, Marketing & Communications

Rachel Lunney

Director, Economic Development District

Jeremy Miller

Installer, Weatherization

David Picket-Heaps

Inspector, Elevator Inspection

Amanda Rens-Moon

Program Specialist, AAAA

Bennett Schmidt

Inspector, Elevator Inspection

Aaron Simmons

Inspector, Weatherization

Nate Speerstra

Program Specialist, Weatherization

Jon Stavney

Executive Director

Charles Steele

Installer, Weatherization

Molly Tompkins

Mobility Assistant, RTCC

Chris Vasquez

Inspector, Elevator Inspection

Chelsey Voden

Call Center Support, RTCC

Nate Walowitz

Regional Coordinator, Broadband

Angie Welsh

Contractor, Fiscal Administrator

Elaina Wiegand

Office Manager

Cora Winters

Administrative Assistant, Elevator Inspection

Justin Wiseman

Installer, Weatherization

Lane Wyatt

Co-Director, QQ and Watershed Services



Photo Credit - Town of Red Cliff

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http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html

or any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at:

U.S. Department of Agriculture
Director – Office of Adjudication
1400 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

by fax to (202) 690-7442

or email at program.intake@usda.gov

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