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## **Board Member Spotlight Jeanne McQueeney**



Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle County Commissioner, has been an Executive Committee member on the Board since January of this year. She says she's still in a learning mode since there is so much to know about the NWCCOG, but she had her first introduction to NWCCOG in 1998. As a former school teacher specializing in Early Childhood Education, Jeanne worked on the first Rural Resort Region Early Childhood Development Council, and learned through NWCCOG that it was an important regional issue.

As a Board member, Jeanne thinks it's very valuable to understand the issues in the region. There are opportunities to find alignment between what the region is doing and what a specific municipality is doing. They then strive to work together to solve the issues. "It's also important," she says, "to strategically identify regional issues and allocate necessary resources to help address them."

Originally, from Long Island, NY, she and her husband, both teachers, decided to relocate to Albuquerque, New Mexico. After six years there, they decided they wanted to be closer to skiing and found jobs in Eagle County, where they've

lived since 1991.

What Jeanne likes best about being a part of the NWCCOG board is the opportunities it provides to look beyond what's going on close to home, and take a more regional perspective. She enjoys learning about the differences and similarities of other areas, and studies how others are addressing the same challenges. She also enjoys the collegial nature of the board and the willingness of others to be open about concerns and solutions.

She thinks people are often surprised by the scope of work being done in the region by the NWCCOG, especially the Elevator Inspection Program.

Now that she and her husband are empty-nesters, they devote a lot of time to biking and skiing together.

## Staff Member Spotlight Tyler Cose Weatherization Installer

Although he was born in Utah, Tyler Cose has lived on Colorado's western slope since he was a baby. He grew up in Silt and now lives in New Castle where he has been an installer on the weatherization team for seven years. He's responsible for looking at the results of an energy audit that has been performed on a home, then making all the necessary modifications to insure the home is safe and energy efficient.

He says his job is about making his clients happy and satisfied with his work - and from the testimonials we have received about Tyler, it appears he's good at what he does!

Here's just a sample of the happy customers who have called in about Tyler's work:

- One client whose furnace quit working on a Friday got a hold of Tyler and he said, "Tyler revised his schedule and came out immediately to see what the problem was. He put a new thermostat in, fixed something else, and got the heater working again. Tyler was extremely understanding, attentive, and just plain nice." Tyler gave the client his cell phone number so if he had any more problems, he could call Tyler on the weekend. The client had no more problems with the heater, and closed his comments saying, "Tyler made a huge difference by his willingness to go the extra mile to make sure my family was comfortable. He deserves special recognition."
- Another client stated that when Tyler and Mike (Bugielski, another member of the Weatherization Team in New Castle) finished with his house, it was the first time since summer he hadn't had to "wear my down jacket in the house this morning. And for the



first time, my living room window was not totally frosted over! I could look out and actually see! It's amazing." He was so grateful for everything they did to his house.

It's no surprise then, when asked what Tyler likes most about this job he said, "Making people happy, and helping them to save money."

He also thinks most people would be surprised to know that weatherization work is done free to homes that qualify for the service. The quality of service provided, along with the quality of materials makes weatherization one of the best deals anywhere for people who need extra help.

When Tyler's not working to make homes more efficient you can find him hiking, running, or fishing in the summer. He also plays a fair amount of video games. When asked what he does in the winter he replied, "I wait for the summer!"

## Vision Assistive Technology



On August 25th, the Alpine Area Agency on Aging partnered with the Northwest Colorado Center for Independence (NWCCI) to demonstrate low vision assistive technology for seniors at the Grand County Council on Aging.

Michael Bertram, NWCCI Independent Living Coordinator, demonstrated a handheld electronic magnifier, which allows people with low vision and vision impairment to better read through a handheld color LCD screen that magnifies

images up to 15x. The device is on loan at GCCOA for seniors and community residents.

The AlpineAAA currently has funding for seniors 60+ in the region through Visual Impairment state funds. The funding may be used to assist visually impaired seniors with eye exams, skills training, home assessments, adaptive aids, and other services. Contact Erin Fisher for more information: [noc12@nwccog.org](mailto:noc12@nwccog.org)

(NOTE: One of the most low-vision friendly fonts Arial, which is included with the Microsoft Office suite. You may also consider downloading (for free) the APHont from the American Printing House for the Blind.

This newsletter is written using 10 point Arial Font.)

## Bring Wellness to Work Health Links is HERE!

# HEALTH LINKS.

Worksite wellness is a people-centered approach to doing business. Studies show that employers who foster a culture of health and safety at work have healthier, happier employees-and healthier bottom lines, too. By creating a work environment that promotes safety, physical activity, healthy habits, and overall wellbeing, companies can benefit from higher employee satisfaction, increased loyalty, improved productivity, and lower health care costs.

The benefits of worksite health and safety:

- Lower health care costs
- Higher employee morale and greater job satisfaction
- Higher productivity
- Fewer injuries
- Increased ability to recruit and retain top talent
- Lower absenteeism



Health Links™ is a nonprofit initiative spearheaded by health and safety experts at the Center for Health, Work and Environment within the Colorado School of Public Health. Health Links™ mission is to simplify how worksite health and safety get done. By doing so, we are helping build healthy, vibrant businesses and a stronger local economy.

Through a grant from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, a regional effort is underway, through NWCCOG's Regional Health and Wellness Sector Partnership, to bring Health Links to the region.

**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HOW TO START A WORKSITE WELLNESS PROGRAM IN YOUR BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION.**

**KICK-START FUNDING of \$250 - \$1,000 MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR ORGANIZATIONS WITH FEWER THAN 50 EMPLOYEES.**

Contact your local adviser:

- Eagle County - Laura Emrich - [laura.emrich@healthlinkscolorado.org](mailto:laura.emrich@healthlinkscolorado.org)
- Grand & Jackson Counties - we are still looking for advisors in these counties! Contact Health Links directly - [michelle.haan@healthlinkscolorado.org](mailto:michelle.haan@healthlinkscolorado.org)
- Pitkin County - Amanda Wagner - [amanda.wagner@healthlinkscolorado.org](mailto:amanda.wagner@healthlinkscolorado.org)
- Summit County - Diana Reznikoff - [diana.reznikoff@healthlinkscolorado.org](mailto:diana.reznikoff@healthlinkscolorado.org)

## 2015 NWCCOG Meeting Schedule

### Thursday, October 22, 2015

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00 a.m. - noon

### Thursday, December 3, 2015

Full Council & Foundation Board Meeting

Location: NWCCOG Office/Conference Call

Time: 10:00 a.m. - noon

Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

[www.nwccog.org](http://www.nwccog.org)

970.468.0295

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