



News Release

Southeast Rural Philanthropy Days Returns to La Junta in September

LA JUNTA, COLO. – June 9, 2010 – Registrations will open soon for Southeast Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days, which will be held September 15-17, at Otero Junior College in La Junta. The event, held every four years in Southeastern Colorado, brings philanthropic funding organizations and non-profit organizations together to explore funding needs and grant possibilities.

Southeast Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days focuses on the eight-county region including Baca, Bent, Crowley, Huerfano, Kiowa, Las Animas, Otero and Prowers counties.

Registration opens Monday, June 14, online at www.southeastrpd.org and all registrations will be done via the Website. The cost of registration is \$100 per person which includes five meals, three capacity-building workshops and the opportunity to meet with funders. Organizations do not have to have a 501(c)3 to register; however non-profit organizations will be limited to two representatives.

Rural Philanthropy Days began in the early 1990s as a way to bring Front Range foundations and government agencies to rural Colorado to open dialogue, provide networking opportunities and create relationships with non-profit organizations. To accomplish this goal, Colorado has been divided into eight rural regions with each region hosting a Rural Philanthropy Days event every four years. Under the direction of the Community Resource Center, two Rural Philanthropy Days events are held in Colorado each year. Southeast Colorado last hosted the regional event in 2006.

The 2010 event will be the fourth Philanthropy Days held in the region. According to Teri Erickson, event co-chair, "Since holding Philanthropy Days in the area, grant makers have increased their funding to rural non-profits by nearly 300 percent." While in Southeastern Colorado, grantors will have the opportunity to meet with non-profit groups and community leaders where they will learn firsthand the issues and needs of the eight-county region.

To register for the conference visit www.southeastrpd.org; space is limited. For additional information, contact Almabeth Kaess, event coordinator, at 719-384-6821 or almabeth.kaess@ojc.edu.

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