



300 West Fourth St.
Craig, CO 81625

September 27, 2016

Ms. Leah Rausch
Director of Rural Partnerships
Colorado Resource Center
789 Sherman Street, Suite 210
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Rausch and the Northwest Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days Steering Committee,

I am writing to express the City of Craig's enthusiasm for and support of our community hosting the Northwest Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days conference on September 27 to 29, 2017. The large, energetic group of local volunteers who have been working to present Craig as the ideal host location are calling this effort mocoRPD2017, and Craig City Council supports this effort whole-heartedly.



Craig City Council understands that our community's more than 60 nonprofit organizations make it a great place to raise a family, enjoy retirement and do business. We welcome representatives from our state's foundations to witness firsthand the difference these agencies make as they serve 1 in 4 of our community's population, from all walks of life.

Our community has the facilities, the services, the passion and the drive to present a true rural conference experience to funders, government officials and regional nonprofit representatives in 2017. We hope you agree and will give our community the chance to showcase our region well in exactly one year.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration. Please let me know how I and Craig City Council can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Ray Beck
Mayor, City of Craig



Northwest Colorado Rural Philanthropy Days 2017 Conference Fact Sheet

What? Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) is a statewide program that provides nonprofit leaders the resources they need to lead effective and sustainable organizations. RPD conferences convene nonprofits, funders and local governments to share ideas and develop collaborative opportunities in order to build the capacity of local organizations and communities to address regional social issues.

Northwest Region: Grand, Jackson, Moffat, Rio Blanco and Routt counties

Northwest Conference: Every four years

Next conference: September 27-29, 2017

Past conferences: Winter Park (2013), Steamboat Springs (2009), Granby (2005), Steamboat Springs/Craig (2001)

Next Conference Location: Ideally Moffat County

RPD Conference Location Decision: October 11, 2016

Who? RPD conference activities are coordinated by a regional steering committee comprised of rural nonprofit, government and business leaders and Community Resource Center, Anschutz Family Foundation and local foundation staff.

Moffat County Representation on 2017 Regional Steering Committee: 13 of 30 members

Cost? Economic impact?

The conference costs between \$50,000 and \$90,000 to host. The conference cost is paid for through donations coming from represented communities in the region and registration fees, which are typically \$150 per person. Fundraising helps to supplement registration and provide scholarships, making the conference accessible to small, rural nonprofit organizations.

The conference typically attracts 250 to 300 attendees, representing at least **300 hotel nights** totaling more than \$25,000 in the host community. That's an estimated \$1,500 in lodging tax dollars for Moffat County Tourism Association and Moffat County Local Marketing District. What's more is that **dollars invested are funneled back into our community** through food and service contracts with local vendors! Conference participants are also spending with our local businesses, generating sales tax revenue!

Perhaps even more importantly, hosting the RPD conference in our county gives funders a firsthand understanding of our community's unique strengths, challenges and areas of need. Between 2009 and 2014, the top 12 funders granted 367 grants to the Northwest Colorado region, totaling more than **\$12.5 million! That's a great return on investment!**

How can you help?

Now: Letter of support for Moffat County as host community and participation in our presentation video (invitation to be sent later this week)

Later: Financial contribution to the RPD conference and volunteering to plan the event

For more information: crcamerica.org/rural-philanthropy-days

Amanda Arnold, Moffat County United Way, 970.824.6222, amanda@unitedmoffat.org

Michelle Balleck, Craig/Moffat Economic Development Partnership, 970.620.4370, director@cmedp.com

Leah Rausch, Community Resource Center, 303.623.1540, ext. 170, rausch@crcamerica.org