

June 4, 2010

Ms. Jennifer Eby
100 Third Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104

Dear Ms. Jennifer Eby:

Congratulations! I am pleased to announce that your county has been awarded a 2010 NACO Achievement Award for the program entitled, *Collaborative Effort to develop an emergency shelter for the Women's Crisis and Family Outreach Center (WCFOC)*. In this 41st year of the Achievement Award program, NACO is extremely pleased with the high caliber of county programs and projects. NACO is proud to confer this award and recognize your county's hard work to promote quality, efficient, and responsive management and administration.

NACO greatly appreciates Douglas County's participation in this year's Achievement Award program. In addition to giving us an opportunity to formally recognize effective and creative programs, this program enhances our awareness of county activities and allows us to share valuable information with other counties across the nation.

As you may know, NACO recognizes award winners in several ways. A list of winning programs will be available via NACO's website at <http://www.naco.org>. Summaries of award winning programs will be included in our Model Programs database which can be accessed directly from NACO's home page. In addition, over the next several months, selections of award winning programs will be highlighted in a *County News, Focus on Achievement* column.

We also offer a variety of commemorative items to reward yourself and other employees and to celebrate the county's winning efforts. A website has been created for Achievement Award winners at www.easttwest.com. Please click on the NACO logo for access to the store.

This year, NACO will host the 14th Annual Awards Ceremony during our 2010 Annual Conference in Washoe County, NV. This reception is scheduled for Sunday, July 18, 2010, 3:30 pm – 5:00 pm in room A5/A6 at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center. During this ceremony, Achievement Award winners will be collectively recognized and there will be an opportunity for you or your representative to have a photo taken with a NACO official. We hope you will be able to attend. Enclosed is your official invitation to the reception. Please RSVP to Chris Markwood at 202.942.4243 or email at cmarkwood@naco.org by June 25th, if you plan to attend.

Questions concerning the award program may be directed to Jacqueline Byers at 202.942.4285 or jbyers@naco.org, or Kathryn Murphy at 202.661.8806 or kmurphy@naco.org.

Congratulations on your county's accomplishment!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads 'Larry Naake'.

Larry Naake
Executive

Director

Enclosures

National Association of Counties

2010 Achievement Award Winner

This Award is Presented to

Douglas County, CO

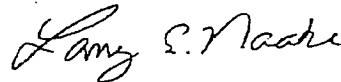
for
its program

***Collaborative Effort to develop an
emergency shelter for the Women's
Crisis and Family Outreach Center
(WCFOC)***

in recognition of an effective and innovative program
which contributes to and enhances county government
in the United States.



Valerie Brown, President



Larry Naake, Executive Director



**International City/County Management Association
2010 Annual Awards Program
Nomination for the Community Partnership Award
Category By Douglas County**

I. Section 1: Information About the Nominated Program

A. Program Excellence Award Category:

Community Partnership

B. Name of program being nominated:

Community Partnership to develop an emergency shelter for the Women's Crisis and Family Outreach Center (WCFOC).

C. Jurisdiction where program originated:

Douglas County

D. Jurisdiction population:

Douglas County Population: 293,521 (as of January 1, 2010)

E. Project implementation:

Month: December Year: 2009

F. Name and title of individual to be recognized:

Douglas J. DeBord, County Manager
Douglas County

II. Section 2: Information about primary contact:

Terence T. Quinn, AICP, Planning Services Director
Douglas County
Community Planning and Sustainable Development Department
100 Third Street
Castle Rock, CO 80104

United States of America
303-660-7460 (office)
303-660-9550 (fax)
tquinn@douglas.co.us

III. Section 3: Nomination Summary

A. Problem assessment, the challenge or need that prompted the local government to develop the program:

Domestic violence is the number one violent crime in Douglas County; in fact, more than 90 percent of the homicides within the County in the past 11 years have been factually based in domestic violence. The Douglas County Sheriff's office recorded over 800 reports of domestic violence each year, with a 5 percent increase between 2007 and 2008. The WCFOC is the only domestic violence agency and operates the only emergency shelter of any kind available to assist Douglas County residents. The existing shelter located in Douglas County, was a 12-bed facility, able to house no more than 150 victims of domestic violence per year. As the demands for shelter have continued to increase, each year the WCFOC has been forced to turn families away. In 2008 alone, 49 families were declined shelter and services due to the limitations of the existing facility. In addition, the WCFOC has experienced a spike in calls for help since the economic downturn in the fall of 2008. During 2009, the WCFOC assisted over 6000 callers and provided 2,400 nights of shelter to women and children in imminent danger of domestic violence.

This collaborative effort involving public/private/non-profit partnerships addressed the following issues:

- Emergency shelters related to domestic violence are typically considered a locally unwanted land use, requiring careful consideration when identifying a location.
- An ideal site providing accessibility to critical services and resources for WCFOC clients was required for this facility to be successful.
- Locating scarce funding resources and leveraging them with in-kind services was necessary to maximize funding for this project during a weakened economy.
- Several planning processes were required in order to complete this facility within a very short timeframe mandated in large part by available funding sources.

While providing services and shelter to victims of domestic violence is important to Douglas County, it is not a mandated service. The County is under no legal obligation to provide this type of service. In this case, Douglas County took advantage of the opportunity to partner with the WCFOC and help them reach their goal to provide a safe facility that is considered a haven to victims of domestic violence who are desperate to rebuild their lives.

B. Program implementation:

Through the donation of one acre of land, the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) was able to provide the WCFOC with an ideal site for the development of their new emergency shelter facility. This site offered amenities that can vastly improve the quality of life for the at-risk client population served by the WCFOC including close proximity to:

- Significant transportation options including: bus routes, light rail stations, and major transportation corridors connecting to the greater Denver Metro area.
- Regional bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Important parks and open space.
- Educational, medical, and employment resources critical to furthering client self-sufficiency.

As funding was a critical component to the success of this project, Douglas County supported the development of this facility through an allocation of \$212,500 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding and a \$500,000 Philip S. Miller grant both approved by the BCC. In addition, the County paid for \$300,000, or 75 percent of the total infrastructure costs associated with the driveway required to provide access to the facility, costs normally borne by the developer. The completion of the driveway was a critical step in the development process as it allowed the planning processes to continue to move forward in preparation for construction to begin.

The County committed to supporting the WCFOC's aggressive project timeline by fast-tracking the necessary land use applications with concurrent processes. The processes to subdivide the County's existing property to create the project site and to convey the land to the WCFOC ran concurrently. After conveyance of the property, the site plan approval and planned development amendment to zone the site for the use were also processed concurrently. Through a collaborative effort, County staff and the WCFOC's consultant team of Engineers Without Borders, Norris Design, Harris Kocher Smith and Olson Architecture met every deadline established in the County's regulatory process to ensure that the overall project timeline was successfully met.

Another critical aspect of this collaborative effort was the partnerships that WCFOC fostered with the architecture and engineering firms who worked to further this project. Engineers Without Borders, a volunteer based group of engineers, lead the way in beginning the site planning for the facility. Project engineers volunteered their services to create the initial engineering drawings required to begin the planning processes with the Douglas County Planning Division. Engineers Without Borders provided the Director of Development for WCFOC with contacts at Harris Kocher Smith, Norris Design and Olson Architecture, Inc. Olson Architecture had previously developed plans for another emergency shelter and was willing to offer their services, partially in-kind, to modify these existing plans to meet the needs of the WCFOC on the donated land. This, coupled with the partial in-kind engineer services provided by Harris Kocher Smith

and Norris Design, allowed the WCFOC to work through the required planning processes and begin construction. Work on the new 9,000 square foot facility was completed in mid-December 2009; a mere 24 months after the WCFOC first approached the County for financial assistance with the project.

C. The Cost of the Program:

Douglas County's total direct contribution of \$1,012,500 to this program included:

- \$212,500- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Allocation
- \$500,000- Philip S. Miller Grant Allocation
- \$300,000- Infrastructure Improvements related to facility access

The following is a general breakdown of revenue sources for the WCFOC's \$2.5 million Capital Campaign to build this emergency shelter. These figures do not take into account the land donation provided through Douglas County.

Foundations:	\$400,000
Individuals:	\$250,000
Corporations:	\$30,000
Government:	\$1,125,000
Special event:	\$40,000
Agency:	\$75,000
Total cash:	\$1,920,000
In-kind:	\$375,000
Total project:	\$2,295,000 (leaving the agency with a little over \$200,000 left to raise).

D. Tangible results or measurable outcomes of the program:

As a result of this unique public/private/non-profit collaborative effort, this new emergency shelter facility providing critical, life changing, services was planned and constructed within a short 2-year timeframe. The new 9,000 square foot facility opened its doors to clients just before Christmas in mid-December 2009. This new shelter, increased the agency's bed space from 12 to 28, and is designed to serve about 350 clients each year. This facility will allow the WCFOC to more than double the amount of clients they are able to serve each year.

For years to come, this facility will serve as a safe haven for victims of domestic violence in Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties who have been beaten, threatened, used and disrespected to the point of having to leave their homes. The average family seeking shelter through the WCFOC has many needs that are provided for including: medical, psychological, legal and financial. The WCFOC assists clients with finding jobs, housing and schools for their children, in fact, 85 percent of their clients leave the

shelter for a long-term safe environment where they can safely begin to rebuild their lives.

E. Lessons learned during planning, implementation and analysis of the program: