2015 MILLER GRANT AWARDS

Safety Net Programs:

Arapahoe Douglas Mental Health Network - $5,000 - for the Senior Reach Program – a program designed to increase access to Mental Health services for seniors through collaborative training and programming with other community organizations. Funding would go for Douglas County seniors. The program trains community volunteers how to identify and refer older adults in need of mental health and other assistance to existing community resources.

Arapahoe House - $4,000 - long standing, well regarded drug and alcohol addiction treatment program; partners with DC Human Services and Community Justice Services. The program served 408 DC residents including 25 children and youth in 2014. Has specialty programs for teens, pregnant women and deaf and hard of hearing clients.

Catholic Charities - $5,000 - has established an office in donated space in Douglas County to serve needy families. They would use the funds to serve 250 families in 2015. Provides safety net services. Program collaborates with Human Services and Community Development Departments. Catholic Charities purchases grocery store gift cards to be used for the purchase of fresh fruit and vegetables not available at food banks or for gas; this helps supports employment. Crisis services include food boxes, infant supplies, supermarket vouchers, emergency utility funds and transportation and motel vouchers. Catholic Charities also partners with St. Vincent DePaul.

Doctors Care - $5,000 - uses a network of local doctors and other health care providers to provide health care to low-income and uninsured children and adults. Additionally, the program helps hundreds access health coverage and address barriers to utilizing that coverage to access health care. Served 600 DC residents in 2014.

Douglas/Elbert Task Force - $25,000 - foundational safety-net organization in our community. Emergency services, including food bank, along with self-sufficiency related services. New leadership wants to expand partnerships and self-sufficiency programming. Manages the commodities program for Human Services. Funding will go for Utilities Assistance and for infrastructure improvements.

Inter-faith Community Services – $10,000 - food and other emergency services provided to Highlands Ranch and Lone Tree residents (and Arapahoe County). Serves vulnerable seniors and low-income families; long standing, credible organization. Includes self-sufficiency programming. Provided 142 units of service to DC residents in 2014. Services include a Hunger Prevention Program, Homeless Prevention, Financial Assistance, and Enrichment Programs for children, Senior Programs and other assistance.

Parker Task Force - $25,000 - Food and emergency services along with self-sufficiency, job search services for Parker and surrounding area residents. All volunteer staff. Co-location plans with Human Services in new building once constructed. Expanding services and partnerships including support to disenfranchised youth in the community. Has a back pack program to feed children over the weekend. We recommend that Miller funds would go for operational costs.
Sky Cliff Center – $12,650 - serves only DC seniors and vulnerable adults including stroke victims; unique service not provided by others. Does not receive large amounts of public funding or major donations. Grass roots organizations but provides services to a population that poses great challenges for families to manage on their own. Sky Cliff currently serves 35 adults in their adult day program and 75 caregivers and stroke victims in their stroke program. It is anticipated the funding will go toward transportation needs.

St. Vincent DePaul Society – $6,000 - fills a gap as a food bank that operates on the weekend when others are closed. They typically serve 80 – 130 families at the Saturday food bank. They also provide meat, milk, eggs, butter, etc., things often not provided at other food banks. They provide non-food necessities such as diapers, soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies (none of these can be purchased with food stamps). Located in Douglas County

Youth Development Programs:

Colorado Agricultural Leadership Foundation (Calf) – $3,000 - focused on DC residents only. Unique program that focuses on agricultural background and identify of the county. Serves low-income families with Calf grown produce; conducts a structured “Supervised Agricultural Experience” at the Lowell Ranch. Funds would be used to increase participation in Calf’s Connecting Kids to Agriculture programs.

DC Partners Youth Mentoring – $2,000 - Served 47 DC youth in 2014. Mentoring programs are very successful when youth are successfully matched with mentors. The courts refer to this program as do other community groups. The program is focused on empowering at-risk youth to make positive changes and responsible choices, thus assisting them to reach their potential.

DCSO Explorer Program – $3,600 - Youth leadership training program; includes youth raising funds for various opportunities they pursue. Encourage future leaders to enter the law enforcement field. Funding will go for 12 Explorers to attend the Regional Conference in Gunnison where they will test what they have learned throughout the year. DCSO added five new explorers to their program in 2014.

Rosie’s Ranch – $4,000 - Equine therapy program specifically focused on children and youth with autism or hearing impairments. The funding would be used for a portion of the general operating costs for the new Wranglers Round-up Program and the initial development of a new Consortium of Therapeutic Riding Facilities.

Prevention Programs:

Children’s Advisory Network – $4,000 - for the Wee Screen Program serving Douglas County. The grant would be used to expand the vision, hearing and speech screening program to more preschools and children in the county to ensure that all children are screened before entering school – such evaluations
can prevent many other service needs in the future if issues are detected early. Children with unidentified hearing, vision or speech problems often get labeled as behavior problem children.

**Douglas County Parenting Coalition — $2,000** - DC based organization managed by community members that volunteer for the Coalition. Provide many useful parenting tips, information and community events of interest to all parents but particularly to young or new parents seeking knowledge and advice. The objective is to reach parents with resources, tools, education, skills development, and encouragement before trouble happens. The Coalition maintains a Parent Resource Website.

**Y.E.S.S. Suicide Prevention DCSO - $15,000** - Addresses a very important community issue — suicide prevention. Program is for Douglas County specifically in partnership with the schools and many other community and governmental organizations. Provides effective suicide prevention training to professionals and the general public. Both ASIST and safeTALK are on the National Best Practice Registry and are recognized as world class training. In 2014 there were 48 suicides in Douglas County. Y.E.S.S. will use the Miller funds to train over 150 people in suicide prevention techniques.