

## 2008 Accomplishments

- Delivered over \$3.8 million of services
- Kept administrative costs under 11%
- Contributed over \$2 million to local economies
- Raised over \$15,000 at the Festival of Trees



Stella Kiefer

Did you know that even though there are well over 200 people being served right now by CCI, there is a waiting list of over 70 people in southwest Colorado and 9,000 people statewide? And sometimes people wait for up to 10 years before they get help!

That's why Amendment 51 was so important in 2008. Yet that tiny tax did not pass and the wait for thousands of people with developmental disabilities continues.

Unfortunately, increased funds for people who actually *receive* services through CCI is not much more hopeful than for those on the "waitlist".

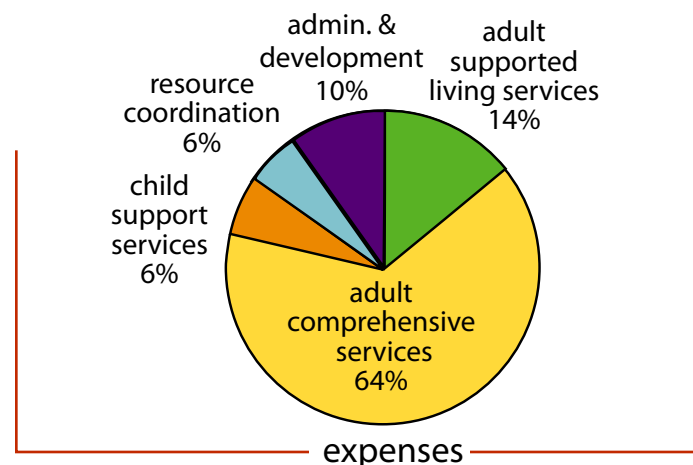
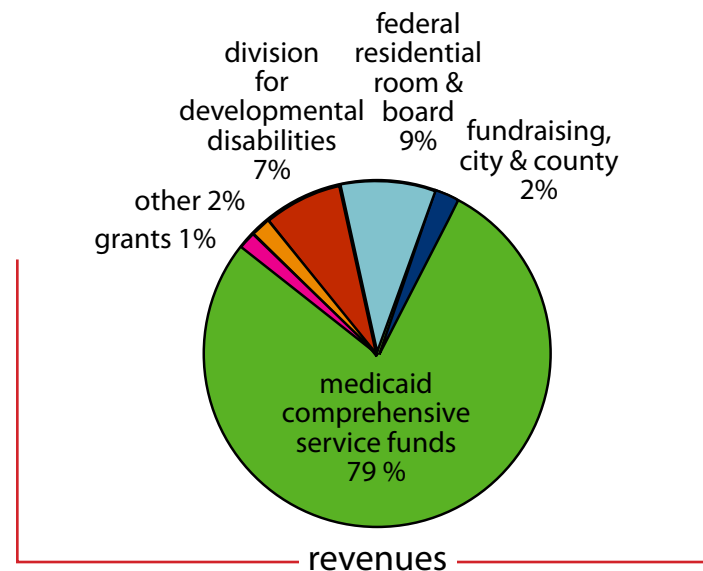
Medicaid provides a certain dollar amount to care for each person based on formulas set by the government. What we receive often falls short of what is needed to support our clients' health and daily needs. The government doesn't consider that in our area, \$500 a month to provide food and a roof covers only 30% of the real cost, whereas in Mississippi, it covers 99%. Yet, the government gives out the same amount of money across the nation.

But there is hope. Over 120 CCI employees work very hard to make ends meet. We also hold 2 fundraisers every year: Golfing for Kids with Disabilities in the summer and the Festival of Trees in the winter. And CCI applies for grants and welcomes donations of time or treasure that support our mission. The funds we raise are used for essential things that Medicaid doesn't cover like - wheelchair ramps to help clients get into their houses, travel expenses to the Denver Children's Hospital for babies who need to see a specialist, and adult programs that help scores of adults improve their health, job skills, and quality of life.

And we do all of this while spending less than 11% on administrative costs.

We believe our story will have a happy ending and that one day our government will provide enough funding for all people with developmental disabilities. But until then, we will ask our community to continue donating the increasing funds we need so that CCI may focus on what really matters - helping children and adults with developmental disabilities lead healthy and fulfilling lives right here in our own community.

*CCI is audited annually by the independent accounting firm of Logan, Thomas, and Johnson and is in compliance with GAAP. Our complete financial operating report is available for public review and can be obtained by requesting a copy from our office.*



The only organization providing comprehensive services to Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, & San Juan counties. Community Connections, Inc. 281 Sawyer Drive, Suite 200, Durango, CO 81303 ● 970.259.2464 ● www.cci-colorado.org



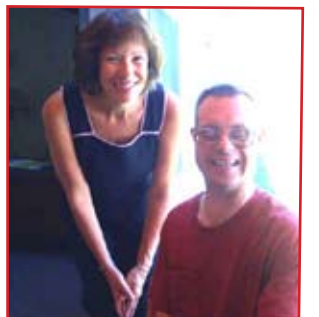
## Passion is what drives our staff to be the best...

Economic troubles, personal care staff shortages, housing costs, housing losses, high scale food prices, gasoline prices faltering and still there is passion. It's easy to see the passion that exists with the staff at Community Connections, Inc. You don't have to look too hard to understand that CCI's personal care staff takes their job seriously and with minimal incentives from their pay check.

CCI's staff can be seen in the communities we serve sometimes cautiously and at other times with an energetic pace as they guide people we serve. The people we serve are people who have developmental disabilities like autism, cerebral palsy or Down syndrome. Individuals who have a developmental disability often need assistance with daily living necessities that most people take for granted. Some clients need total assistance as they go through their daily routines while others are independently making choices and navigating through the communities we serve with minimal assistance.

It is the passion and the desire to make a difference in the lives of these unique individuals that drives our staff to keep doing what they do best. And the Best is to believe in the abilities of each person we have the honor of serving. It is this passion from our staff that helped Community Connections win the Nonprofit of the Year Award for 2008.

So despite limited funding, high prices and shortages of staff, our company continues to follow the belief that all people should have the opportunity to lead a healthy and fulfilling life. According to Georg Wilhelm, "Nothing great in the world has been accomplished without passion." It is this passion that leads our staff to have the best job in town - helping other people achieve their dreams and desires!



Jackie Morlan, Executive Director and Travis Jeter

## 2008 Accomplishments

- Won the Nonprofit of the Year Award
- Won the Daniel B. Davidson Excellence in Inclusion Award
- Served over 240 children, families, and adults
- Updated our mission



Ask us about developmental disabilities

## Community Connections, Inc.

### Our Mission

To provide opportunities for children and adults with developmental disabilities to lead healthy and fulfilling lives within our community.

### Our Services

In addition to our Adult, Early Intervention, and Family Programs, CCI also provides Case Management services. This department handles eligibility and enrollment, and is the only entity in the state providing services to clients in southwest Colorado while on the waitlist. Once enrolled, Case Managers help clients and families determine their priorities and provide ongoing monitoring to ensure that clients' needs are being met. In 2008, Case Management served over 200 people. In 2009 the goal is to continue assuring that the Medicaid and Department of Human Services required processes are followed in a manner that is as friendly and client-centered as possible.



Rodney Cross & daughter Sandal 1986

### Board of Directors

Robert Torres (Chair), Lauren Ellison (Vice Chair), Rodney Cross (Secretary & Treasurer), James DeNier, Patricia Pegram, Bob Conrad, and Steve Ulery.

### CCI Directors

Jackie Morlan (Executive Director), Tara Kiene (Director of Families, Children & Adults), Anne Cook (Director of Adult Services), Jacque Hendricks (Human Resources Director), Chuck Giannone (Finance Director), and Julie Dreyfuss (Development Director).

### Contact Us

If you have questions about CCI or would like to request services. Call us or visit our website today.

## Adult Programs

### 2008 Accomplishments

Served over 120 adults ages 18-78  
Developed an electronic data management process  
Got greenhouses for Cortez & Durango Day Programs  
Won First Place in the Snowdown Parade

### Services & Funding

CCI offers a variety of adult services which are primarily funded by Medicaid and augmented by fundraising.

**Health & Wellness** This includes education, monitoring, and coordination of primary care services for our clients and their individualized needs. In 2009 we will focus on nutrition and exercise. We hope to increase participation in nutritional programs like Colorado Food Share in order to better promote healthy lifestyles.

**Employment** 82% of DVR eligible clients worked in local businesses like Nature's Oasis, Wal-Mart, and Comfort Inn. One of these employees won the Safeway Community Hero Award and Safeway donated \$1,000 to Meals on Wheels on his behalf. Our 2009 goal is to reach 92% employment and to maintain our 90% retention rate.

**Residential** Depending on the adult's needs, we provide supported living services, in-home 24/7 comprehensive care, or support through a host home setting. We will continue to look for land or housing donations, grants, and host home providers in order to avoid group homes which foster isolation.

**Community Integration** CCI served an average of 45 clients in our Bayfield, Cortez, and Durango Day Programs. These programs emphasize exercise, individual creativity, education, participation in local events, and volunteering. We have recently won a grant for an accessible van which will help us get into the community even more. Look for our racing stripes starting in the summer of 2009!

## Early Intervention Programs

### 2008 Accomplishments

Served over 70 children under the age of three  
75% of kids advanced to the next developmental stage  
Continued to meet rigorous state performance standards  
SWK Coordinator won National Parent Leadership Award

### Services

Southwest Kids (Montezuma and Dolores) and San Juan Kids (San Juan, La Plata, & Archuleta) services include free developmental screenings and evaluations for children under three, plus physical, occupational, speech, social, and emotional therapies based on eligibility and needs. In 2008, we served over 70 infants and toddlers - more kids than ever before! This may be partially attributed to the increase of physician referrals through ABCD (Assuring Better Child Health and Development). This new project is designed to encourage developmental screenings at all well child care checks to increase the chance of early detection of developmental delays.

### Funding

We never turn a child away. Although we are only funded for 38 children, we currently serve over 70! Early Intervention philosophy is opposed to a waitlist because "...research shows that the first three years are the most important time for learning in a child's life. Providing developmental supports and services early ...may prevent or decrease the need for special help later." (eicolorado.org). As a result, despite accessing a variety of funding sources, there is still a shortage of funds.

### 2009 Goals

Raise at least \$20,000 to help defray funding shortages  
Update Southwest Kids and San Juan Kids web pages  
Distribute a community resource guide in print and disc  
Recruit at least 4 more physicians for ABCD

## Family Support Programs

### 2008 Accomplishments

FSSP assisted over 76 families & enrolled 4 new families  
FSSP raised \$3,500 at Golfing for Kids with Disabilities  
TAMBO assisted 18 families and 24 kids

### FSSP Services & Funding

The Family Support Services Program (FSSP) not only provides financial support but also develops a plan that meets the needs of the entire family as they relate to a member's disability.

State funding is used to meet many of the needs identified by families, but it is often not enough. In 2008, extra funding came from donors and grants. Funds were used to help with things like travel for medical purposes, medical bills not covered by insurance, developmental materials, and home modifications.

### TAMBO Program & Funding

Did you know that parents who get respite experience less burn-out and are happier in their roles as caregivers? The TAMBO Respite Program helps parents by providing a monthly break during the school year. CCI is hoping to find year round funding.



Andrew Reinhardt

### 2009 Goals

Continue to provide support for over 90 families  
Move at least 3 families off the FSSP wait list  
Hold 4 family networking events in Montezuma County  
Raise over \$4,000 at Golfing for Kids with Disabilities  
Find year round funding for TAMBO

## We Couldn't Do It Without You!

ABATE  
ACE Services  
Adult Education Center  
Adaptive Sports Association  
Afford-A-Pro Carpet Cleaning  
Alpine Bank  
Animas Drywall  
Animas Valley Windows  
Annie Brooks  
Atmos Energy  
Basin Printing and Imaging  
Bayfield Enterprises  
Bechtolt Engineering  
Best Cleaning & Disaster  
Big Dog 96.9 & 106.7  
Bob's Johns, Inc.  
BOCES (San Juan & Southwest)  
BP & Ronald Stephens  
Brown's Shoe Fit Company  
Build New Mexico  
Cindi Sheridan

City Market - North & South  
CJ's Catering  
Coca-Cola  
Cocina Linda  
Community Foundation for SW CO  
Country Road 4-H Club  
Cyle Talley  
**D&SNGRR Gold Star Sponsor**  
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Dance in the Rockies  
Dave Mensch of Formula 151  
Denier Youth Center  
Denny's in Cortez  
Discovery Kids  
Discovery Museum  
District 9-R  
Donna Duke  
Doughworks  
Dr. Greg Mann  
Dr. Mickelson  
Dr. Joel

Dgo. Chamber of Commerce  
Durango Children's Chorale  
Durango Coffee Company  
**Durango Herald Silver Bell Sponsor**  
Durango Liquor and Wine Co.  
Durango Mountain Resort  
Durango Nature Studies  
Durango Orchestra & Jazz Band  
Durango Orthopedic Associates  
Durango Recreation Center  
Durango's Finest Foods  
Durangourmet  
Ernest House  
**First National Bank Silver Bell**  
Flanagan Architecture  
FLC Environmental Center  
Franciscas Restaurant  
Gamewinner Sports  
Glacier Club  
Hillcrest Golf Club  
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Housing Solutions of the SW  
Interact  
Kaish Marie Design  
Kay & Bruce Mayer  
Keese Motor  
Kitchens by Design  
**Kroegers Ace Hardware Gold Star**  
La Plata County  
La Plata Electric Association  
La Plata Youth Services  
Laurie Truax  
Mama's Boy  
Maria Flossman  
Mataholla Moon Belly Dance  
Mercy Employee Giving  
Merle Norman of Cortez  
Montelores Early Childhood  
Montezuma Public Health  
Music in the Mountains  
Native Roots  
Mutu's Italian Restaurant

Naomi's Hallmark  
Open Sky Wilderness Therapy  
PASCO  
Pat Murphy Motors  
Peak Energy  
Pine River Valley Bank  
Pueblo Community College  
Reg. 9 Economic Development  
Rick Ehat  
San Juan Basin Health Dept.  
San Juan Basin Vo-Tech  
San Juan Insulation & Drywall  
San Juan Mountains Assoc.  
Sandy Leatherwood  
Schield Leavitt Insurance  
Schluter Floral & April's Garden  
Skills for Living and Learning  
Sinister Shadows Murder Mystery  
SW Center for Independence  
Southwest CO Mental Health Ctr.  
Southwest Memorial Hospital

Spaaah Shop and Day Spa  
St. Columba Bell Choir  
Starbuck's Coffee  
Steaming Bean  
Stevie B's Sports  
Sunnyside Farms  
SW Employee Education & Therapy  
Sylvia Zurko  
Tangles Design Team  
Target Rental  
Tarpley RV  
Task Masters of Southwest CO Inc.  
The Jewel Box  
The Mason Center  
The Ornament Club  
The Palace Restaurant  
The Point 99.7 & 99.3 & Dina Davis  
The Springs Medical Spa  
Tom Wishon Golf Technology LLC  
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Vista Grande Inn  
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Fresh Start Horse Rescue  
Hallmark  
Home Depot  
Intermountain Farmers Assoc.  
Nature's Oasis  
River Song Ranch  
Safeway  
Skyway Auto  
Southwest Whitewater Rafting  
Super 8 Motel  
Three Springs  
Vibrant Pet Animal Hospital  
Wal-Mart  
Zia Taqueria