

Southwest Center for Independence
Colorado

STRATEGIC PLANNING

October 19-20, 2010

Blue Lake Ranch
Ridgewood Event Center

Participants:

Jeanette Abella, Housing Coordinator
Jason Armstrong, Board Secretary
Johnny Bulsom, Board Member
Tim Erickson, OIB Coordinator
Susan Kimbler, Board President
George Macki, Board Treasurer
Martha Mason, Executive Director
Rose Romero, Independent Living Coordinator
Geoff Williams, Board Member

Facilitator: Mary Slaughter

Strategic Plan Development
Southwest Center for Independence
Durango, Colorado
October 19 – 20, 2010

Review of Mission Statement

*Support quality of life, by and for people with disabilities,
and facilitate change in the community
for the inclusion of people with disabilities.*

Community Assessment Discussion

- Review of 704 Report from Southwest Center for Independence and discussion of what is being observed
- Currently Southwest Center for Independence is serving many women with PTSD, people with mental health issues and TBI
- Big Challenge: the breadth and distance in the area (five counties) to be served is huge.
- There are some populations that need to be more represented in services (Veterans, Hispanic, Native American, people with physical disabilities).
- Does Southwest Center for Independence consolidate and do more direct work or branch out? There is a need to establish priorities.

Values that Guide the Southwest Center for Independence

*The following are the values The Southwest Center for Independence believes in
which will be used to guide the future of the organization:*
(see appendix for complete listing of values from which the following were developed)

- Quality of Life
- Self Determination
- People need to have a purpose in their lives
- Drive – Motivation to be responsible for oneself
- Everybody working together to help each other

Vision of the Southwest Center for Independence

The Southwest Center for Independence wants to see the following in place three to five years from now:

- Effective Board of Directors
- Financial Stability
- A Strong, Tight Organization
- Inviting, easily accessible office space inside target areas
- Adequate staff for managed growth
- Structured, action oriented, vibrant volunteer base
- Improve customer service
- Respected and valued public presence

Obstacles for the Southwest Center for Independence

The issues and obstacles that were identified which block progress to reach the shared vision are:

- We are still building the Board
- Definition of the Board is inadequate (unclear about how to)
- Funding/money is dried up (poor economy)
- Research and explore grants (inadequate time to do this)
- General community does not know about Southwest Center for Independence
- Customers/clientele of SWCI are disappointed
- Time, organizing to prioritize marketing (inadequate time to organize)
- Unclear on where and how to expand
- Better utilize existing resources (staff and funds)
- Staff not working as a team (inadequacy of staff to work as team)

