

BOARD REPORT
February 2010

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM: GED Preparation Class and GED Testing Program

PREPARED BY: Jo Beth Palmer

PURPOSE: To afford citizens of Fremont County the ability to prepare and take the GED test and pass, thus assisting them to move closer to self-sufficiency.

GOALS:

<i>Number of Clients planned</i>		<i>Number of Clients served</i>
GED Class-30	GED Testing-unknown	GED Class-96 to date GED Testing-Dec. (15), Jan. (13) with 4 pending (waiting for essay results)

<i>Budget</i>	<i>YTD Spent</i>	<i>% of Funds Spent</i>	<i>% of Year expired</i>
\$5,736.00	\$1,123.90	\$20%	25%

Expected changes to budget? We did receive the City of Canon City grant for \$2,893.00 which is reflected in the budget information above.

Highlights: Since receiving the SSUF grant which allowed us to increase the size of the GED Preparation class, as well as, increase the number of actual GED Testing sessions we have realized an increase of 25% in actual tests administered and an 11% increase in completion rate for students. The increase in class size and GED Testing only began in September, 2009, so this is a significant increase in a very short time frame.

Upcoming Events and FYI's

We are in the beginning stages of planning our annual GED Graduation Ceremony to take place in early June. We have been asked by Southern Peaks Regional Treatment Center if they might be allowed to participate in this event, so their students have the opportunity to experience "Graduation". The GED Instructor and I both feel this would be very beneficial for the students and would be great for the community to see the accomplishment of these young people.

Heads Up aka "DUCK"

I have recently been approached by two separate agencies about the possibility of an ESL (English as a Second Language) class in our community. This type of class is definitely needed, but funding is extremely difficult to find. I will begin to look into this need for our community and will be looking for interested agencies to assist in the endeavor.

Letters, notes, testimonials, client stories

In the last two months I have witnessed four students cry upon receiving word they had passed the GED Test and all four of them stated they could not have accomplished this without the support of the GED Instructor and the ability to take the test locally. I was very pleased that three of the four were on their way to enroll at Pueblo Community College and continue on with their education.