

PO 231
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Type of Institution:	Unincorporated Nonprofit		
No. Residents:	250 Rico residents and Interested individuals in San Miguel, Montezuma and Dolores Counties		
Type of grant:	Research and Development		
Dates of grant:	January 01, 2005 to December 31, 2005 submitted October 1, 2004		
Project Title:	Roots in Rico Greenhouse		
Project Administrator:	Julie Huldin		
Amount Requested:	\$15,157.00	Date Funds Needed:	January 01,2005

Mission Statement: Green Rico Organization (GRO) is dedicated to helping Rico and the surrounding region by developing a strong local economy through sustainable living practices.

GRO, in cooperation with Tomten Institute and Green Media Works, will research, design, and raise funds for the construction of a 1500 sq. ft. year-round, active greenhouse with planned outdoor residential gardens by spring of 2006. The "Roots in Rico" Community Greenhouse will be an ideal place for Rico students and residents to get hands on experience with every aspect of food production; from building a sustainable growing environment, to marketing and selling their products. GRO will also investigate the initiation of a Rico Farmer's Market to provide sales tax revenues for the Town of Rico. We believe that one of the most significant challenges will be to fund the construction of a sustainable building by spring of 2006. We are also keenly aware of the need for a part-time manager/director position to keep the project organized, on budget and evolving. Although our history as an organization is brief, our accomplishments can be measured in the extensive research already completed, the depth of our alliances and the quality of this application

Rico Community Concerns: Since the late 1970's when the mining company and local food suppliers went out of business, area families have been unable to purchasing affordable produce locally. GRO has determined that Rico residents, accounting for the cost of gas and inflated prices, currently pay \$18.75 for one pound of organic mixed greens. A reasonable market value for these greens is \$10.00 per pound. To address these problems directly, GRO has organized concerned citizens to support a community based greenhouse known as Roots in Rico. Support is evidenced by enclosed petition.

GRO Solutions: After consultation with Kris Holstrom of Tomten Institute, GRO has determined that a 1,500 sq. ft greenhouse can produce 20 pounds per week or more of organic salad greens throughout the winter. This would provide up to 250 Rico residents with organic salad greens and medicinal herbs during the winter months when outdoor growing is not an option. Planting garden beds outside of the greenhouse will provide greens and other vegetables for the remaining calendar year. During the summer months the greenhouse will be able grow crops not normally found in Rico - warm season vegetables like tomatoes, basil and peppers.

In addition to providing affordable organic produce, the greenhouse would be used as a learning laboratory. Residents will learn organic growing techniques, permaculture, nutrition, art in nature, and sustainable living practices. Community members will volunteer and work together to market and sell surplus produce, herbs and additional products at restaurants and a local seasonal farmer's market.

GRO Credentials: GRO has brought together a potent group of Board Members and committed volunteers to make sure that this enterprise is a success. We began consulting with Kris Holstrom, who operates a successful high altitude year round greenhouse. We then assembled a Board of Directors that have extensive experience in business and organizational management, permaculture, high altitude gardening techniques, event planning and production, marketing and advertising and fundraising activities. We are committed to make the Roots in Rico a vibrant community asset for all interested individuals, and to be an inspiration and role model for other communities living at high altitudes.

GRO Activities, Goals and Objectives:

Goals	Activities	Targeted Audience:	Outcomes:
Obtain 501c-3 status and finalize business plan	Meet with administrators	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	Obtain non-profit status with solid financial business plans
Develop educational materials, website, brochures, and posters for Greenhouse	Meet with educators, publishers and website designers		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase awareness and support of project through education - Increase communication with area permaculture, educational, and art specialists - Increase financial support
Consult with area Greenhouse Engineers, Owners, and Managers.	Travel to Crested Butte, Basalt and Loveland CO	To educate Program Director and Intern for the benefit of all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased knowledge of solar power, solar heating systems, greenhouse subterranean heating and cooling systems, construction plans, materials list, produce sales accounting methods, and management options
Consult with Educators to develop experiential workshops	Telecommunicate or in person	To educate Administrative Director and Intern to benefit Rico and surrounding county children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased sustainable living skills. - Increased community participation in eco-awareness issues
Organize Rico resident community "Action" meetings	Rent space, advertise, and facilitate meetings	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased resident participation in sustainable living practices. - Increased attitudes in quality of life thru the development of a mutually agreed upon operational, educational and financial plan of a community owned greenhouse.
Organize Art Workshops for children	Arrange space, purchase supplies and advertise.	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased understanding of sustainable living principles - Increased skills in papermaking - Improved community relationships - Increased knowledge of community greenhouse plans - Increase funding for project
Research Farmer's Market for Rico Colorado	Telecommunicate with area Farmer's Market Directors and interested vendors	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increased sales tax revenues for the Town of Rico - Increased quality food source for Rico residents - Improved community relationships

Goals	Activities	Of Service To:	Outcomes
Research Handicap Accessible needs for greenhouse including educational workshops	Telecommunicate and interview with Telluride Adaptive Sports Program, Fort Lewis College, San Juan Community College, and Occupational Therapists	To serve handicapped residents	-Increase activities for handicapped individuals in the area - Increase education and awareness of sustainable living practices for handicapped individuals and associations
Organize Solar Power use, Composting, Organic Pesticide use, and Family Nutrition Workshops with activities for Children	Arrange space, obtain keynote speakers via telecommunication, or in person, hire children's artist/facilitator, and advertise.	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	- Increased understanding of solar power, composting, organic pesticide use, and nutrition concepts -Increased skills in sustainable living - Increased environmental awareness - Improved community relationships - Increased knowledge of community greenhouse plans - Increase funding for project
Organize Fundraising Music Festival	Arrange space, obtain keynote speakers via telecommunication or in person, and advertise.	To serve all 250 Rico residents and surrounding county residents	- Improve community relations - Increase community participation - Promote art and music education

Outside support of the Roots in Rico Project and Green Rico Organization is evidenced by support of the following: The Town Board of Rico letter of support; signed petition with 100 Rico Resident Signatures; Green Media Works fiscal agent agreement; Senator Jim Isgar, (a member of the State of Colorado Agriculture, Natural Sciences and Energy Committee) and Tomten Institute's support.

Long term sources of funding would be gained from profits from the sales of greenhouse grown produce and herbs and value-added products, a local farmer's market, private donations, and from workshops and fundraising events. For Evaluation purposes, GRO will provide the Rico Center /Telluride Foundation with a financial report of expenditures and incomes generated through its activities. In addition, GRO will evaluate this project annually through questionnaires to ensure that the needs of community members are being considered and met.

The Roots in Rico greenhouse will provide residents with quality back-to-roots experiential educational programs, organic food year round, affordable fresh greens and produce, and life enriching experiences for generations to come.

Timeline of Activities for year of 2005

Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
- Meet all requirements for nonprofit status -Board Meeting - Research Land Acquisition - Design and Print educational brochures, posters for fundraising, and establish website - Natural Papermaking Workshop with Julie Huldin - 2 Informational Community Meetings	- Tour operational greenhouses - Develop educational programs in conjunction with area educators and colleges -Interview Community Supported Agriculture Programs in the area -Composting workshop for interested residents - 2 Community Action Meetings - Research methods for growing edible mushrooms	GRO Board meeting 2 Fundraisers 2 Community "Action" Meetings	2 Fundraisers 2 Community "Action" Meetings

**Holly Sergeant Bennett,
GRO Garden designer**

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Holly is a local resident of Rico for six years. She is a successful acupuncturist and massage therapist since 1997, and operates a thriving practice in both Telluride and Rico. Holly has had a passion for gardening and growing vegetables. She has created both flower beds and vegetable beds at her home on River Street. She has successfully produced greens, herbs etc. with the help of plastic coverings during the shoulder seasons from April until the end of October. She would love to see and create a community greenhouse so we can have a healthy local organic produce year-round, and to help create educational possibilities for our children in this area.

Sylvia Bolick, GRO Treasurer and Fundraiser

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Sylvia, a native of the southwest, grew up with an early understanding of whole organic foods. She brings her organic gardening and nutrition as well as her knowledge and experience with using and harvesting medicinal herbs. Sylvia completed her apprenticeship with Melanie Rose, a leading herbalist in Durango, Co, and is currently researching the botanical use of herbs for natural fabric dyes.

Kris Holstrom, GRO Permaculture Consultant

Tomten farm

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Kris Holstrom has run Tomten Farm, a solar-powered, organic farm on Hastings Mesa outside of Telluride, Colorado for over 15 years. She runs a 15000 sq. ft. solar greenhouse year-round at 9000'. Through her intern program she has educated over 40 young people on the process of growing food under challenging conditions. Tomten Farm has been host to many school, pre-school, and educational groups showcasing permaculture and sustainable agriculture techniques. Kris has a bachelor's degree in Forest Management and a MS in Horticulture.

Julie Huldin, GRO Administrator

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Julie is a four corners resident since 1990 and a resident of Rico since 1998. She has a BA in Graphic Arts, Advertising, English and Photography from Michigan State University. In Michigan, she has worked for the Hotel and Motel Educational Institute and for Jackson Nat'l Life Insurance Company as a Desktop publisher and Technical writer. Julie has taught art, tennis, and mining and environmental history to K-12 students in Florida, California, and Michigan. Locally she has been employed at the Franz Klammer Lodge since graduation from the Connecting Point School of Massage Therapy in 2001. Julie is dedicated to community service in Rico and is an active volunteer for the Rico Women's Club, the Rico Alpine Society, and the Rico Peace Garden Project.

Hillary Katz, GRO intern

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Hillary is a Prescott College student working towards her Bachelor's degree in Sustainable Community Development and Ecopsychology. She has been a resident in the San Juan Mountains for the past two years, where she has worked as an intern and then as a manager on Tomten Farm. She currently works as a baker at the Indian Ridge Bakery. Hillary is an active community member volunteering her time through: working at the Telluride food co-op, editing for Natural Highs quarterly newsletter, composting the waste from many Telluride festivals, working with Greenbucks and the Pinhead Institute.

Melanie Law, GRO Fundraiser

Melandjon@phone.net
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15 N. River St, Rico CO 81332

Melanie Law is a full time mother and part time yoga teacher who has resided in the region for twelve years. She and her husband John have lived in Rico for the past five years. She has successfully owned and operated her own skin care business serving 300 clients over four years in Telluride Co, and sold the business in 2004. During that time she also owned and operated Deva Yoga, a community yoga center in Telluride for 3 years. Deva Yoga employed 12 teachers, facilitated yoga workshops and served up to a thousand students and teachers of yoga.

John Kornbluh, GRO Business Consultant

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Jon is a 10 year resident of Rico. He currently serves Rico as a Town Board Member with 7 consecutive years of experience, and has also served as a Chairman of the Rico Planning Commission from 1995 to 1998. Jon owns and operates Bluecorn Naturals, a natural candle manufacturing and retail company in Rico, CO. His expertise – includes but is not limited to- organizational management, personal and group facilitation, web-site developments, marketing and sales skills. John provides a depth of knowledge of Rico's issues and governmental platforms.

Micheal C. Moore,
GRO Permaculture and
Educational Consultant

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Director, Faraway Adventure Programs

Micheal is a five year local resident and a Permaculture Course Teacher and Designer with a certificate in Ecological Horticulture from UCSC. Micheal has worked as a teachers-aid for the UCSC Life Lab program; an accredited elementary school science program through school gardening. He also has 5 years of experience working directing environmental and agricultural programs in Central America.

Nikki Ruter, GRO Secretary

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Nikki has been a four year local resident and a Corporate Executive Assistant for 12 years including employment for years with Service One Communications Company. A teacher of yoga for nine years, Nikki has successfully financed, promoted and operated spiritual workshops in Colorado, California, and Utah. She currently owns and operates her own jewelry business and has vended at over 25 festival events in the US this year alone.