recycle-creede, inc.

152 Crockett Trail
Ward, CO 80481
303-459-0524
cell: 303-503-9975

409 LaGarita Avenue
P.O. Box 245
Creede, CO 81130
719-658-2020

July 30, 2010

CDPHE
c/o Brian Gaboriau
4300 Cherry Creek Drive South
EDO-OEP-SP-B2
Denver, CO 80246

RE: Recycle Creede (the Building)

Dear Brian:

Attached are a number of files for my Final Evaluation Report. Please see the following Table of Contents and other files and pictures.

Very truly yours,

Cary Bush

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Recycle-Creede
2009 RREO Grant to Build a Warehouse

I. Organization Information

1. Agency Name: Recycle-Creede, Inc.

2. Project Title: Recycle-Creede

3. Name of Project Manager: Cary Bush

4. Project Manager email address and phone number:
   Cary@recyclecreede.org
   303-459-0524 (in Ward)
   719-658-2020 (in Creede)
   303-503-9975 (cell)

5. Name of person completing this report: Cary Bush

6. Email address and phone number of person completing this report:
   Cary@recyclecreede.org
   303-459-0524 (in Ward)
   719-658-2020 (in Creede)
   303-503-9975 (cell)

II. Work Plan

Deliverable	Completion Date	Comments (if deliverable was not completed, please explain why or progress made)
Grading land	5/21/2010	
Set and pour concrete foundation	5/26/2010	
Metal Sided Building - Prefab Building Kit	11/09/2009	
Metal Sided Building - Construct building	6/2/2010	
Metal Sided Building - Finish interior building work	7/9/2010	

III. Grant Project Information

1. Executive Summary

This project was to build a warehouse to create a much larger receiving/holding area for our recyclables and to move it out of our two-car garage with storage in front of our house on the street.

This project originated as a question to neighbors about recycling. After a week and receiving what turned out to be 1,000 pounds of recyclables, we bought a trailer and decided to change careers. For the last four years, all recyclables have been dropped off in our garage and stored on the street/parking area in front of our house or in our two trailers (one borrowed). The amount of recyclables became way too huge for our residential facilities and we applied to the City of Creede to find a place to put the recycling warehouse. Eight months of meetings later, we had a place to put the new recycling center which was partially paid for by this grant.

2. Project Description & Overview of Work Completed

We had a warehouse built on land provided by the City of Creede. It is more than eight times larger than the original facility (our garage). Because there was previously no local recycling (none within 70 miles) recycling in Creede took off at a pace we did not anticipate. The warehouse is already looking too small! In order to complete this project it was necessary to attend monthly meetings of the County Commissioners, the City Board of Trustees and the Planning and Zoning Committee in addition to sorting, loading and hauling the recyclables. We met all our goals, it just took a while.

The labor of sorting, hauling and driving recyclables is handled entirely by volunteers. Cary does all paperwork, grant writing, volunteer organization/ scheduling and additionally does sorting and driving. Randy does sorting and driving and reviews Cary's paperwork. In the winter, Tina, Chere, Barb, Judith, Marta, Wendy (all women!) do most of the sorting and hauling when Cary is not around. T-Black and Jimmy show up now and again. In addition, during the summer, we've had more than 80 people per season who volunteer to help sort and load – mostly tourists, or summer-time residents, from out of state, that I pull off the road while they are doing recycling – ask for 10 minutes of help and get ½ -1 hour out of them.

Because this is a drop-off location, it is hard to measure how many people come per day. For instance, we can have a dude ranch come in and unload 2 weeks worth of wine bottles (a large truck full). In contrast, Ed Hargraves comes by every single day with his little pail and drops off his one day's worth of recycling. There is a man out at the RV resort who brings in the recycling for 10 families once a week. On days that I have sat still and counted, we've had 40 or more people per day

(maybe 1200 per month in the summer?). In the winter it is much less because the tourists have gone home. However we still get all the recycling from the post office.

We think that this project will set a new standard for recycling in rural Colorado. It has been ambitious, and hard, but very successful as far as diverting recyclables, although not successful as far as financial viability.

3. **Summary of Findings and Results**

The building is finished. It is great to not store the recyclables outside. The public seems very happy with the new facility (they like the drive-thru aspect) and the ability to be inside while sorting your recyclables will be very helpful through the winter.

4. **Summary of Unanticipated Outcomes or Roadblocks**

Starting with roadblocks, the City of Creede and the Planning & Zoning Committee had a hard time deciding what piece of land to put a recycling warehouse on. The first piece of land they offered us did not actually belong to them. There are many survey issues in an old mining town. Then they moved the designated piece of land six times in eight months of meetings as they decided that each one was not appropriate. By the time the surveys were finalized, it was November and too cold and snowy to break ground. Luckily spring came earlier than expected and we got to break ground in May. An additional roadblock has been that our building is located right next to the trash hauler (Muley Disposal Systems) and he frequently blocks (a literal roadblock) our ingress/egress with his trucks and roll-offs.

As for unanticipated outcomes, now that we have this big warehouse, people seem to think that we are making lots of money at what we do and that they no longer need to donate any money to this non-profit cause which is worked entirely by volunteers. It's been a very tough year for donations so far.

5. **Communication of Project**

We have a 20' x 3' sign on our garage that says where the new building is located as well as a sign on Highway 149 pointing to it. We had a grand opening and a fundraiser that were both well publicized in the local paper and in San Luis Valley wide publications and radio, and well attended considering the time of year. We have a website, www.recyclecreede.org, although it hasn't been updated in quite some time. Our Facebook page is updated frequently.

6. **Future Impact of Project**

Because of our increased capacity for storage, we are able to help other counties with their recycling. People bring recycling from as far as Alamosa (@70 miles)

and Santa Fe, NM (@210 miles) because we are offering to take so many other kinds of recyclables than most places. It has become obvious that the desire to recycle is very real and that the lack of physical locations, financial resources, and volunteer/or paid labor, in addition to the huge transportation costs, hampers the effort. We are showing people that it can be done.

We have partnered with the High Valley Community Center in Del Norte, Colorado, to start another drop off center. We received another RREO grant in order to accomplish this goal. In the meantime, we have also been in connection with haulers who are willing to take various commodities off our hands and move them for us. Cardboard, scrap metal, and aluminum cans are the first to go – so this will help our bottom line.

7. **Financial Summary**

Grant Budget Table Breakdown

	Grant Funds Spent	**Matching/In Kind Amount (if any)**	**Total Amount**
Personnel Salaries & Wages			
Fringe Benefits			
Tuition/Fees			
Travel Costs			
Materials/Supplies/Equipment (under $5,000)		$162.10#	**$162.10**
Equipment Purchases (over $5,000)	**$7,350**		**$7,350.00**
Contractors/Subcontractors	**$31,460**	$11,040+	**$42,500.00**
Consultants			
Training/Educational classes			
Marketing/Advertising			
Other Direct Costs	**$1,200**	$8,475.00*	**$9,675.00**
Indirect Costs			
Total Project Cost:	**$40,010**	**$19,677.10**	**$59,687.10**

All funds were used exclusively to build the warehouse. Matching funds (overages) are listed below. We still do not have water or electricity because that was WAY out of our budget.

Total award amount: $40,010

- **Unanticipated costs of $6,000 in insurance, $2,000 in survey and City and County fees and use permits.**

+ **Increase in steel and labor costs from the time of writing the grant to having to pay it out (15 months).**

Supplies for building shelves and corrals inside the building – our labor is always free!

8. **Final Conclusion**

Were incredibly glad that we had the opportunity to use an RREO grant to build this warehouse. It saved our lives, although it complicated it as well. The sheer magnitude of materials that we are receiving could not be held in our garage and in our parking area adjacent to the public street. Truthfully our only complaint was having to carry so much insurance for an entire year when the property, building, trucks and employees did not exist. I realize this is State policy and can't be helped. Thank you for the opportunity to expand our recycling project.

We have an ongoing struggle trying to convince the City and the County that this public service should be subsidized by them, at whatever rate they think they can afford. So far it's going nowhere. Although we have had huge and aggressive support for our program, the City and County are each still unwilling to commit to any financial support – until the other one does. I recently challenged both the Town Board of Trustees and the County Board of Commissioners because we have had more representatives from State organizations visit the site than from the local government.

Our other issue is that now that we have built this large building, people think we are rich. The tourists are used to their winter homes where they pay a fee and everything is taken care of. They assume that the City and County are paying for these services. The residents mostly don't have a dime in their pockets and aren't sure where they could pull more money from to pay for recycling.

Appendix

Community Leaders= Contact Information

Clyde Dooley
City Manager
City of Creede
719-658-2276
creedemanager@centurytel.net

Debby Roughton-Miles
Mayor
City of Creede
719-658-2348
ddmiles@me.com

Debbie Wylesky
Trustee
City of Creede Board of Trustees
719-658-2705

Steve Baxter/Marty Fielding
Owners/Operators
Rio Grande Enterprises
719-658-0374
broncogrill@yahoo.com

Martha Owens
Executive Director
Creede Chamber of Commerce
719-658-2374
office@creede.com

Grant Metrics

Date project fully operational: July-10

(Based on deliverables- month that impact of grant would have changed volumes/job creation/participants)

Diversion Rates:

(Choose one material per box. Only list those collected over the grant cycle. Must be listed as "tons". See tab labeled "Conversion Tables" if needed.)

Material Diverted #1 Other (pls describe below)

	Tons Diverted
July-09	2.99
August-09	2.35
September-09	4.65
October-09	1.91
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	2.58
March-10	2.86
April-10	2.68
May-10	
June-10	4.96
Total	24.98

Other div. material: Commingled

Material Diverted #2 Cardboard

	Tons Diverted
July-09	2.53
August-09	0.89
September-09	
October-09	0.66
November-09	
December-09	0.44
January-10	
February-10	0.48
March-10	0.46
April-10	0.48
May-10	1.03
June-10	
Total	6.97

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #3 Plastics (#1-7)

	Tons Diverted
July-09	0.6
August-09	0.6
September-09	0.63
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	0.35
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Total	2.18

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #4 Glass

	Tons Diverted
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	1.53
October-09	1.16
November-09	1.36
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	1.31
April-10	1.45
May-10	0.48
June-10	
Total	7.29

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #5

	Tons Diverted
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #6

	Tons Diverted
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #7

	Tons Diverted
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Total	0

Other div. material:

Material Diverted #8

	Tons Diverted
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Total	0

Other div. material:

End use of diverted materials:

(Describe where materials are going [e.g., MRF, new products, reuse])

Single stream goes to the MRF at Ecocycle Boulder, glass to Rocky Mtn Bottling, Wheatridge, Carboard to Int'l Paper or to Ecocycle, commingle containers to Ecocycle. In addition we moved about 50 cubic yards (they don't way) of hard to recycle items including shredded paper, athletic shoes, hardback books and more. Plus, we've composted about 12 cubic yards of the shredded paper.

Number of Permanent Jobs Created: none

(Include full-time & part time paid positions. 1 FTE = 2080 Hours Worked)

Type of Permanent Job(s) Created: none

(Provide titles of jobs created)

Average Salaries of Jobs Created:

(Average of all jobs created)

Average Monthly Customers for FY 09: Customers are drive-by's summer season, this is difficult. Winter months, 6-30 per day. Summer months 30-100 per day.

(July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009)

Average Monthly Customers for FY 10:

(Estimate or customer lists)

	Ave. Monthly Amount
July-09	
August-09	
September-09	
October-09	
November-09	
December-09	
January-10	
February-10	
March-10	
April-10	
May-10	
June-10	
Ave. / FY 10	#DIV/0!

ed Containers
ONLY
Paper Products
Alum
SAFEWAY