



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

# Colorado Community College System

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITIES

**A REPORT SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**DECEMBER 2007**

## **COLORADO COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITIES**

### **ACCESS**

- Largest Provider of higher education in the state – The Colorado Community College System serves more than 107,000 students.
- Affordable – Resident full-time tuition per credit hour for 2007-08 is \$77.15 at CCCS colleges – the lowest of Colorado public institutions.
- Local, online, flexible – More than 20% of CCCS courses are offered exclusively in the evenings or on weekends and another 18% are offered in an online format.
- Connect youth to higher education – In Fall 2007, CCCS colleges served more than 3,200 GED students and more than 2,000 concurrently enrolled high school students.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Remedial Education – Community Colleges provide remedial services for students who exit high school or complete a GED without the skills to do college level work. In Fall 2006, the Colorado Community College System had more than 20,000 enrollments in remedial courses.
- High Remedial Pass Rate – According to the Colorado Department of Higher Education, in Fall 2004 the pass rate for remedial English was 73%, for remedial reading was 74%, and for remedial math was 68%.
- Job Skills – Community Colleges provide individuals with the skills enhancement they need to gain a higher wage.
- English Skills – Community Colleges provide English skills for second language learners to prepare them for college level work and to meet business and industry needs. In Fall 2007, the Colorado Community College System had almost 1,200 enrollments in ESL courses.
- Work Readiness – Community Colleges provide basic work readiness for supported populations (i.e. TANF, Voc Rehab, Corrections, and Dislocated Workers).

## **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Students Served – More than 13,000 students were enrolled in Career and Technical Education courses in Colorado Community College System colleges in Fall 2007.
- Awards – Each year Colorado Community Colleges award over 8,000 Career and Technical Education degrees and certificates.
- Seamless Transitions – Colorado Governor Bill Ritter has implemented a statewide vision that calls for a seamless education system leading students to high-wage, high-skill, or high-demand careers. The Colorado Community College System is beginning an initiative called “Bridges to Opportunity through Career Pathways.” This initiative is based on the national work of Career Clusters and Pathways and Plans of Study and emphasizes the need for seamless transitions for students between secondary and postsecondary education using the Plans of Study as an implementation tool.
- Career Plans – The Colorado Community College System has developed over 81 plans of study that articulate transfer from a secondary to postsecondary Career and Technical Education program. These Plans of Study provide information to students and parents about corresponding career opportunities in the region of the state where the student attends school.
- Reduce Recidivism – In Colorado, recidivism has contributed to a net increase of 100 prisoners a month. The Department of Correction’s Education Consortium is an innovative pilot partnership between the Colorado Community College System Colleges and the Colorado Department of Corrections which will allow a seamless transition from the highly successful Department of Corrections GED program to community college career and technical certificate programs. Additional degree options will be available to students upon their release from a Colorado Correctional Facility. The ultimate goal of the consortium is to reduce Colorado’s recidivism rate while preparing individuals to successfully join the Colorado workforce. Currently, 2,051 prisoners are participating in 18 Career and Technical Education programs.
- Healthcare Workers – According to the Pikes Peak Workforce Center, the Center for Nursing Excellence reported that Colorado's nursing shortage is at 11 percent, twice the national average. The Health Resources Services Administration reported that, without intervention, the shortage of Colorado nurses will triple the national shortfalls by 2020. Colorado Community Colleges are the largest

provider of health care workers in the state. In fact, more than 43% of all career and technical awards are conferred in the healthcare field, and CCCS colleges train more than 50% of all the nurses in the state including post-baccalaureate awards. Ninety-five percent of the two-year nursing awards in the Denver metro area are conferred by Colorado community colleges, positions most likely to be involved in direct patient care.

- Prepare the local workforce – Generally, community college graduates enter the local community workforce.

### **TRANSFER**

- Large number of transfer students – Annually, approximately 5,200 Colorado Community College students transfer to a public 4-year institution.
- Success – University of Colorado Chancellors have reported that community college students do as well or better than their native students.
- Graduation Rates – For students who transfer to a public four-year institution from a Colorado Community College, graduation rates are as high as 53%. CCCS has over 120 guaranteed transfer courses, which allow flexibility for students meeting lower division general education requirements. In addition to the GT Pathway program, there are five active statewide two-year to four-year articulation agreements.
- Serve Rural Communities – Community Colleges enable place-bound students to obtain a baccalaureate degree without leaving their community through residential 2+2 agreements with four-year institutions. This allows taxpayer dollars to remain at the local level. A national study showed that each taxpayer dollar invested in a community college yields \$3 in benefits in regional economic development and growth that lead to increased state and local tax receipts. Additionally, 87% of students who remain in their community to complete college are more likely to remain in the community and contribute positively to the development of the local economy after graduation. Across the nation, rural populations as a whole have consistently lagged behind the rest of the country in the proportion of adults holding bachelor's degrees. The gap has widened slightly in the past decade. In 2000, 15.5 percent of adults living outside of metropolitan areas held bachelors' degrees, compared with 26.6 percent of adults in metropolitan areas. Currently, CCCS has residential agreements with Metropolitan State, Adams State College, Regis University, DeVry University, Colorado Christian University, and Johnson and Wales University. Additional agreements are under development with CSU-Colorado.

- Prepare Students for a Baccalaureate Degree – Community Colleges provide a pathway to the baccalaureate degree for the student who has a four-year degree goal but does not meet the rigorous requirements of Colorado’s Higher Education Admissions Requirements (HEAR).

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Workforce Development – Colorado community colleges provide more than 100 non-credit workforce programs and many more individual courses for 11,000 job seekers and incumbent workers annually to enhance their employment skills.
- Customized Training – Colorado community colleges provide customized training for more than 100 employers annually to train more than 7,000 of their workers in specific skills related to their industry or company.
- Community Colleges Contribute to the State Economy – By training individuals who can then access a higher wage and contribute to, rather than draw on, state resources, Community Colleges contribute to the state economy. National data indicate individuals with education beyond a high school diploma earn more and are less likely to be unemployed or require public assistance than those without.

## **Arapahoe Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- During the 2006-2007 academic year, Arapahoe Community College offered 959 online and hybrid classes, thereby increasing access to a college degree for individuals unable to attend traditional classes.
- Arapahoe Community College's First Generation Scholarships and Diversity grant improves access and support for the recipients. Requirements of the scholarships include intensive advising and community building to support the students' success.
- Arapahoe Community College has partnered with Littleton Public Schools to provide two computer classrooms in which online high school classes are held for alternative students in need of credit recovery for graduation. The program doubled in size after one year and now accommodates 80 students. Many of these graduates are enrolling in ACC to pursue higher education.
- The Arapahoe Douglas Career and Technical School, a consortium partnership between Arapahoe Community College and five school districts, serves approximately 450 high school students, advancing their career and academic options.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- The Peer Mentoring & Tutoring Center is operated by students for students, a documented strategy that supports student success. This academic and social support for students is available on a walk-in basis.
- All of Arapahoe Community College's students are offered free access to *Skills Tutor*, a web-based instructional program focusing on basic reading, vocabulary, writing, math and algebra skills. Students can take advantage of diagnostic pre-tests, interactive lessons and mastery post-tests.
- The Writing Lab provides free writing assistance to all students.
- The Mathematics Support Center supplements classroom instruction from remedial to Calculus III courses for students who register for MAT 101 Enhanced Mathematics Support.



- The Peer Mentoring & Tutoring Center will soon be combined with Tutorial Services and the Writing Center to provide Arapahoe Community College's students with one basic skills Learning Center.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Arapahoe Community College is actively pursuing plans of study with secondary partners in business, education and health care programs.
- Arapahoe Community College was active in piloting the two new CCCS CTE credentialing classes, EDU 250 & 260, this fall. Student and instructor response has been positive.
- Arapahoe Community College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The following programs hold accreditation and/or approval as listed: Automotive Service Technology; Certified Nursing Assistant; Emergency Medical Technician; Health Information Technology; Law Enforcement Academy; Paralegal; Medical Laboratory Technology; Medical Office Technology; Mortuary Science; Nursing (Registered); Pharmacy Technician; and Physical Therapist Assistant.

### **TRANSFER**

- In 2008-2009, Arapahoe Community College is expanding outreach efforts to high school students in the Douglas County School District by offering dual enrollment courses within each of their eight high schools. These courses are primarily general education courses that are part of the Statewide Guarantee Transfer Agreement.
- Arapahoe Community College is second only to Front Range Community College in providing a bridge for students to transfer to four year colleges and universities in Colorado with an 8% annual transfer rate for 2005-2006, compared to 9% for Front Range Community College. Almost 3% of our transfer students go to Metropolitan State College, making Arapahoe Community College one of the largest and most successful feeder schools. 27% of Arapahoe Community College's students transfer to UCDHSC.
- The Early Childhood Education program is in partnership with Adams State College and Douglas County School District to support students in obtaining a BA degree in Interdisciplinary Studies with an emphasis in literacy and licensure in Elementary Education. High schools students begin in the Teacher Cadet



program at the high school level, complete an Associate's degree at ACC, and articulate as a cohort into the Adams State degree program. ACC and ASC courses are offered at the University Center in Douglas County.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Between July 2004 and June 2007, Arapahoe Community College's Corporate Learning Division was awarded \$1,920,982 in Colorado 1<sup>st</sup> / Existing Industry grants for training of employees at 31 private companies in our service area.
- The Corporate Learning Division responded to a RFP from AD/Works! And received the award to develop and train approximately 90 individuals through Academies in Crime and Criminal Justice, Business Operational Support Services, Electronic Technician, Automotive Technician, Finance Support Services and Computer and Network Security.
- January 2008, The Corporate Learning Division of Arapahoe Community College will open a Medical Assessment and Assimilation Program that will address the needs of healthcare companies to assess employee competencies, provide healthcare-related workshops, simulation, cultural assimilation and medical training for foreign nurses.
- Arapahoe Community College provides customized police officer training as part of the Lockheed Martin Training Academy. This training is provided on an annual basis to approximately 40 Emergency Services personnel charged to protect the Lockheed Martin facility.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- The Mortuary Science program is one of the premier programs at Arapahoe Community College. This distinction is due not only to the superb faculty of the program but also to its high demand and its outstanding retention and graduation rates. Arapahoe Community College's Mortuary Science program is the only one of its kind in the state of Colorado and only one of 57 programs nationwide. Arapahoe Community College's program is offered in an online format and enrolls over 70 students annually. The program has always been in good standing with accreditation by the American Board of Funeral Service Education.
- The topic of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) has catapulted to the forefront of attention due to the severe shortages anticipated by the retirement of baby boomers in these industry areas. Arapahoe Community College and Douglas County School District have taken a proactive step by

signing onto the Industry-Education Partnership Pledge in an effort to demonstrate our commitment to industry to:

- Implement the Vertical Alignment Team whose purpose is to align leaders of industry and government with educators in order to work toward and achieve our common goals through collaboration and contributions by all partners.
  - Provide real world, project-based learning opportunities in the classroom.
  - Revise and enhance curricula to address business and industry needs.
  - Increase the number of rigorous STEM courses being taught in Douglas County schools and at ACC.
  - Develop dual credit STEM courses to enable students to seamlessly move from high school to higher education.
- 
- Due to the fact that Arapahoe Community College's Auto Tech Program is a degree-seeking program, the admission requirements for the Auto Tech Program will now include an assessment test, criminal background search, MVR, 10-panel drug test (industry standard), completion of academic classes and employment in the automotive industry.
  
  - Burt Automotive Network has supported Arapahoe Community College's Auto Tech Program by hiring seven students this year. Arapahoe Community College is in negotiation with Burt Automotive, assisting Douglas County with articulation to become NATEF certified in their high schools. Burt Automotive plans to donate used equipment to assist the high school with their certification.

## **Community College of Aurora**

### **CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

#### **ACCESS**

- **Growing Diversity** -- Since 2001, the Community College of Aurora has had strong growth in providing access to minority populations. African-American enrollment has grown 39 percent, Hispanic enrollment 18 percent, and Asian-American enrollment 5 percent. African Americans now comprise 25 percent of CCA's student population as compared to 14 percent of the Aurora population. The figures for Hispanics are 12.4 percent and 28 percent and for Asian-Americans 7 percent and 5 percent. During the same period, the college increased enrollment for students age 29 and under by 14 percent.
- **Flexible Offerings** -- The Community College of Aurora offers a wide variety of weekend, hybrid, and online courses that provide alternative delivery schedules, methods, and locations for improved student access. Fully 20 percent of CCA's courses are now offered in an online format. To increase access for those in the military, the college will offer transfer classes on Buckley Air Force Base in 2008.
- **Financial Aid** -- The Community College of Aurora awards approximately \$9 million in student financial aid each year. Approximately half of this money pays for students' campus charges for tuition, fees, and books. In recent years, the CCA Foundation has added to this aid with a vigorous and creative scholarship program now averaging \$160,000 annually, a six-fold increase since 2000. A significant portion of these funds goes to students facing special challenges in accessing higher education: Recent GED recipients, individuals who have been incarcerated, or adults returning to school from the workforce.

#### **BASIC SKILLS**

- **Developmental Education** -- The Community College of Aurora enrolls more than 1300 students in developmental education courses each semester. To help ensure these students are ready for college-level work, CCA's developmental education team has integrated classroom-based technology into their instruction. An important step in this integration was the opening of the Aurora Rotary Foundation Learning Studio in 2007. Students also have opportunities to accelerate their completion of developmental education courses.



- ESL and GED Preparation -- In the fall of 2007, the Community College of Aurora enrolled nearly 250 students from 44 countries in its college preparatory English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. During the same period, nearly 700 adults were studying in CCA's community ESL program, a partnership with The Learning Source, a long-time leader in adult education in the metro area. Preparation for the GED test is available at the college's Lowry campus and will be available at its CentreTech campus in 2008.
- Lifelong Skills -- Faculty members at the Community College of Aurora teach the college's six Lifelong Skills in courses across the curriculum as part of the college's emphasis on "lifelong learning in a global community." Developed from surveys of employers, these skills (communication, technological competence, critical thinking, and so forth) also serve as the basis for the college's extensive and rigorous program for assessing student learning.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Collaboration with Private Industry -- The Community College of Aurora collaborates with Wagner Equipment Company in the Diesel Power Mechanics Program to provide Wagner with high quality diesel mechanics.
- Community Partnerships -- With a \$430,000 grant from the metro-Denver WIRED (Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development) initiative, the Community College of Aurora is preparing and equipping high school teachers in six school districts to bring students experiential instruction in molecular biology and information about the region's bioscience career opportunities. Lead partner in the project is the Colorado Bioscience Association. Collaboration with ADWorks!, the local workforce center, in its Regional Training Academy is one extension of the grant activities.
- Local Government -- For 10 years, the Community College of Aurora's Center for Workforce Development (CFWD) has been helping families through short-term education and job-training programs that lead to improved job skills and career advancement. CFWD collaborates with Adams and Arapahoe Counties in the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program and with Adams County in the Career and Household Opportunities for Income and Community Enhancement Services (CHOICES) program.

### **TRANSFER**

- Transfer Growth -- Currently, 44 percent of Community College of Aurora students are enrolled in transfer programs, while in 2001 only 28 percent were

enrolled in the same transfer degrees. Since the fall of 2001, enrollment in the college's AA degree (49 percent increase) and AS degree (126 percent increase) have grown significantly.

- Transfer Fairs -- To increase transfer rates, the Community College of Aurora hosts transfer fairs where representatives from as many as 30 four-year institutions meet students and answer their questions about admission requirements, college costs, pre-requisites, and specialty areas of emphasis.
- Articulation -- Through a college articulation agreement with Regis University, Community College of Aurora students are able to complete 90 of the 128 semester hours required for Regis's Bachelor of Science in Accounting or Computer Science, as well as successfully transfer all of those credits to Regis for their final year of study.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Economic Contributions -- A 2004 socioeconomic benefits study found that Community College of Aurora instruction adds some \$115 million in annual earnings to the college's service area economy – the equivalent of 2,900 jobs. While employee wages, college purchases, and financial aid disbursements spent in the community all contribute, the most important economic additions are the higher earnings and social savings (improved health, for example) that come from the benefits of the college's instruction.
- City Initiatives -- The Community College of Aurora partners with a wide range of businesses, governmental agencies, and community groups to promote workforce training and employment. For example, the college is currently part of an initiative with the City of Aurora to link more residents of the low-income neighborhoods of north Aurora with employment at the rapidly developing medical and bioscience campus at Fitzsimons.
- Students and Faculty -- The Community College of Aurora partners on many specific projects that contribute to the economic development and well-being of the community. For example, CCA accounting faculty and students began work last year with TaxSite, a collaboration with the Piton Foundation and the Internal Review Service, to prepare tax returns for low-income families in Aurora, thereby putting money back into the local economy.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- EMS -- The Community College of Aurora's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program was the first in the nation to use dedicated simulation studios to add realism and enhance student training. Based on the EMS Program's success with simulation, CCA has created the Center for Simulation at its Lowry campus to improve student engagement and add real-life relevance to education across the college.
- Community Cultural Life -- The Community College of Aurora is an important and vital element in the community's cultural life. The college collaborates with high schools and other Aurora groups to provide theater production, recitals, and other activities at the CentreTech campus. The art faculty holds its annual show in a community gallery in Aurora's Arts District. CCA's Colorado Film School is one of the nation's best undergraduate film and video programs, offering articulation to a four-year Bachelor of Fine Arts degree. The Film School draws an international student body and guest lecturers from throughout the film industry.
- Globalizing the Curriculum -- The Community College of Aurora has a diverse enrollment, is located next to one of the world's ten busiest airports, and serves a community in which a third of the residents speak a language other than English. In response, the college is seeking to globalize its curriculum through faculty development, study abroad opportunities, hosting Fulbright scholars, an international day, and similar events.

## **Community College of Denver CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- CCD offers open access to higher education to traditionally underserved populations, which includes a continuum of holistic proactive case management, advising and student support from early college/pre-collegiate programs through graduation. Many students are served through our case management programs such as First Generation Student Success, TRiO Scholars, Center Educational Case managers and the Denver Transfer Initiative.
- CCD serves the most diverse student population in the State of Colorado. 48% are first generation, 56.5% are minority, 62% are female and 33% identify as hispanic.
- Early Childhood Education courses are offered on-site at six local Head Start child care agencies, such as, Mile High Montessori, Family Star, Catholic Charities, Rocky Mountain SER and at our community-based branch campuses. Total enrollment is currently 210 students.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- The Center for Educational Advancement offers over 289 classes in developmental education and remediation. The classes offered are developmental Reading/Study Skills, English/Writing, Math, ESL, and GED. The Center offers a variety of tutorial support systems to students, such as Reading/Study Skills lab, English/Writing lab, ESL lab and a GED lab. Approximately 5000 students are served each fall and spring semester. Over 2300 students access the computer support labs every semester.
- FastStart@CCD is a program designed to accelerate students through the developmental course sequence by pairing developmental classes into one semester. Open-Entry Classes offer better academically prepared students an opportunity to enter developmental courses after the semester has started and exit before the semester ends.
- CCD's Early Alert Retention Network (CCD-Learn) is an online early alert system designed to help retain students and improve their academic performance. This system allows faculty and staff to easily and conveniently alert Learning Retention Specialists to identify students who are not making satisfactory



progress. Students who are identified as needing assistance are contacted and/or referred to a center case manager or to other support services to assist in improving classroom performance.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Online Learning is expanding its delivery to include non-credit "lifelong learning" courses for the community.
- Engineering Graphics has grown its enrollment to 223 students by reaching out to high school students through the DPS articulation agreement, Advanced Credit Pathways program, PSEO and Credit for Prior Learning.
- CCD Southwest provides massage therapy courses as a study abroad program to occupational and physical therapy students from Japan. This year we will serve approximately 120 students from Japan.

### **TRANSFER**

- CCD's newest Department of Education Title V program establishes a unique and innovative partnership with University of Colorado at Denver and Community College of Denver, providing traditionally underserved students support and assistance in completing associate degrees, and transferring to a baccalaureate program at UCD.
- CCD's Aerospace program operates two current projects designed at increasing graduation and transfer for students in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) disciplines. JumpStart into Aerospace (JSA) is a Metro Denver Wired funded project that is collaborative with Community College of Denver, North High School, the Denver Office of Economic Development / Division of Workforce Development, and Metropolitan State College of Denver. It builds on the NASA funded ACES (Access to Collaborative Education in the Sciences) project, which is the second Aerospace project and is a "2 plus 2" degree program (AAS and BS) in Aerospace Systems Engineering Technology, targeted to underserved minorities. Both programs are designed to strengthen the pipeline of students from high school, to CCD and transfer to Metropolitan State College. Further, the program prepares students for aerospace jobs through the use of state of the art technology, and provides real life applications through partnerships with aerospace employers.
- New articulation/ transfer agreements with Metropolitan State College of Denver and Colorado Technical University allow Business Administration, Early



Childhood Education and Career and Technical Education students to complete four year degree programs.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Customized Training- At CCD, Performance Solutions provides such services, and in 2007 this included: a partnership with the RTD and local workforce development offices to train candidates for their expanding light rail network; training City of Denver Government offices with Spanish language skills to better serve their communities; partnering with numerous local small businesses to access Colorado First Training Grants; partnership with workforce development to provide a youth summer career learning experience.
- Through advisory committee input, CTE programs are realigning programs to keep them relevant to business and industry.
- CCD SouthWest provides training and experience in business fields allowing for community residents to access jobs with higher wages. CCD SW provides training and experience in the area of massage therapy allowing for community residents to supplement their incomes.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- The Denver Transfer Initiative (DTI) is a cooperative project between Community College of Denver and the University of Colorado at Denver (UCD), which aims to increase the number of students from traditionally underserved populations graduating from CCD, transferring to UCD and ultimately completing a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. The DTI, a Title V funded program, utilizes CCD's nationally recognized educational case management model, an intensive, holistic and proactive approach to student advising and advocacy, to provide assistance, guidance, mentoring, tutoring and other interventions for student participants.
- CCD's health science programs continue to provide unique approaches to program delivery including: Animal Vaccination, and Spay and Neuter Clinics (Veterinary Technology), LPN Site based instruction (Nursing), Give Kids a Smile Program (Dental Hygiene), and Massage Therapy.
- The Smart Start Colorado Office of Professional Development (SSCOPD or OPD), housed at CCD, is the statewide entity responsible for improving the quality of services, supports and education for young children and their families by enhancing the knowledge and skills of early childhood professionals. They



provide an integrated and comprehensive system of professional and workforce development including early childhood and school age training standards for everyone working with children, horizontal articulation for early childhood courses among Community Colleges and development of distance-learning options for child care professionals.

- The Confucius Institute at Community College of Denver is a cooperative project of CCD, the Office of Chinese Language Council International in Beijing, China and Chongqing Three Gorges University at Chongqing, China. Established in 2007, the Confucius Institute at CCD is part of an international network of Confucius Institutes dedicated to “enhancing the understanding of the Chinese language and culture” around the world. The only community college in the Confucius Institute’s global network, CCD will provide resources and curricular support to the Rocky Mountain Region. In collaboration with Metropolitan State College of Denver and the University of Colorado at Denver & Health Sciences Center, the Confucius Institute will promote a teaching certificate in the Chinese Language for the State of Colorado; will offer degree and certificate curricula in Chinese language, history, culture and economics; will provide Chinese language and culture options; and will create a Chinese cultural center on the Auraria campus.

## **Colorado Northwestern Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- Tuition Scholarships of up to 100% by local district board
- Fast tract workforce certificate programs
- Two campuses and three satellites

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Offer remedial and developmental education courses
- Offer work keys testing and remediation
- GED training and testing

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Various energy training programs to meet local and regional critical needs
- Nursing and Dental Hygiene program to fill local and regional critical shortages
- Numerous workforce training programs

### **TRANSFER**

- Dual enrollment programs in all local high schools
- Transfer programs to students living in remote areas

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Workforce Center located on Rangely Campus
- College staff are active members of local EDCs



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

- Conducted five Business and Industry Forums in Fall 2007 to gather data on local work force needs

**SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Aviation Flight and Maintenance
- Energy and Facility Management
- Power Plant Technology and Process Technology

## Front Range Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

### ACCESS

- Westminster Campus: The new Gateway to College Program, funded in part with a \$325,000 grant from the Gates Foundation, will open college opportunities for drop outs. The program, a partnership with Adams District 12 and Adams District 50, directly addresses a substantial drop out problem in the Westminster/Thornton area. It is designed to help over 100 drop outs per year earn a high school diploma and credits toward an associate degree through dual credit courses offered at the college. It is a replication of a successful program now operating at 15 community colleges in the country.
- Larimer Campus: The Smart Start Program at the FRCC/Larimer campus is designed to connect high school seniors to the Larimer campus and encourage them to attend the community college. Students apply online, take the Accuplacer, fill out the Financial Aid forms, and meet with an advisor during the day at their high school. Students who had not planned to attend college are more likely to attend once they have applied.
- Boulder County Campus: BCC enrolled approximately 200 students during the 2006-2007 academic year in PSEO courses provided at local high schools and on campus.

### BASIC SKILLS

- Westminster Campus: For the past two and one-half years, the college has been developing learning communities that pair basic skills courses in reading and writing with transfer level courses in the social sciences and humanities. The courses are team taught, and allow basic skills students to transition successfully to college level courses. Preliminary data shows higher persistence and retention for student in the learning communities.
- Larimer Campus: FRCC's Lumina Project enabled the college to implement three initiatives to better serve developmental students. First, a faculty manual was developed which includes pedagogical innovations, current research, and sample syllabi. Next, a case manager was hired to work with under-prepared students. Finally, we designed learning communities between basic English and Math courses and CTE or transfer courses so students can apply their skills in a "real world" context.

- **Boulder County Campus:** The Boulder County Campus provides GED preparation in an open-entry computer-assisted learning lab, staffed with volunteer learning coaches from Senior Net. FRCC partners with Voc Rehab offices through the Educational Enhancement Project Grant to help improve student success.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- **Westminster Campus:** A new partnership between FRCC, the Rocky Mountain Masonry Academy, and Adams District 50 is directly addressing the need for masons. Using curriculum from RMMI and a site from Adams 50, FRCC is training 15 unskilled staff from masonry companies to become master masons. The plan is to develop a high school program to give high school students a start on a masonry career.
- **Larimer Campus:** Community members provide strong support for CTE programs through active participation in Advisory Boards, contributions of equipment, materials/supplies, technical expertise and internships. Area hospitals fund several nursing faculty positions; steel companies provide steel for the welding program; dealerships provide new cars, engines and transmissions; and all support groups provide paid and unpaid internships.
- **Boulder County Campus:** The Boulder County Campus offers the only Medical Office Technology Program for FRCC. 50-75 students are enrolled each semester to complete a certificate as a Billing Specialist, Health Care Office Assistant, Clinical Office Assistant, Medical Assistant, Medical Administrative Assistant or Medical Transcriptionist. An Associate of Applied Science Degree of Medical Office Technology with an area of concentration in Billing Specialist, Medical Administrative Assisting or Medical Assistant may also be acquired.

### **TRANSFER**

- **Westminster Campus:** Metro State College of Denver has just begun offering the last two years of bachelor's degrees in Management and Marketing on the Westminster campus. This program is designed to make it easier for students to complete a bachelors degree.
- **College-wide:** FRCC is the largest source of transfer students to Metro State, CU-Boulder, and CSU. Currently over 2000 Metro State students started at FRCC and over 1200 students at both CU-Boulder and CSU started at FRCC. Another top choice for Boulder County Campus students is UNC.

- Larimer Campus: FRCC/Larimer Campus coordinates a Transfer Fair with Colorado State University in conjunction with their Transitions and Advising departments. Several colleges and departments are represented on the FRCC Campus to meet with students.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Westminster Campus: The college's Small Business Development Center supports economic development within its service delivery area through the provision of individualized business counseling and training classes targeted to existing or new business owners. Year-to-date 2007, the center has served over 200 individuals and assisted with the acquisition of over \$930,000 in capital formation. The college and SBDC have also provided support to local municipalities in the development of their economic development activities. For example, the center provided project management and GIS technical assistance as well as office space to the city of Longmont in the development of their economic gardening initiative.
- Larimer Campus: The Institute of Community and Professional Development at FRCC/Larimer Campus has written and administered Colorado First and Existing Business grants for over \$820,000 during the last three years which has contributed to the growth and development of twenty new and existing businesses in Larimer County. In addition, during this time, the department has completed customized training programs for 30 companies and organizations, training 1500 individuals, which has contributed to the overall increase of skills in the Larimer County Workforce.
- Boulder County Campus: The Boulder County Campus is partnering with the City of Longmont, the Longmont Area Development Council, and members of the business community to provide quality educational opportunities from high school through college in the bio-technology, bio-sciences, visual and performing arts.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Westminster Campus: The college's interpreter preparation program, one of only two in the state and one of the top programs in the Western United States, is now in the second year of a 3+1 program with Regis University to allow our interpreting students to complete bachelors' degrees. This directly addressed the new requirement that educational interpreters for the deaf have a BA. The program is also developing a new, state-of-the-art sign language practice lab.



- Larimer Campus: The Enhanced Education Project (EEP) is a grant with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) and is structured around the common goal of preparing students with disabilities for the workforce by providing comprehensive case management services that is coordinated with the student's vocational goal. Since July 1, 2006, there have been 164 new referrals from DVR directly to the EEP. As a result of these Enhanced Educational Services 80% is the Retention Rate of students who attended from Fall Term 2006 to Fall Term 2007. The average cumulative G.P.A. for the students in the Enhanced Education Project is 3.2.
- Boulder County Campus: FRCC has received a three-year grant of \$212,939 from the Amgen Foundation to implement the Amgen-Bruce Wallace Biotechnology Laboratory Program with eight area high schools and one technical center. The program enables high school teachers to integrate recombinant DNA technology into their science curriculum. The goal is to introduce and excite students in scientific discovery. This is the first application of the program in Colorado; however, the program has been implemented successfully in schools throughout California and Washington.

## Lamar Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

### **ACCESS**

- Lamar Community College partners with Colorado State University Pueblo to provide an Educational Opportunity Center office on the LCC campus designed to facilitate access to higher education for underserved citizens.
- LCC has developed a hybrid program, the FastTrack Program, to meet the needs of non-traditional working adult students. FastTrack is cohort-based and features a one-class-at-a-time schedule, making use of both online and traditional instructional delivery.
- LCC partners with schools in the SE BOCES to offer an extensive dual credit program which provides college course work to high school students in geographically dispersed school districts.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Lamar Community College has established the Adult Transitions Program which provides a variety of services including offering Literacy Instructional Aid instruction, Adult Basic Education instruction and GED testing, and English as a Second Language Instruction.
- LCC offers developmental education instruction to prepare students for college-level coursework in reading, English, and Math.
- Lamar Community College has a Federal TRiO grant under the Learning Support Services grant to provide a variety of services to students including academic advising, personal and career advising, and tutoring.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Lamar Community College supports local small business owners through its Small Business Management program, which provides hands on instruction in business management techniques.
- LCC maintains a Nursing program which is strongly supported by area healthcare providers and has contributed well over half the nurses practicing in the region.



- Lamar Community College provides a variety of instructional offerings through its Ag programs, which not only serve students transferring to universities, but also serves the production ag industry in southeastern Colorado through Associate of Applied Science degrees in areas such as Agriculture Production/Agri-Business.

### **TRANSFER**

- LCC has a full-time transfer coordinator who advises students in regards to transfer opportunities, arranges visits to four year colleges, and advises students regarding transfer requirements and articulation agreements.
- LCC has partnered with CSU Pueblo for a joint admissions agreement.
- Lamar Community College offers several local transfer opportunities to area students through the Adams State College REAP program and articulation agreements with other institutions such as Regis University, Franklin University etc.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Lamar Community College is a founding member of the Southeast Business Retention, Expansion, and Attraction (SEBREA) grant, designed to increase business development capacity in a six county area.
- Lamar Community College is the officially designated "Education Outreach and Host Institute" for the Pierre Auger Cosmic Ray Observatory, a major research and economic development agenda for southeastern Colorado.
- Lamar Community College offers customized training programs to business and industry.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Lamar Community College has a long-standing Horse Training Management Program with a national reputation which attracts not only local and Colorado students, but students from across the country.
- LCC has recently originated the Equine Business Management program, which provides additional career opportunities for students interested in the equine industry.



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

- LCC offers a long-standing cosmetology program which serves students from the region and beyond.

## **Morgan Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- A partner in the VNet System connecting and delivering distance education to 16 different school districts along the I-70 Corridor
- Cargill/MCC Workforce Literacy program serving the educational needs of over 200 employees of Cargill Meat Solutions each year
- Dual Credit enrollments in 27 different school districts

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Created a bridge program for GED graduates to matriculate into Morgan Community College courses
- House an Adult Basic Education program serving over 750 individuals a year for basic skills, GED course work, ESL and citizenship
- Provide a "Skills for Success" program for referrals from Social Services

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- MCC is contracted by local school districts to provide career and technical education in collision repair, automotive services, med prep, multimedia and construction trades
- MCC delivers nursing courses in Wray, Colorado through distance education
- Through the assistance of an El Pomar grant titled "Grow your Own", the college is working with a local high school to encourage health professionals beginning with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade

### **TRANSFER**

- Sophomore Scholars program providing scholarships for students who have completed 30 credit hours at MCC during their junior and senior year in high school



- Transfer arrangements with multiple 4-year institutions
- A \$950,000 Career Ladder program for elementary education majors. Designed for paraprofessionals in local school districts who want to be elementary teachers with an ESL endorsement. The grant covers the cost of tuition, fees, and books.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Sponsor the Small Business Development Center covering over ten counties
- Support a downtown office in Fort Morgan with emphasis on community development, providing training opportunities for local businesses
- Staff serving on Workforce and Economic Development Boards

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Ag Business program serving the agriculture industry in our service area
- Workforce Literacy program serving the agriculture industry in our service area program with Cargill Meat Solutions
- Through a grant received from Colorado Trust, the college has formed "One Morgan County", an immigrant and refugee integration initiative.

## **Northeastern Junior College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- Attracts a high percentage of traditional age students as full-time students (46% are 18-20 years of age)
- Has 465 beds available in residence halls or Honors House
- Has the highest "penetration rate" of any college in the system, over 10% of the service-area population has taken classes from NJC

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- On average, about 65% of first-time full-time students required at least one remedial class
- NJC ranked second among system schools in retaining students with remedial needs
- Nearly 11% of our total credit hours are generated in remedial classes

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Our first cohort of Associate Degree Nursing students graduate in December 2007
- Approximately 15 different CTE programs offered, several are designed to meet the needs of adults such as Ag Business Management, Small Business Management, and Young Farmers
- High pass rate of state board exams for both cosmetology and practical nursing students

### **TRANSFER**

- Between 75 - 80% of our full-time students indicate they plan to transfer
- NJC has had nearly 25% of the total Griffin Foundation Scholarships ever awarded

- Increased interest from private four-year universities in developing bachelor degree completion programs for our students

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- One of the long-term goals of the HOPE Scholarship program is to have a direct impact on the economic climate of northeast Colorado by having a larger percent of our population earn a college degree
- Annually the college hosts the Wildfire College which brings over 500 firefighters to our community for nearly a week in January. This fills every motel in a 50 mile radius.
- It is estimated that nearly 116,000 people attended events held at the Bank of Colorado Events Center last year and that generated a substantial amount of economic revenue in the city via motels, restaurants, gas, and other shopping

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Automotive Technology - this program will be recognized at the 2007 ACTE Conference by the Automotive Industry Planning Council as the National Runner-up in the post-secondary Generic Program award category. The program has already received a 2008 Jeep Liberty to be used for teaching purposes.
- A wide variety of Agriculture programs are available and attract students from across the state and region.
- Nursing - the recent addition of the ADN program has enhanced our nursing program and made it possible for more individuals to obtain their RN degree and help alleviate the nursing shortage in Colorado.

## Otero Junior College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

### **ACCESS**

- Otero Junior College has one of the highest service area participation rates in the state at 9.67%. In the 2007 academic year OJC had a headcount of 2,312 with an available service area population of school age students of 23,905.
- In the fall of 2007, OJC served 336 concurrently enrolled high school students throughout 9 different school districts. During 2006-07, OJC served more than 109 GED graduates, of which 33 enrolled in college courses for the fall of 2007.
- Flexible schedules - More than 25% of OJC courses are offered online or in the evenings. 166 of 639 courses offered for the fall 2007 semester were offered at night or online.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Otero Junior College identifies student competencies for course placement through diagnostic testing and advising. Consistent with the approach of the CCCS, the college offers remedial work in reading, writing, and mathematics. Strong tutorial services and an effective Early Alert system contribute to student growth.
- Students who score high enough to enroll in ENG 121 & MAT 121 along with those who successfully complete remedial work have in recent years achieved an average pass rate in English just under 80% and over 90% in Mathematics.
- Many students who need additional assistance preparing for the workplace receive guidance, training, and skills coaching along with customized personal plans for dealing with life conflicts as well as acquiring essential skills in the workplace.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- In order to meet the need of the severe nursing shortage, OJC has increased its Nursing program by 75% over the past three years by starting an Evening/Weekend nursing program. OJC currently has over 130 nursing students.



- CTE programs in automotive technologies, early childhood education, massage therapy, small business management, law enforcement, cosmetology, computer information, and agri-business management have been developed and sustained to meet the demands of students and regional employers. Approximately 90% have secured employment.
- CTE faculty continue to integrate high academic standards into certificate and degree programs. Secondary and post secondary alignment of programs through established Career Pathways help guide students and programming, allowing for greater accountability, smoother transitions, and intentional educational goals.

### **TRANSFER**

- OJC's graduation rate as reported on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) for full-time, first-time, degree/certificate-seeking students within 150% of normal time to program completion is 48%, compared to its peer institutions of 30%.
- OJC awarded 459 degrees and certificates for 2005-06 academic year, of which 199 were Associate degrees. For the spring semester of 2007, students involved in the Destination CSU-Pueblo program, had an average GPA of 3.24, compared to an average transfer GPA of 3.16.
- Otero Junior College was a pioneer in the development of the REAP Program (Rural Education Access Program) seven years ago. This program allows students in various degree areas to receive a bachelor's degree without leaving the area.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Otero Junior College currently houses and partially funds through grants the SCORE (Southeast Colorado Resource Enterprise) Center. This is a collaboration of local economic development offices into one site.
- Otero Junior College is the grantee for \$425,000 of funding from a variety of sources to fund a regional business retention and expansion program called SEBREA. Partners in this effort include Federal EDA, State EDA, State DOLA, State CFHA, and six southeast counties.
- The college assists new and established businesses through its involvement with Colorado First dollars. The college is viewed as an attractive feature when



attracting new businesses, not only for its educational training value but also as a quality of life indicator when viewing the community as a whole.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- OJC has one of the top nursing programs in the State of Colorado. It is one of only two nursing programs in the state to be nationally accredited by NLNAC. Nurses are recruited by healthcare facilities locally and throughout the state and are frequently placed prior to graduation, many receiving bonuses to sign. A first-of-its-kind mobile lab will provide the very best training & showcase the program.
- Otero has established strong international and intercultural programs that broaden the scope of study in a rich rural Colorado setting. OJC has hosted Fulbright scholars and international conferences. Students attend from around the globe.
- To create outstanding programs in all areas, OJC has always been committed to providing students and faculty the excellent learning environments: comfortable and well-equipped classrooms and laboratories, the best available technology to enhance learning, smart classrooms, web support, 24x7 tutorial services, mediated learning labs, professional development, and technical support personnel to help deliver as promised.

## **Pueblo Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- One Stop Enrollment Center for students to apply, register, complete financial aid/loan documents and speak with an advisor.
- Evening & Weekend College opportunities for non traditional students
- Alternative High School Diploma Program for 17-21 High School Drop Out Retrieval opportunities. The success of this program has extended directly to the migration of nearly 80% of HSDP graduates immediately enrolling in college courses at PCC.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- New Learning Center design, construction and location to serve students better.
- Title V Retention program for Early Alert & Intervention.
- Title V Retention program for Early Faculty Grade Check.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- Area Vocational Education Partnership with High Schools in Pueblo/Fremont Campus to offer dual enrollment to students in Career and Tech courses
- PCC serves as the primary 2-year Health Professions educator in the system with over 18 certificate and degree options.
- Fast College/Fast Jobs for career and tech education in certificate and degree opportunities

### **TRANSFER**

- Title V Cooperative Grant with CSU-P
- 3+1 Agreements with proprietary schools: developmental stage



- Creation of a Transfer Center staffed with a Transfer Coordinator

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Business & Industry Workforce Training Dept. has recently built a Mobile Learning Lab for Welding for Advanced Manufacturing Training to be used for both workforce training and traditional instruction within our service area.
- Gorsich Advanced Technology Center: designed for Advanced Manufacturing training for credit and non-credit opportunities. Many Business and Industry Educational Partnerships are in place to better serve students.
- PCC is a partner in the Southeastern Colorado Educational, Employment, and Economic Viability partnership (SCE3P).

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Pueblo Community College is designated as an Hispanic Serving Institution with two current grants from Title V
- Memorandum of Understanding with the Department of Corrections to offer college courses at the Youth Detention Facilities within the Dept.
- Alternative High School Diploma Program agreements with four service area K-12 School Districts to offer a drop out retrieval opportunity of students. The success of this program has extended directly to the migration of nearly 80% of HSDP graduates immediately enrolling in college courses at PCC.

## **Pikes Peak Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- The PPCC Foundation has increased the amount of private scholarships to PPCC students from \$35,000 in FY 02-03 to over \$500,000 in FY 07-08. The current amount for scholarships is projected to increase to \$750,000 by FY 09-10.
- Students receive support to increase success through such programs as Minority Male Retention, Student Support Services/TRIO, Learning Assistance Center/Tutoring, Student Crisis Management, New Student Orientation, Women's Re-entry, the Center for Students with Disabilities (with the affiliated Computer Access Center), and the Veterans Upward Bound and the Southern Colorado Educational Opportunity Center (for first-generation college students).
- The Military Spouse Program for Nursing allows greater access to the program for husbands and wives of military personnel stationed in the Colorado Springs area.
- PPCC has recently created a Velocity Center that consolidates student enrollment services into a "one-stop-shop" approach.
- The recently expanded Career Planning and Advising Center helps students to set an educational direction and succeed so they will be motivated to stay in school and complete their certificate or degree program.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- Supported by a faculty mini-grant, PPCC faculty developed an Accuplacer Study Guide for English that is Web-based and available for students.
- Developmental faculty at PPCC participate in assessment of student learning across the curriculum through embedded reading and effective change strategies that increase student confidence and ability to grasp and apply course materials. The faculty also recently opened a Reading Center that operates in conjunction with the Writing Center and Math Lab.
- Developmental faculty also offer a one credit study skills class that extends the student's initial orientation to PPCC through awareness of how college works and the support services available to students.

- The faculty and staff of the PPCC English Language Institute for non-native speakers of English all have Master's Degrees in TESOL or Linguistics. All have lived and worked overseas and have a knowledge of a second language.
- College prep and developmental studies at PPCC extend to P-12 articulation activities. As examples, the PPCC math club tutored at a local high school, at-risk 9<sup>th</sup> grade students from local high schools came to PPCC as part of bridge programs, faculty coordinated efforts with Gear-Up programs, and middle school and high school students came to PPCC on tours. Math faculty are each picking a local feeder school and individually working with it while English and Reading faculty develop learning communities.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- The PPCC Nursing Program is a recognized leader in the state and the nation, with innovative curriculum and instruction (such as a state-of-the-art SIM Lab) that allows for individualized learning and the development of higher-order thinking skills. The Nursing Program just received \$25,000 from each major hospital in the region for a new nursing position.
- The PPCC Division of Health, Environmental, Natural, and Physical Sciences has received a NASA grant for physics and chemistry instruction that will expand student learning in core science disciplines.
- PPCC has one of the top fire science departments in the United States. The College trains approximately 50% of the early responders (EMT, Fire, Police, and Homeland Security professionals) in Southern Colorado.
- The PPCC Area Vocational Program offers courses to over 500 high school students that would not be typically available to them or at too high a cost to their local school district. The program also offers some courses onsite at a few small, rural school districts through the Post Secondary Enrollment Options program.
- In partnership with Falcon High School, PPCC has developed highly successful Post Secondary Options programs in Nursing Assistant and EMS.

### **TRANSFER**

- Through the Post Secondary Enrollment Options Act, high school students can receive dual credit for college-level work taken at PPCC while they are still in high school.

- The UCCS Connections Program contributes \$1,600 toward PPCC transfer students continuing work toward a four-year degree if they finish their AA or AS at PPCC and then transfer to UCCS.
- PPCC has a special transfer relationship with UCCS which allows students to transfer up to 72 credit hours. PPCC and UCCS also have an agreement which allows for dual enrollment and whole degree transfer in engineering.
- A new Memorandum of Understanding with UCCS allows PPCC students to live in UCCS dormitories and use UCCS facilities while they attend PPCC.
- PPCC makes the 60+60 Bachelor's Degree Transfer Program, and 41 other articulation agreements with four-year college and universities, increasingly accessible to faculty, students, and community through the development of on-line delivery and distance education.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- Based on the 2005 PPCC Economic Impact Study, PPCC has an estimated annual economic impact of about \$150 million on the Colorado Springs Region. This impact includes educationally-enhanced earnings for PPCC graduates who complete a certificate program (an additional \$5,600 in annual earnings) or an associates degree (an additional \$8,100 in annual earnings).
- PPCC staff are active participants in the Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation, the Colorado Springs Economic Vitality Group, the Pikes Peak Workforce Investment Board, and the Southeast Regional Planning Collaborative.
- PPCC is the regional center for the Colorado First and Existing Industry Grant programs that provide over \$1 million to business and industry. PPCC also provides customized training to support business and industry development.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- PPCC is the only community college in the country to be awarded the American Council on International and Intercultural Education's Achievement Award for extensive contributions to global education twice: once in 1993 and again in 2001. PPCC was also the recipient of the 2003 Horizon Award for "Outstanding



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

International Programs" presented by the Colorado Springs Global Advisory Council.

- Through support from the PPCC Foundation and community partnerships, the PPCC Childhood Development Center and Early Childhood Development Program have become a regional center of excellence for training childcare providers.
- PPCC Military Programs at Peterson Air Force Base, Fort Carson, Schriever Air Force Base, and the Air Force Academy provide classes and services annually to approximately 1,500 students each year. Through PPCC, a highly diverse group of military personnel and their families obtain access to higher education.
- The Downtown Studio Campus and the PPCC Art Gallery has grown dramatically. They work with other galleries and agencies to keep the downtown a vital area and to provide a professional venue for students, faculty, and staff to exhibit and sell their works. Students choose PPCC to study the arts because of the quality and reputation of the faculty.
- The Water and Waste Water Management Program at PPCC, recently developed and approved, is one of a handful of such programs in the United States.
- The PPCC Zookeeping Program is one of only two in the country affiliated with a zoo.
- The Pikes Peak Regional Law Enforcement Academy is operated in affiliation with numerous local law enforcement agencies throughout the region.

## **Red Rocks Community College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- **Community Learning Centers:** To improve the academic preparedness of disadvantaged youth and adults, RRCC has partnered with the Jeffco Workforce Center, Jefferson County Schools, and the Jeffco Action Center, a community resource agency that serves primarily homeless clients or those at risk of becoming homeless, to open five Community Learning Centers. Staffed by full-time coordinators employed by RRCC with office space donated by the sites, these Community Learning Centers have produced measurable results---as of August 2007, seventy-seven participants have enrolled in RRCC.
- **Gateway Program:** The goal of the Gateway Program is to reduce recidivism and provide positive outcomes for individuals who have been involved with the criminal justice system; a nine credit intensive cohort program remediates participants' basic skills and prepares them to succeed in college and in their careers. This program has served 111 students in its first year.
- **English Language Studies Program:** English Language and Intercultural Services provides academic college preparatory English training, immigration advising, and cultural consulting for both international students and US residents, serving over 400 students a year.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- **Student Success Specialist:** Connect to Success assists students with a variety of study/success strategies, as well as serves as a point of contact for students seeking out campus and community resources; this program has served over 2000 students in its first year.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- **Physician Assistant:** The Physician Assistant department of Red Rocks Community College offers courses leading to a certificate in P.A. studies and prepares students for the national certifying exam. Current pass rates on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) for students graduating from Red Rocks Community College Physician Assistant Program is 96%.

- Industrial Science -- Red Rocks Community College has partnered with major energy producers in Colorado to develop programs to prepare technical workers as process operators and maintenance personnel for industries such as Xcel Energy, Shell Oil, BP, Primestar Solar, Suncor USA, and Molson Coors.
- Medical Imaging: Medical Imaging is one of the most dynamic, fastest growing, highly technical fields in all of healthcare; the Medical Imaging Education department at Red Rocks Community College provides learning opportunities in the specialized fields of Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

### **TRANSFER**

- Colorado School of Mines: Eighty-three students have started their engineering program at RRCC because of a unique transfer agreement that allows students to complete a set of prescribed courses at RRCC and then transfer to the School of Mines.
- UNC Speech Disorders: Red Rocks Community College has a unique transfer agreement with University of Northern Colorado (UNC) in Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences.
- Criminal Justice: Criminal Justice and Victim Assistance degrees transfer to Metro State and UNC.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- RMEC: The Rocky Mountain Education Center (RMEC) is the continuing education branch of Red Rocks Community College (RRCC). Formed in 1992 as the official Department of Labor OSHA Training Institute in Region VIII, it has become responsible for most of the non-credit training programs offered at RRCC, training approximately 6,000 students a year via open enrollment classes, customized contractual and on-line training programs.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Physician Assistant: The Physician Assistant department of Red Rocks Community College offers courses leading to a certificate in P.A. studies and prepares students for the national certifying exam. Current pass rates on the Physician Assistant National Certifying Examination (PANCE) for students



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

graduating from Red Rocks Community College Physician Assistant Program is 96%.

- Process Technology -- Industry contributions in terms of scholarships and equipment donations topped \$200,000 in the 07-08 school year. Forty students are enrolled in the program as of fall 2007.
  
- Medical Imaging: Medical Imaging is one of the most dynamic, fastest growing, highly technical fields in all of healthcare; the Medical Imaging Education department at Red Rocks Community College provides learning opportunities in the specialized fields of Radiologic Technology and Diagnostic Medical Sonography.

## **Trinidad State Junior College CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY**

### **ACCESS**

- Increased awareness to all area high school students via events such as: October Fest and College 101. Over 150 students on the Trinidad Campus and over 200 high school students from the Valley Campus participated. College 101 will host approximately 150 junior and senior high students on the Trinidad Campus and staff visit with approximately 250 freshmen and sophomores. This year 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will also be part of College 101 and Career Pathways.
- Promoted college and its benefits to GED graduates via a "Rising Star Scholarship" and also promoted college to high school seniors who attend the annual October Fest by offering a \$500 scholarship, called the "Red Carpet Scholarship."
- Classes offered to the incarcerated to assist inmates in career planning and goal setting for when they are released.

### **BASIC SKILLS**

- ABE/GED and ESL services are offered to the community. The TSJC Adult Education program in Trinidad regularly serves between 250 and 300 GED and ESL students, at the two sites in Trinidad and Walsenburg. The Trinidad program usually has over 30 GED graduates each year, with the total GED graduates numbering 875, since the program's beginning in the mid 1970's.
- Partnerships with the local high schools have created non-duplicated services for the high school students in need of: tutoring, test taking/anxiety reduction skills, and study skills. These services are also offered to the non-traditional student population.
- Two Instructors were trained in the Linda Mood-Bell method of building skills in reading. The College is working with the local school districts to offer these courses to the high school students in need of this service. The non-traditional student will also benefit from these courses.

### **CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION**

- The Energy Production and Industrial Construction (EPIC) and Line Tech Programs were the direct result of listening to our community and the needs of area employers. These programs were created by the community, for the community, with the community's resources.
- The nursing shortage in the United States continues to be addressed by the Nursing Program at Trinidad State Junior College. This semester 98 students were enrolled between the two campuses.
- Regular meetings with the Advisory Committees for the Career and Technical Education programs allows TSJC to quickly respond to the needs of our constituents. In addition, Advisory Committee members have been instrumental in assisting TSJC to secure funding, donated equipment, and other resources.

### **TRANSFER**

- Regular meetings with university personnel assist in the promulgation of transfer agreements for our transfer students.
- Seventy-nine AA and AS degrees and 10 AGS degrees were conferred at the 2007 graduation ceremony. The intent of these graduates was for transfer and data on transferability was not available at the time of this report.
- As reported in the most recent CDHE Transfer Summary for FY 2005-06, seventy-eight TSJC students transferred to Four-Year Colorado Public Institutions.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- The College remains a hub for economic development in the Trinidad area and also in the San Luis Valley. The facilities are utilized often for such events as: Chamber of Commerce Meetings, Board of Economic Development, Army expansion, and other public meetings.
- Presentations are made regularly to City Council, the Mayor, and County Commissioners.
- Customized training has been provided to the energy companies, construction companies, area small businesses and city/county departments since Spring 2005



COLORADO COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE SYSTEM

to assist them in training and re-training. To date 10,251 of their employees have received training over the past 2.5 years.

### **SIGNATURE/UNIQUE PROGRAMS**

- Aquaculture
- Energy Production and Industrial Construction (EPIC): Diesel Mechanics, Heavy Equipment Operation, and Welding
- Southern Colorado Line Tech Program in cooperation with San Isabel Electric and Tri-State
- Gunsmithing
- Safety courses including: Certifications in Forklift Operation, American Heart Association CPR/First Aid, OSHA 10 and 30 Hour, H2S Gas Awareness, Basic Orientation Plus for new hires, HAZWOPER, and customized Safety Programs.