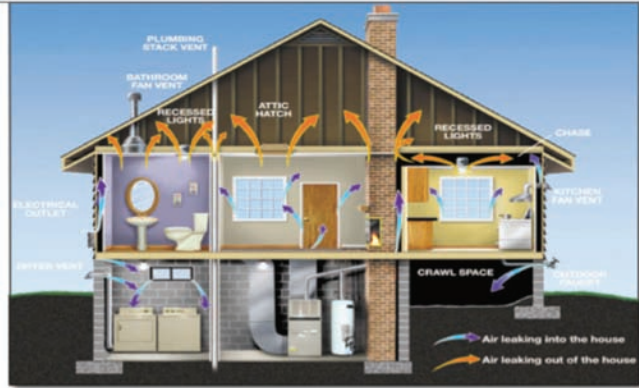


2010 Looking Back

Moving Forward 2011



Green Careers for Coloradans



FRESC is the lead community outreach partner for the Green Careers for Coloradans Grant (GCC) which is a \$3.6 million Green Jobs Training grant awarded by the Department of Labor in January 2010. FRESC worked hard to bring the collaborative partnership of labor, industry, apprenticeship, and workforce to the table to envision the grant at its draft stages in fall 2009.

Now in 2011, over 1,470 Colorado construction workers, unemployed workers, apprentices, and career changers have received new energy training through this grant. FRESC's Outreach Coordinator has individually referred over 300 people to the seven training providers. The grant's focus is making the New Green Economy available to a broad group of

Colorado's workers, especially FRESC's labor and non-profit community partners, by referring individuals to short term training courses in energy efficiency and renewable energy. Workers leave the classes with nationally recognized certifications, making them more employable.

Vivian Excels

Ready for good green jobs? **Vivian McVey is ready!**

Vivian McVey met Mary Broderick, FRESC GCC Outreach Coordinator, at a presentation at Mi Casa Resource Center, and began taking the Energy Efficiency courses available through the GCC grant. Vivian received her BPI (Building Performance Institute) Certified Energy Auditor certificate in October 2010. Mary has been monitoring Vivian's progress through the GCC grant and discovered that Vivian took the BPI credential one step further. Vivian and her new business partner, Pam McIntosh, started their own women-owned and operated Energy Auditing Company in January 2011. Just think about the impact to Colorado's economy if all grant participants aspire to create a small business in the New Green Economy!

End Wage Theft Now

In 2010, FRESC's Interfaith Worker Justice Committee was instrumental in forming a coalition of day laborer advocates, immigrant rights groups, the Department of Labor (DOL) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to address the problem of wage theft. Wage theft



is the illegal non-payment or under-payment of wages to workers. A recent study showed that half of all day laborers in the U.S. have had their wages stolen from them by their employers. In addition, business owners who underpay their workers gain an unfair advantage in the marketplace, undermining those who play by

the rules and treat their workers fairly. However, the public is largely unaware that this crime wave is going on in our communities. On Nov. 18th, 2010, close to 100 people attended the "Wage Theft Day of Action and Awareness" rally coordinated by the Wage Theft Task Force at El Centro Humanitario (Denver's Day Laborer Center). After hearing from several speakers, including Dusti Gurule, the Regional Representative for U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, the doors to El Centro were opened to the community to file complaints around wage theft and worker safety with representatives from the Colorado DOL, OSHA, and the Colorado Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division. Of the 30 cities nationwide participating in the Nov. 18th action, Denver was the only one to include DOL and OSHA reps along with worker advocates under one roof. This public partnership between community groups and DOL/OSHA will continue into 2011 as the Wage Theft Task Force seeks new opportunities to educate workers in Colorado about their rights under the law.

2010 Electoral Program



Left: Coalition members get ready to hit the doors in New Era's Democracy Bus.

In November, Colorado voters overwhelmingly rejected three anti-government measures and fought back against attacks on women and communities of color at the ballot. FRESC's 2010 electoral and non-partisan civic engagement work helped defeat Amendments 60 and 61 and Proposition 101, collectively known as the "Bad 3" - harmful and deceptive measures that would have devastated our communities. Numerous Denver area non-profit groups formed a coalition and worked tirelessly to defeat the measures through education and outreach and FRESC is proud to have taken part in this monumental effort.

Participating groups took collective planning and the collaborative model to a level never attempted by the nonprofit community in Colorado. This approach made it possible to be efficient and coordinate work so more turf could be covered. The coalition focused on increasing voter participation in historically underrepresented communities, primarily in the Denver Metro region, using a three tier approach: doors, mail and phones. FRESC helped coordinate and participated in

volunteer efforts designed to complement the project, lending not only phone banking, and door knocking skills, but also by helping to prepare for large scale canvassing operations.



Meet Brother David

Br. David Garner is a member of the Grey Robed Monks of St. Benedict who established St. Dunstan's Priory in Denver. He has been active in FRESC's Interfaith Worker Justice Committee (IWJ) for close to two years.

David has held Vice President and Director level positions in Fortune 500 companies, including twelve years in management with Johnson & Johnson. He has taught at colleges and universities on both coasts. In 2008, David gave up his consulting business and entered the Grey Robe Order of St. Benedict. After his novitiate, he moved from Phoenix to Denver and established his hermitage in that city.

Br. David describes the St. Dunstan's community as "a monastery without walls. Our members, male and female, live and work in the secular world, but come

together as a community for prayer and work with social justice issues while following the monastic call to a life of prayer."

Br. David sees his work with FRESC and IWJ as a natural outgrowth of his vows to engage in "holy works".

During his involvement with FRESC's IWJ committee, Br. David has led a "funeral for workers rights" at the University of Denver for Sodexo food service employees and has volunteered to be arrested at a peaceful protest for immigrant rights. He also looks great in a beret.



Saying Goodbye To Our Visionary Leader

Carmen Rhodes, FRESC's outgoing Director over the last four successful years, continues her commitment to the labor movement as she becomes the Division Director of the South and Southwest (U.S.) Region for the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Carmen has been working with FRESC and the Denver Area Labor Federation (DALF) for the past 13 years. FRESC's staff, board and supporters all want to thank her for her dedication to this organization and movement. We know she will excel in her new position and we wish her the best of luck.



Welcome to FRESC's New Director



The Board of Directors of FRESC: Good Jobs Strong Communities is proud to welcome Kevin Abels as our new Executive Director in February 2011.

Kevin has spent the last five years at SEIU Local 105, working to organize nurses, case managers, janitors, teacher assistants and other health care workers. He also led

union negotiations, managed contract grievances, and facilitated the implementation of a labor-management partnership in a 2,500-person bargaining unit. Kevin is a collaborative, proven leader. He brings his enthusiasm and skills - honed at SEIU - for visioning, planning, and leadership development to his new role at FRESC. Consistently recognized for his commitment, vision, and excellent talents, Kevin was promoted through several positions at SEIU and leaves the union as the Healthcare Division Director, overseeing multiple programs and campaigns.

Kevin has the passion for the work that FRESC does - working for a new economy that benefits all - and has demonstrated an understanding of how we do it. In fact, as a student at Yale, Kevin worked with FRESC's sister organization, Connecticut Center for A New Economy, organizing students and community members in a successful community benefit agreement campaign with Yale-New Haven Hospital. Kevin says, "This campaign hooked me on union and community organizing. I believe that by empowering working people and building alliances, we can improve the jobs we work in and the communities we live in."

Kevin adds, "All struggles for justice are connected." In the metro Denver community, Kevin is involved in organizing and activism for immigration reform and LGBT rights. "I am committed to a strong progressive movement in Colorado that truly supports working families and builds community."

Kevin is excited about leading FRESC into the future and is looking forward to meeting and talking with FRESC's many friends and allies.

Please consider investing in FRESC's future by donating online at www.fresc.org

