



OUR PURPOSE...

to work together as a community to develop a sustainable economy that builds on our existing strength, contributes to a strong integrated community, and protects the environment, rural lifestyle and the character of Saguache County and the greater San Luis Valley.



SCSEED

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Join Us In ...

PRESERVING OUR HERITAGE, DESIGNING OUR FUTURE



STRATEGY #1

Encourage the communities and people of Saguache County to work together for mutual benefit.

STRATEGY #2

Support small businesses and cooperative enterprises that sustainably use and add value to county resources.

STRATEGY #3

Preserve and protect the rural agricultural community character and environmental health.

STRATEGY #4

Increase lifelong health care, educational, vocational, recreational and social opportunities.

PROJECTS 2010

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COMPATIBLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

SAGUACHE DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT

A collaborative project to revitalize the Town of Saguache, our County seat, starting with 4th Street, the heart of downtown Saguache. ScSEED is coordinating and fundraising in partnership with the Town and twenty-five partners that make up the Saguache Downtown Revitalization Partnership. This includes restarting the Saguache Chamber of Commerce, providing SBDC monthly counseling services and Business Roundtable Forum.

BIOMASS INNOVATION COMPETITION

ScSEED inventoried agricultural by-products and biomass throughout the SLV. Then launched an entrepreneurial competition for an innovative business concept that uses the biomass in a commercial capacity. ScSEED awarded Living Arts Systems (Winner) & Windhorse Botanicals (Runner-Up) in the 2009 entrepreneurial competition for innovative business concepts that use SLV biomass/by-products in a commercial capacity.

LOCAL CURRENCY PROJECT

Mountain Money is Saguache County's new local currency. It was created to increase the local flow of goods and services to strengthen our economy. A dollar spent in a local business generates at least three times more local spending than a dollar spent in a chain store. Mountain Money will compliment the US\$ to promote economic resiliency and growth countywide.

AGRICULTURE & ENVIRONMENT CONSERVATION

RECYCLING INITIATIVE

A volunteer driven program to reinvest and renew the critical importance of recycling in Saguache County. Waste reduction, environmental protection, job creation, cost of living reduction measures and youth engagement are the main motivations driving this initiative. Saguache County's strong community support provides an excellent foundation for establishing the program.

KERBER CREEK RESTORATION

A joint partnership of the BLM, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Trout Unlimited, local landowners, and others. The project involves tailings removal, in situ treatment, re-vegetation, installation of fish habitat structures, stream bank stabilization, and fencing to keep cattle from the rehabilitated areas. The major goals include increased forage area for cattle and wildlife, healthy stream morphology and biota, and removing Kerber Creek from that state's 303 (d) list of impaired waterways.

WATER QUALITY

ScSEED is assisting the SLV Ecosystem Council with water and air quality based programs throughout the San Luis Valley. Providing free water testing and education on a first come first served basis. ScSEED is also included in the CARE (Community Action for a Renewed Environment) program, supporting community-based collaborative partnerships to develop a comprehensive understanding of toxic risks and setting community risk priorities regarding any environmental media – air, water, land, and/or in the indoor environment.

EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT

RANCHING WAY OF LIFE VIDEO PROJECT

A documentary series for youth education, general audiences and historical archives of the family ranch way of life, folk arts and historical heritage of the San Luis Valley ranchlands. Phase 4 of the project includes DVD distribution to the general public and to classrooms in schools throughout the SLV.

LIBRARY

ScSEED is assisting with expansion of Public Library services with fundraising and development support.

RANCHING CELEBRATION

In January 2010, ScSEED hosts the 10th annual community event to celebrate the ranching culture; featuring music, stories and poems of the ranching way of life in the northern San Luis Valley.



WEB SITE

The ScSEED website www.scseed.org offers information about ScSEED, its projects, and other information relevant to our locale. To find out more about how to participate please visit our website.