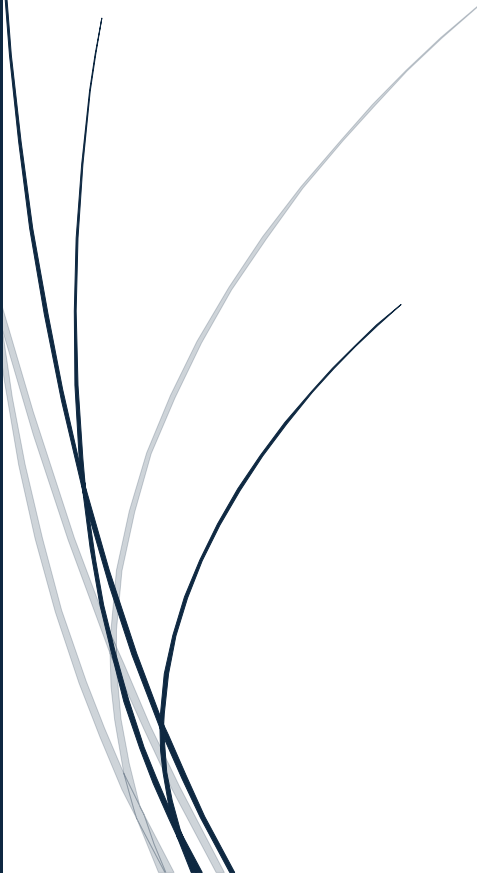




7/1/2026

West End Family Link Center

2026 Annual Report



Introduction

Dear Friends and Supporters,

This past fiscal year has been interesting to say the least! Our year was filled with great challenges and great rewards, but each gave us a chance to reflect on the strength and resilience of our community.

As we saw things change on Federal, State and local levels, we realized that our most important focus should be on ensuring that our neighbors had food to eat, heating for their homes, and clothing to wear. Our Board made the difficult decision to step away from family services and instead focus on these core functions. We partnered with Bright Futures to begin handling family services, and switched gears to ensure funding was utilized for food and energy services.

This became especially important when the Telluride Ski Patrol went on strike, and Telluride did not receive snow this year. This created a ripple effect that trickled all the way to the West End. Many of those employed in Telluride found themselves suddenly without an income (even if only temporary) and found themselves caught between a rock and a hard place. Trying to buy groceries is challenging enough on its own, but without any seasonal job prospects, groceries became a critical pinch point.

WEFLC was able to refocus and ensure that no one went hungry. This wasn't an easy task - our numbers went up but our donations stayed the same. Through the help of some of our funders (Telluride Foundation and Food Bank of the Rockies in particular), and the tremendous dedication of our staff and volunteers, we were able to weather this storm and keep our pantry well stocked with both fresh and canned goods.

As you'll see later in this report, we were able to start some new programs that fit in with our community's needs. The Tuesday Grocery Rescue and the new Hygiene Program have been particularly effective.

As we look ahead to next year, we remain committed to adapting our services to our community's evolving needs while staying true to our core mission of strengthening families, one day at a time.

Jody Gardner, Executive Director

"We see the impact of our organization every day. The "thank you's" and gratitude from our clients drive every effort we make. As the last safety net for many families, we understand we must stay true to our values and tenacious in our resolve to keep the Family Link operational."

New Mission Statement

West End Family Link Center's mission is to empower the citizens of frontier Montrose, San Miguel, Mesa and Dolores Counties by providing no-cost supportive services, such as a food pantry, utility assistance, and other resources when available.

New Vision Statement

To build stronger, healthier families and individuals in the West End of Montrose, San Miguel, Mesa and Dolores Counties.



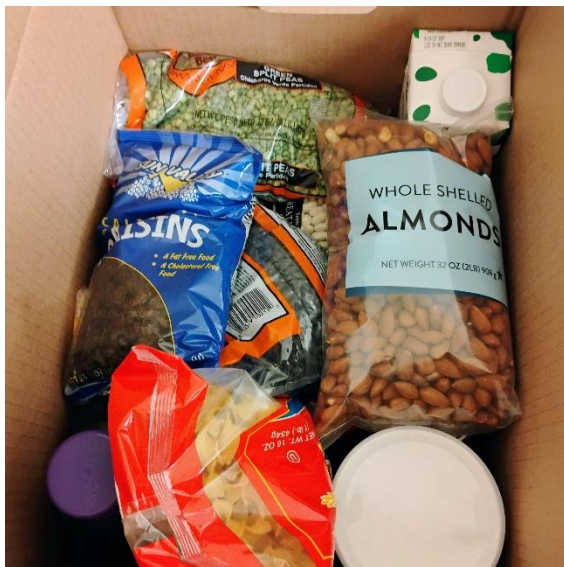
Food Pantry Statistics

5,800+	3,500+	500+	2,340	14,800+
Individual Pantry Visits	TEFAP Boxes provided	CSFP Boxes provided	Back Packs for Kids delivered	Miles driven delivering to the homebound / food pickup

WEFLC saw a dramatic increase in demand (nearly 40%) in FY25/26. This caused a significant impact to our budget, but through determination and program changes, we were able to ensure that everyone received the food and clothing they needed.

Many people assume that the food at the pantries is free for WEFLC. We pay for pantry staples and proteins for our clientele. On average, the food cost is between \$1,250 and \$1,500 per week to keep the pantries stocked.

WEFLC is primarily supported by foundation grants and individual donations. WEFCLC receives very little government funding (<5% of our budget). We administer The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) for low-income seniors aged 60 and older.



Food Values to Clients

TEFAP Box Value: Equivalent of \$125 of groceries

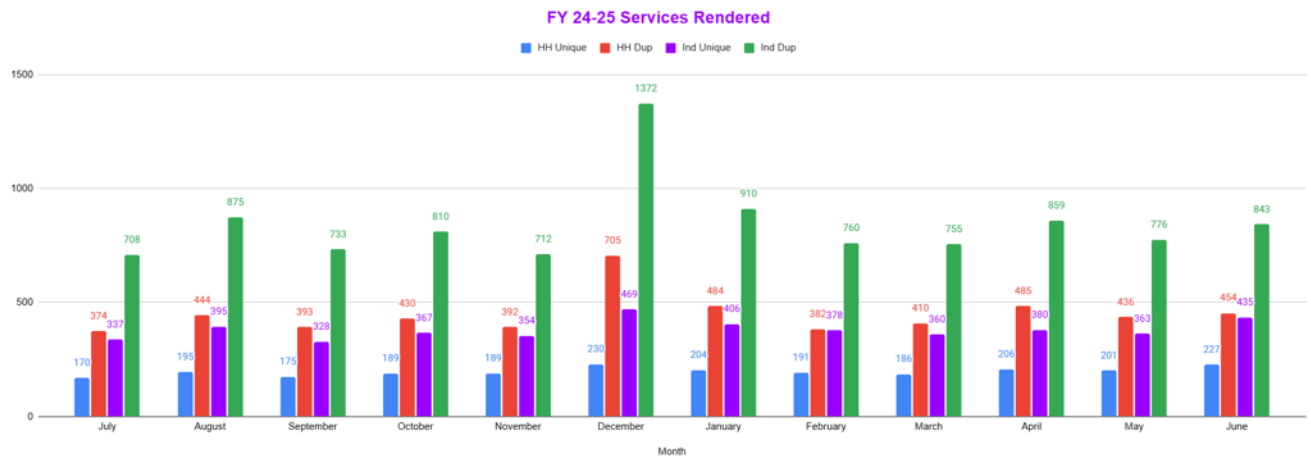
CSFP Box Value: Equivalent of \$75 of groceries

Pantry Value: Clients can go through the pantry 2x per month, taking 10 items per household member (up to 40 items for a family). The value of each visit is between \$50 to \$100

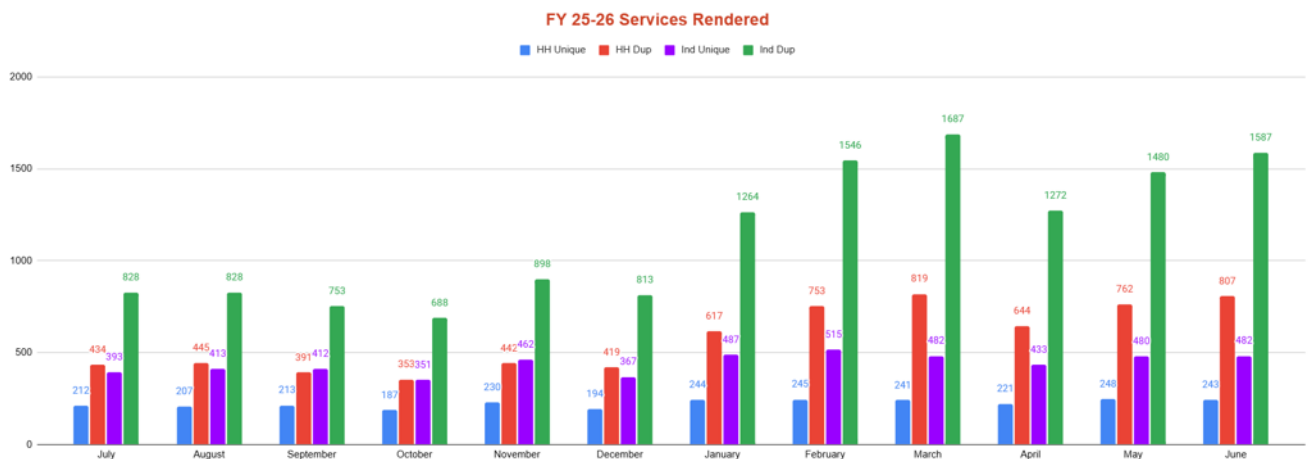
Food Pantry Services Rendered

(Nucla & Paradox Pantries)

FY 24-25 Services

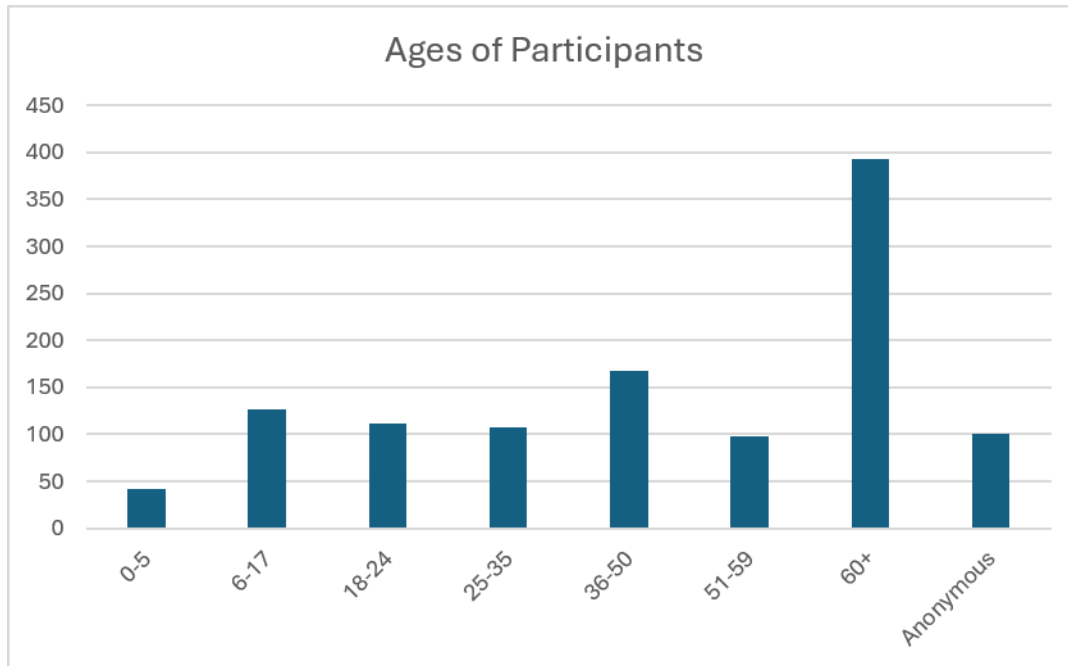


FY 25-26 Services



WEFLC saw a nearly 40% increase in need in FY 25/26!

WEFLC is feeding nearly 45% of the citizens in our service area. Our service area has a population of around 2,150 residents, with 13% under the age of 18 and 44% over the age of 60. Nearly 89% of the population are financially qualified for services.



Utility Assistance

Energy Outreach Colorado

Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) is an independent non-profit organization created by the State of Colorado that serves as a comprehensive resource for low-income Coloradoans struggling with energy costs. As the only statewide nonprofit specifically dedicated to this cause, EOC raises funds to help vulnerable Colorado residents afford their home energy needs, allowing them to remain warm, safe and secure in their homes.

EOC offers several key programs to assist Colorado residents:

- Energy Bill Assistance – Emergency financial assistance for those who are past due on energy bills and at risk of service disconnection
- Emergency Heating System Repairs – Help with critical heating system repairs for those who cannot afford them
- Energy Efficiency Updates – Programs to improve home energy efficiency, reducing future utility costs
- Community Solar – Access to solar energy benefits for qualifying households
- Healthy Homes Program – Initiatives to improve overall home health and energy efficiency

In FY25/26, WEFLC helped over 36 clients with electricity, propane, natural gas and firewood to keep them safe through the winter. WEFLC provided \$15,000 in payments through a grant from EOC.

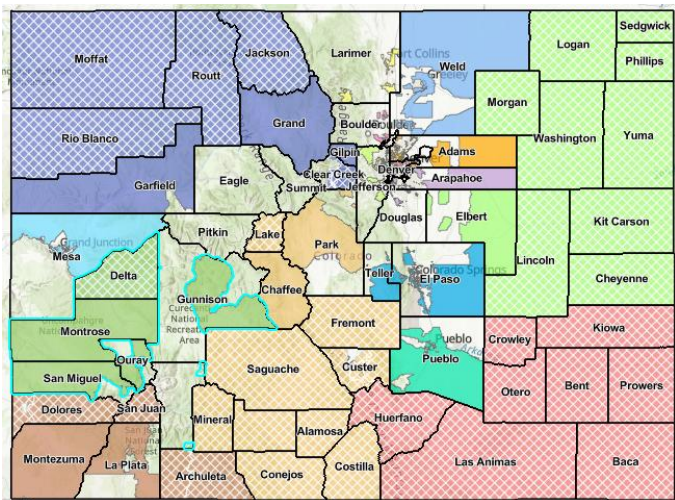
New – Rural Enhanced Enterprise Zone Project

Colorado legislature created the Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program to encourage development in economically distressed areas of the state. The 16 designated enterprise zones have high unemployment rates, low per capita income, or slow population growth.

Enterprise zone areas within rural counties that meet additional economic distress criteria receive enhanced rural enterprise zone status. Businesses within enhanced rural enterprise zones earn additional tax credits when adding net new employees.

In designated enterprise zones:

- Businesses are eligible for state income tax credits and sales and use tax exemptions for specific business investments.
- Taxpayers who contribute to enterprise zone projects may earn income tax credits.



WEFLC is the ONLY food pantry in Colorado with this designation. We are in a unique position with the State's "Just Transition" program, enabling our food pantry to qualify.

CASH contributions (over \$100) qualify for an ADDITIONAL 25% tax credit above and beyond the existing charitable tax deductions through the State of Colorado and the Federal government. This tax credit applies to all Colorado taxpayers, whether you itemize or not.

In-kind donations qualify for a 12.5% tax credit (and we're happy to accept donations of animals for processing!).

New – Grant for New Conex

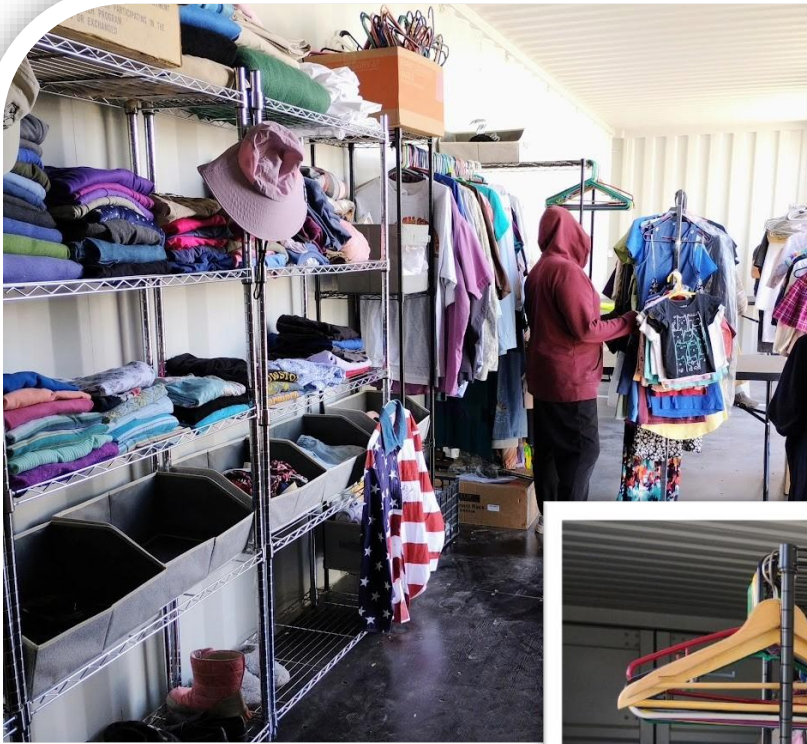


Through a grant from the Colorado Attorney General's Office (Dollar General suit), we were able to purchase a 40' Conex to hold fruits, vegetables for distribution, and create a NEW Clothes Closet.

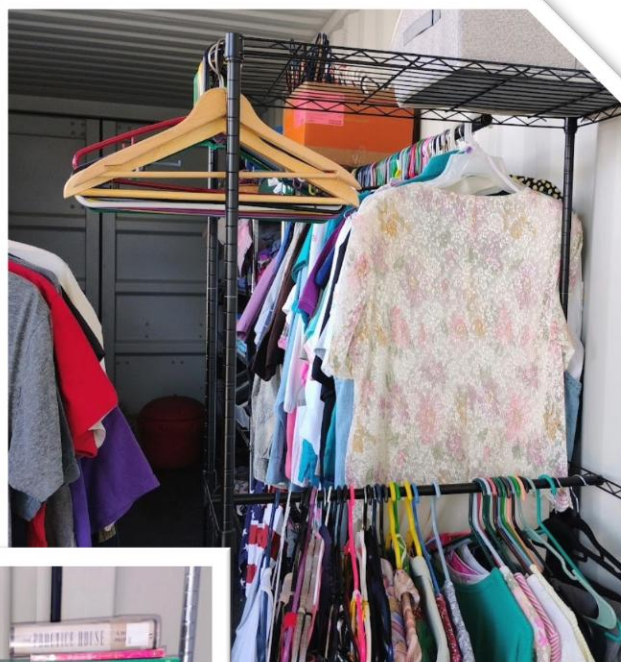


New – Clothes Closet

One of the unmet needs for our community was a FREE clothing closet. WEFLC worked to create an inviting location for clients to “shop” for their clothing needs, with special emphasis on children’s clothing.



With generous donations of clothing and household goods, the Clothes Closet replaces nearly all items every 10 days!



Collaborations

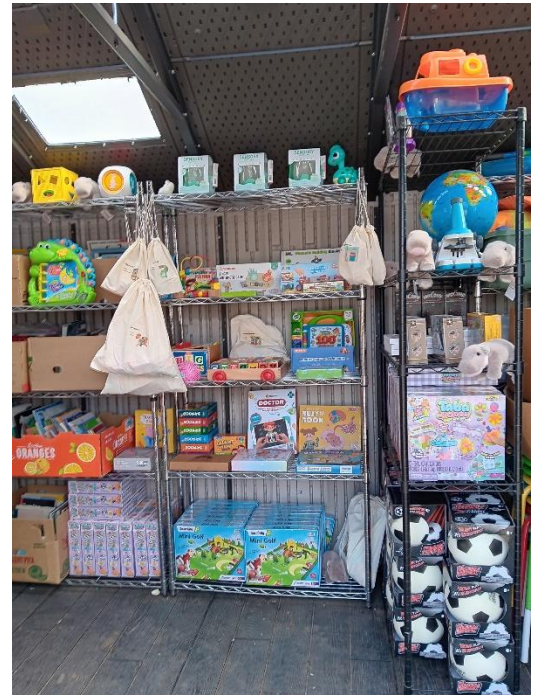
SUMMER LITERACY PROGRAM: In collaboration with the **Naturita Library**, we are providing breakfast and lunch (as well as snacks and drinks) through the Summer Food Program to 48 children.

SCHOOL SUPPLY PROGRAM & MOVIE IN THE PARK: In collaboration with **West End Recreation and Montrose County Health Department**, we are distributing 200 backpacks filled with school supplies to all K-12 registered students.

HOLIDAY TOY PROGRAM: Christmas 2025 we collaborated with **Enchanted Forest Toy Shoppe** and **Citizens State Bank of Ouray** to provide toys to needy families. This program was incredibly successful, and no children in the West End went without a toy for Christmas. We hope to do the same program this year.

WEST END COWBOY POETRY: In collaboration with the **Nucla-Naturita Chamber of Commerce**, we will use the opportunity to fundraise by providing the meal for the program.

VEGETABLE PLANT SALE: In collaboration with **Jeff Sonnenberg** (volunteer extraordinaire!), we held a fundraiser featuring the sale of tomato, cucumber, and pepper plants. Due to the popularity of this event, we plan on holding the same fundraiser next year.



HOLIDAY FOOD BASKETS: In collaboration with **Telluride Angel Baskets**, we are planning to provide 300 Holiday Boxes to seniors and those in need at both Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Statement of Financial Position

FY25/26

ASSETS	
Bank Accounts	\$911.25
Accounts Receivable	\$0.00
Other Current Assets (QuickBooks Tax Holding Account)	\$4,616.45
Fixed Assets (Furniture & Equipment, Building, Land, Vehicles)	\$111,978.76
TOTAL ASSETS	\$117,507.16
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities-Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Credit Cards	\$2,178.39
Other Current Liabilities (Payroll Liabilities)	\$20,069.72
Repayment Liabilities	-\$266.21
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$73,560.29
EQUITY	
Temp. Restricted Net Assets (Petty Cash)	\$200.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$181,354.68
Net Revenue	-\$137,607.81
TOTAL EQUITY	\$43,946.87
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$117,507.16

Statement of Activity - FY25/26

REVENUE	
Investments & Dividends (Savings)	\$131.54
Corporate & Business Grants	\$34,084.00
Federal Government Grants	-\$2,000.00
State Government Grants (FRCA)	\$11,800.27
Foundation & Trust Grants (Note 1)	\$180,500.00
Local Government Grants	\$24,945.00
Direct Public Support	\$15,002.90
Non-profit Agency Support	\$3,625.00
Fundraisers/Special Events	\$608.00
Other Types of Income (Refunds)	\$720.62
TOTAL REVENUE	\$269,417.33
EXPENDITURES	
Food Bank Expenses	\$2,157.64
Local Food Purchases	\$16,852.92
Food Bank of the Rockies	\$49,434.97
Emergency Assistance Programs	\$1,370.50
Family Development & Support	\$10.00
Childhood Development	\$2,286.71
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	\$72,112.74
OPERATION EXPENSES	
Advertising	\$1553.46
Janitorial Supplies	\$65.97
Books, Subscriptions, Reference (Inc. QuickBooks)	\$4,978.68
Postage, Mailing	\$500.93
Gifts (Board Goodbye, Xmas)	\$1,220.60
Office Supplies	\$2,521.54
Dues & Memberships	\$2,775.00
Printing & Copying	\$3,033.20
Business Registration Fees	\$253.24
Mileage-Staff	\$10,636.04
Interest Expense	\$98.10
Electricity	\$3,829.37
Telephone, Internet, Cell Phone	\$2,669.00
Water	\$818.00
Trash	\$4,106.14
Property Insurance	\$3,403.75
Liability Insurance	\$2,587.00
Vehicle Insurance	\$1,853.50
MASA Insurance (Helicopter insurance for staff)	\$589.90
Workers Compensation	\$2,118.19

Accounting Fees	\$4,036.50
Outside Contract Services (Note 2)	\$16,394.06
Internet & Computer Maintenance/Security Contract (Note 3)	\$6,156.77
Office Equipment	\$379.22
Building & Property Improvements	\$1600.00
Building Maintenance	\$5,228.97
Uniforms (winter coats)	\$684.37
Office Staff Payroll Expense	\$41,248.01
Director Payroll Expense (Note 4)	\$77,332.57
Food Bank Payroll Expense	\$92,330.13
Payroll Tax Liabilities	\$17,678.68
Vehicle-Fuel	\$1,598.57
Vehicle-Repair & Maintenance	\$2,393.30
Vehicle-Registration	\$90.02
Travel & Meetings	\$1,793.41
Miscellaneous Expense	\$29.82
Bank Service Charges	-\$0.01
Reimbursements	508.40
Unapplied Cash Bill Payment Expense	\$108.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$393,025.14
NET OPERATING REVENUE	-\$123,607.81
OTHER EXPENDITURES	
Delivery Vehicle Purchase	\$14,000.00
NET REVENUE (Note 5)	-\$137,607.81

Accounting Notes:

Note 1: Previous ED failed to register/apply for the Family Resource Center Association program. This caused WEFLC to have the FRCA contract terminated. This caused the loss of a \$76,000 annual grant that WEFLC had been using for family services. As a result, the Board decided to shift appropriate programs to other local agencies with the capacity to manage the activities (supervised visitation, etc.) and stop offering them through WEFLC.

Note 2: In FY25/26, WEFLC dealt with sabotage from two former employees, requiring experts to repair damage to computer systems and internal operating procedures. Criminal charges and insurance claims are pending. One-time cost.

Note 3: Computer security required by Energy Outreach Colorado to administer programs. A necessary but unexpected expense.

Note 4: New Executive Director is being paid a living wage (per MIT Living Wage Calculator for Montrose County, CO). ED is presently performing the following duties: HR, Payroll, Food Pantry/Link2Feed Program management, EOC Program management, Bookkeeping, Food pickup/delivery, and Site management (3 sites).

Note 5: Due to the difference between fiscal years and calendar years, WEFLC was able to remain operational despite the budget deficit. Cash flow was sufficient for WEFLC to manage payroll and operational expenses, but cash flow gets challenging in the timeframe between funder allocations at the end of the calendar year.

Our Team



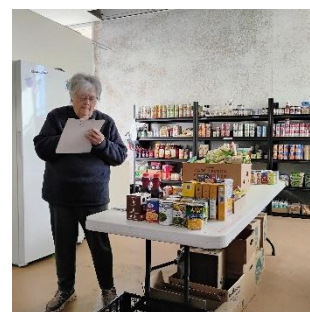
Jody Gardner, Executive Director. A proud Colorado native, Jody brings a wealth of experience, heart and dedication to her new role as Executive Director (as of 9/10/2025). Jody worked in County government and private industry in an administrative role. As Executive Director, Jody is responsible for the overall operations of the organization, including training, personnel, purchasing, facility improvement and expansion, and volunteer management.

Sarah Schrepel, Nucla Pantry Manager. Sarah has lived in the community since 2020 and is a single mother of two children. She has been with the Link since September of 2025 but is a returning employee. Sarah is responsible for pantry operations, including ordering, pantry management, and volunteer management as needed.



Lorraine Skees, TEFAP/BackPack Manager. Lorraine started with WEFLC in February 2023 and quickly became a valued member of the team. Lorraine handles all the homebound client deliveries each week, and the children's Backpack program deliveries, ensuring that our clients have food to eat each week.

Margie Petty, Paradox Pantry Manager. As Paradox Pantry Manager, Margie embodies the true spirit of community service. Margie has transformed the pantry into more than just a food distribution center - she's created a welcoming gathering space where neighbors become family. Her warm presence and always-ready pot of coffee invite clients to sit, share their stories, and find connection along with their groceries. Her natural ability to make everyone feel welcome, combined with her efficient management of pantry operations, has made her an invaluable member of our West End Family Link Center team.



Christopher Linville, Warehouse Manager. Christopher joined the team at WEFLC in November 2025. Christopher helps with produce management, client assistance and will soon be managing the Gateway, CO location. Christopher's cheerful attitude, and ability to put a fun rap song together on the spot, keep both the clients and the team laughing all day.

Deana Sheriff, Grant Coordinator. Deana joined WEFLC as a contractor in 2025 but became a part-time employee in 2026. She is a retired Certified Economic Developer with a passion for non-profit enterprises. Deana brings over 25 years of grant writing and executive management to The Link. Her passion for grant writing and working with funders is a perfect fit for the needs of WEFLC.



Jesse Goodsell. Pantry Assistant. Jesse works hard one day a week to help Lorraine pack TEFAP boxes and help keep our offices clean. Jesse doesn't let his autism slow him down. He enjoys helping the staff and knows the value of his help with WEFLC. The team knows that Jesse has found his happy place and is grateful for Jesse's commitment.

Our Board of Directors

Jimmy Guire, II, Board President & Chair

Jimmy Guire, II, represents the heart and history of the West End, coming from five generations of Nucla families and four generations rooted in Moab, UT. A lifelong resident and avid outdoorsman, Jimmy enjoys fishing and spending time in the rugged landscapes he's proud to call home. His family legacy spans a wide range of industries – owning and operating hotels, restaurants, convenience stores, construction and mining operations, as well as working in oil and gas. As a generational rancher, Jimmy brings a deep understanding of the challenges and strengths of rural communities. His commitment to service and connection drives his role as Board President and Chair for West End Family Link Center, where he works to strengthen families and support the long-term viability of the region. Term expires: 06/30/2027.

Glade Hadden, Vice Chair

Glade Hadden brings a lifelong passion for archaeology, education, and community to his role with West End Family Link. Born and raised on the Northern Ute Reservation in Utah, Glade earned his doctorate in archaeology from the University of Utah in 1998, following early fieldwork that began in 1990 and a master's degree completed in 1992. He worked extensively as a private archaeological consultant before joining the Bureau of Land Management, where he served in Rangely and Meeker. In 2018, Glade moved to Colorado's Paradox Valley to be closer to the La Sal Mountains – a landscape he deeply appreciates. Alongside his professional work, he leads rock art tours, polishes stones as a hobby, and has recently focused his energy on dinosaur tracking, having published several papers in the field. Glade is married to Susan, who is a professional silversmith. He joined the West End Family Link board 4 years ago as a way to give back to the community he now calls home. His deep respect for history, nature, and service continues to guide his work on behalf of local families. Term expires: 06/30/2027.

Annie Johnson, Treasurer

Originally from Washington state, Annie Johnson was raised on a dairy farm and cattle ranch, instilling in her a strong work ethic and a deep appreciation for rural life. She moved to Telluride in 1985 and has since called several towns in the region home, including Norwood, Placerville, Rico, and Nucla since 2015.

Annie is the proud mother of two daughters and grandmother to three grandsons. Widowed in 2011, she remains deeply rooted in community life and passionate about the outdoors. She enjoys international travel, skiing, hiking, fishing, and diving – anything that brings her closer to nature. Professionally, Annie's work has spanned counseling and social services, where she dedicated herself to helping others through compassionate support. She currently serves on the Board of the Uncompahgre Medical Center and is a former board member of the Tom Boy House in Telluride, which provided shelter and support for survivors of domestic violence. Term expires: 06/30/2028.

Ailene Smith, Secretary

Business Owner. Ailene and her husband Freddie have lived in Nucla for the majority of their lives and have been blessed to raise their family here. They are grateful to call the West End home and cherish both the beauty of the area and the people who make it such a special place. In 2026, they invested in the community by purchasing a car wash and transforming it into a tire shop, as well as opening "Deli Drinks

& Desserts” on Main Street. Ailene and her husband believe in investing in the community that has given so much to their family and are committed to doing their part to help Nucla and the West End continue to thrive. Term expires: 06/30/2027.

Ellie Button, Member at Large

Ellie Button is an enthusiastic member of the West End Family Link Board, bringing with her a heart for service and deep roots in the Paradox Valley community. Originally from the Bay Area of California, Ellie moved to Utah after high school to begin work at the x-ray tube manufacturer, Varian. She is a proud mother of three adult children and relocated to Paradox in 2002 after meeting her husband, Wayne.

With a love for animals – especially horses, cows, dogs and cats – Ellie has long embraced rural life. She worked at Paradox Valley School for nearly a decade, becoming a familiar and trusted presence for local families. Her decision to join the Family Link board in 2025 reflects her continued dedication to the well-being and growth of the community she calls home. Term expires: 06/30/2027

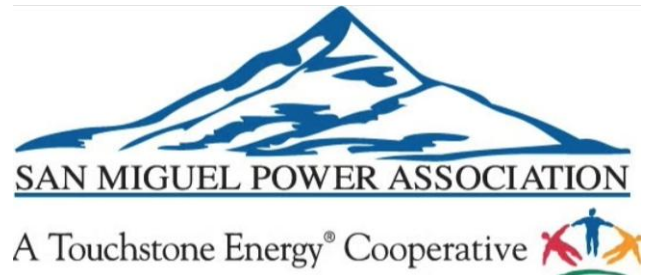
Allie Sutherland, Member at Large

Parent Educator for Bright Futures for Early Childhood and Families. Allie recently joined the WEFLC board, bringing her extensive non-profit development and management experience to the team. Allie recently completed her master’s degree in social work and is the Collaborative Management Coordinator for Telluride, Norwood and West Montrose County, providing ISST facilitation for youth. Term expires: 06/30/2028.

Tammy Gillaspy, Member at Large

Business Owner. Tammy is a long-time resident of the West End and is well known for her incredible pie-making skills. Tammy brings her fundraising talent to the Family Link and is looking forward to making a difference to the community. Term expires: 06/30/2028

Our Funders



Our Volunteers

Our AMAZING volunteers are the heart of West End Family Link Center. Their dedication, compassion, and willingness to help wherever needed make our work possible. Whether stocking pantry shelves, unloading the deliveries, fixing our equipment, organizing fundraisers, or offering friendly conversation to our neighbors in need, our volunteers bring warmth and dignity to every interaction. WEFLC simply could not serve our community without the generosity and helping hands of our volunteers. We are grateful for every volunteer and hour of service!



In FY 25/26, Volunteers logged 1,553
hours of service –

a 23% increase over the previous
year!

THANK YOU!