

**A RESOLUTION OF THE
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO
ENDORING THE REAL COLORADO PRINCIPLES OF GOOD GOVERNANCE**

WHEREAS, in 2010, members of the Health and Human Services Steering Committee of Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) recognized that certain challenges to Counties providing Health and Human Services existed, including:

- Increased demand with decreased funding,
- Unfunded mandates with high maintenance of effort and administrative requirements,
- Regulatory focus on compliance rather than outcomes,
- Ineffective reporting requirements and redundant audits,
- Policy decisions are made without input from counties,
- Legislation creates added burdens without improving outcomes,
- Data systems and staffing levels are inadequate; and

WHEREAS, in 2010 and 2011, some of these members including one Ouray County Commissioner, formed the "REAL" subcommittee at CCI to envision a redesigned system of delivering Health and Human Services at the county level in more efficient manner that enhanced outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the principles formulated and adopted by the REAL subcommittee and the CCI Health and Human Services Committee are now known as the "REAL Vision": "Responsive, Efficient, Accountable human services system delivered through Local-State Partnership"; and

WHEREAS, the REAL initiative desired to strategically reform the health and human services system in Colorado to improve outcomes for Colorado families by seeking increased local control, funding flexibility from state and federal mandates, relief from certain mandates, administrative simplification, and reformed performance accountability; and

WHEREAS, the REAL initiative emphasizes Local Control, Funding and Service Flexibility, Mandate Relief, Administrative Simplification, and Local Leadership with Increased Collaboration and Data Driven Decisions; and

WHEREAS, the REAL initiative was quickly successful in improving County-administered Health and Human Service programs; and

WHEREAS, examples of success of the REAL initiative include:

- Governor Hickenlooper issued Executive Order 2011-005 in the spirit of REAL governance, requiring state agencies to re-evaluate their services and internal processes to become more efficient and accountable,
- State Review of Rules/Agency Letters,
- State Staff Committed to REAL Principles and Funding,
- Passage of HB-1196 and SB-124 in 2011 which both allow for flexibility in using funding resources to provide better outcomes for Colorado families; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges that there are greater challenges of providing Responsive, Efficient, Accountable, and Locally-designed government services in the current economic climate that make maintaining "status quo" unattainable; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges unfunded mandates and decreased funding for County services, as well as increased administrative requirements have become the new norm; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges regulatory focus at the federal and state levels have continued to focus on *compliance*, rather than *outcomes*; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges ineffective reporting requirements and redundant audits waste valuable resources and do not produce effective results; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges federal and state policy decisions have historically been made with little or no input from Counties or other local entities responsible for policy and program implementation; and

WHEREAS, Ouray County acknowledges many legislative actions create additional burdens without improving outcomes for taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, certain components of the REAL initiative have been identified by the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) as desirable to include in the Ouray County decision-making process, specifically:

- Decisions based on data and measurable outcomes,
- Reducing unnecessary and unfunded mandates,
- Streamlining processes while maintaining desired outcomes,
- Maintaining funding flexibility,
- Fiscal responsibility and efficiency,
- Transparent planning and reporting,
- Culture change to increase partnership between state, federal and local governments,
- Effective education and communication with stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, in order to effectively serve the needs of Ouray County and its communities, County officials must have the resources and authority commensurate with the responsibilities placed on them by state and federal laws, regulations and court decisions; and

WHEREAS, the Ouray County BOCC believes the state and federal government must exercise fiscal restraint and responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Ouray County BOCC believes that the most effective governance results from local, state and federal officials working in true partnership toward the development and implementation of programs and services; and

WHEREAS, the Ouray County BOCC believes that County and local government officials are elected officials closest and most responsive to the citizens and best understand local priorities, needs and constraints.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:

Ouray County BOCC *opposes* unfunded mandates and preemption of local rules and policies.

1. Ouray County strongly opposes cost shifting from the state and federal government to County and local governments and attempting to resolve budget shortfalls with county government resources;
2. Ouray County BOCC opposes any state or federally-imposed mandates that did not include Counties in the decision-making process and that do not provide adequate funding for any state or federally-imposed mandate, including the need for technology improvements necessary to fulfill these mandates;
3. Ouray County BOCC opposes the preemption or elimination of local rules and policies;

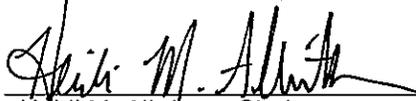
Ouray County supports the REAL vision and principles for good governance.

4. Ouray County BOCC supports preventive, cost-effective, locally designed, and locally flexible approaches to delivering essential services locally; and that manage, fairly distribute and leverage resources;
5. Ouray County BOCC supports the principles of REAL Colorado, and commits to utilizing these concepts in its own decision-making process by seeking to ensure that any future policy actions are weighed against the goals of being:
 - Responsive
 - Efficient
 - Accountable
 - Local-State-Federal Partnership
6. Ouray County BOCC supports the components of REAL Colorado and commits to examining new initiatives to achieve:
 - Decisions based on data and measurable outcomes,
 - Reducing unnecessary and unfunded mandates,
 - Streamlining processes while maintaining desired outcomes,
 - Maintaining funding flexibility,
 - Fiscal responsibility and efficiency,
 - Transparent planning and reporting,
 - Culture change to increase partnership between state, federal and local governments,
 - Effective education and communication with stakeholders.

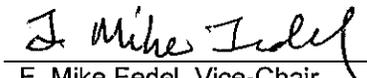
APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 10th DAY OF JANUARY, 2012.

Voting for: Commissioners Albritton, Fedel and Padgett
Voting against: None

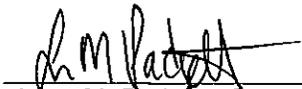
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO



Heidi M. Albritton, Chair



F. Mike Fedel, Vice-Chair

Lynn M. Padgett, Commissioner





Michelle Nauer, Clerk and Recorder
By: Linda Munson-Haley, Deputy Clerk of the Board