

# MEMORANDUM

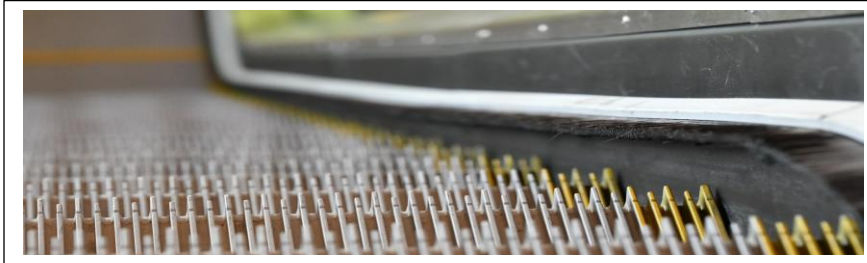
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**To:** Routt County

**From:** Jon Stavney, NWCCOG Executive Director

**Date:** September 2025

**Re:** Local Benefits of NWCCOG Membership



**Elevator Inspection Program** employs a Director, two admin and 6 inspectors who perform annual inspections and compliance for over 2,600 conveyances across a 10-County region. Each conveyance can be located on a GIS tool showing all reports for that location on the [EIP webpage](#) along with forms, explanation of the enforcement process. You can meet the team on that page as well. The program Director is recognized nationally as a trainer and code expert. He and an inspector were each elected by their peers to lead standards boards for the industry. This is a technical, narrow knowledge-set requiring extensive annual training, certifications and regulatory updates on code which are distinct from building codes. The EIP program's highly trained staff provide the critical-mass to deliver this specialized service on a regional basis **allowing the County to save one or more FTE**. As a Member jurisdiction, conveyance owners in your jurisdiction each save \$100 per annual inspection.

**Northwest Business Loan Fund (NLF)** employs one Director of Business Lending who serves 9 Counties with administrative assistance from NWCCOG's Finance staff and office manager. Each County renewed the upcoming 3-year NLF contract. Since originating in 2014, the NLF Program in the past decade closed on **97 loans** with a total value of **\$10,785,130**. As loans are repaid, revolved funds turn into additional loan capacity. **In 2024, one point two million dollars of total**

Total Value of Loans  
Closed in Routt County  
in 2024-2025

**\$200,000**

**value in loans** were closed, and as of August 31, 2025, one point one million dollars of total loan value have already closed. Some Clients are highlighted in [this report](#) and on the [NLF webpage](#) while others request to not be named.

County Dues Request for 2026

**\$40,467.00**

Total Dues 2026 for All 31 Members

**\$ 479,185.00**

NWCCOG 2025 Total All Programs

**\$ 14,261,385.00**

Annual cost per Elevator Program  
Employee = County Value/Savings

**\$155,000**

Conveyances in Routt County  
including municipalities

**193** (0 in URC)





Amount of 2026 Member Dues  
Supporting Broadband Program:  
**\$105,000**

Regional Cost of NWCCOG  
Broadband Director/Program  
**\$260,000**

**Regional Broadband Program** has provided technical assistance across the region for 12 years, accumulating invaluable knowledge of local infrastructure, assets, capacity, public needs and coordinates between member entities and internet service providers. Only one other region in the State has this level of expertise that is 100% focused on delivering value to public interest without concern for the agendas or self-dealing of a consultant. We are proud to announce that the Director position which has been funded half through Member Dues and half through a DOLA grant for the past decade will now be funded entirely by Dues and Revenues from Project THOR. Because of carrier grade infrastructure combined with AI mesh redundancy, Project THOR regional middle mile network directly supports three 911 call centers, three rural hospitals, 13 Stakeholder CNL locations across 8 counties providing robust, affordable, resilient services that have stayed connected through commonplace outages, wildfires and mudslides which severed other carrier circuits. The network stood-up temporary service for two command centers and provided alternate routes for isolated communities during wildfires in recent years.

**PROJECT THOR**  
serves  
**Routt County,**  
**NCB**

ISPs in County  
utilizing  
Project THOR  
to serve  
Customers.

**3**



**Energy Program** employs 33 employees and staff based in warehouse locations in Rifle, Gypsum and Silverthorne. With a Seven Million Dollar budget, annually, the program serves **450 families** through a variety of programs that are explained in detail on the home page, including CARE, Weatherization Assistance, Crisis Intervention and Pay it Forward, serving a variety of income qualified levels. [Impact Metrics](#) include \$283.00 average monthly energy bill savings per household. Employees can be [“met” by customers](#) on the webpage prior to coming to the home.

The NWCCOG Energy Program is a recognized leader by the Colorado Energy Office for innovations and leadership. In 2024 Energy built a tiny home to support a BPI Certified weatherization training program for the entire Western Slope at the Gypsum Warehouse location that provides training in audits, building envelope sealing and certifications for both public and private sector partners.

Total number of Units served  
annually across 13 County Energy  
Program Service Area:

**450**

Energy Program Jobs in the County in  
last budget year:

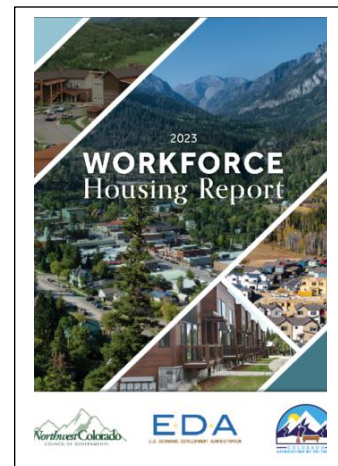
**24**

Average total health and household  
related benefit per unit:

**\$14,148**



**Economic Development District** with one employee manages the 5-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Hosting the annual Regional Economic Summit (photo) is the culmination of a year of facilitating discussion, bringing in speakers and coordinating among the various Chambers and other stakeholders in the region through meetings that follow NWCCOG Council gatherings. [The District](#) enables jurisdictions across the Membership to access EDA funds. The Program Director bundles and shares economic and grant information through Bi-Weekly EDD Resources Bulletins which enjoy a wide distribution including many stakeholders (i.e. businesses, non-profits, economic Development organizations, government leaders). Quarterly Economic Updates provide economic data. The EDD also contributes to periodic reports such as the [2023 Workforce Housing Report](#), funded by NWCCOG Dues .



**Vintage** is the region's Area Agency on Aging. Employing a Director and 4 specialists, the Program is funded by the Older American's Act. The goal of [Vintage](#) is to allow seniors across the region the opportunity to "Age in Place," through an array of services and funding streams. Some examples include Long Term Care ombudsman services, SHIP Medicare Counseling, emergency funding, financial vouchers for dental, vision, in-home services and caregiver vouchers. These are provided directly to older adults.



In addition, Vintage contracts with local providers to fund congregate meals (typically at senior centers funded by the host county) and home delivered meals. Vintage also hosts subject area expert speakers as well as an annual Caregiver Conference that rotates throughout the region. Vintage also provides support mechanisms for those caring for an aging person. Detailed Vintage data is on a handout attached to this memo.

In 2024 across the 6 County Region,  
Vintage Staff and Volunteers  
Provided

**650 Sessions**

of Unbiased Medicare Counseling

**1,547 Hours**

Of Non-Medical In-Home Services

**69,398 Contacts**

For Information and Referral

**2,691 Baskets**

Bountiful Baskets of Fresh Veggies  
and Dairy Delivered to Older Adults.

**Amount of 2026 Member Dues  
Supporting Vintage Program:**

**\$100,000**





The **Mobility Program** employs one Director whose major responsibilities include the **Regional Transportation Coordinating Council** that convenes transit agencies, para transit partners and County service providers to exchange innovations and seek to improve capacity across the region. The Director has pursued grants related to increasing mobility while also providing support to **the Intermountain Transportation Planning Region** on behalf of the jurisdictions involved. The region benefits greatly from having a point of contact with CDOT staff who is actively vigilant of grants and funding opportunities as they arise. Before the Mobility Director took over coordination of the IMTPR, that work was performed by Officers of IMTPR which took considerable time from their work as engineers in Pitkin and Eagle Counties.

- **Member Services:** primarily the work of Executive Director with assistance from staff, Member Dues cover 100% of this program, which include informational Monthly Newsletters with original content, management of DOLA grants, and coordination with consultants who assist in publications and [reports](#) which in recent years have included the Elect. Also known as Regional Business in our budget, in the past this “general fund” also covered the wages of the Office Manager and Fiscal Contractor, but with the expansion of NWCCOG from under 20 employees

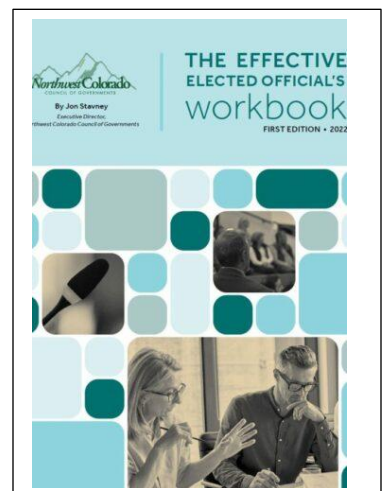
### Free Facilitation Services

to over 50 now, the programs are charged an Indirect rate that entirely covers the cost of the two Finance Department Staff and the OM. This frees the Regional Business Budget to provide more value to the region externally. One example is the Executive Director who over the past 9 years

has provided [free facilitation services to Members](#) assisting Fraser and Grand Lake with Manager Searches, performing Town Manager evaluations for Avon and Kremmling, providing resources to Keystone as it pursued incorporation, and over 25 engagements with Councils & Boards ranging from new board orientation, retreat and planning retreats, and assistance with Economic Development partners such as the Basalt Chamber and Steamboat Economic Development Council. For more information about facilitations, contact [jstavney@nwccog.org](mailto:jstavney@nwccog.org).

NWCCOG also has a GIS contractor who provides services to Fraser and Winter Park. NWCCOG is a member of County Health Pool from which NWCCOG employees get coverage. From that CHP membership, NWCCOG also provides coverage to employees at Walden and Kremmling.

- **Northwest Regional Health Care Coalition NWCCOG is the Fiscal Agent Contracted with CDPHE to manage the HPP Grant that supports the** which coordinates disaster planning and resource sharing among hospitals across the region including Aspen Valley Hospital, Valley View Hospital, Vail Health, UC Health Yampa Valley Medical Center, Common Spirit – St. Anthony Summit Hospital, Middle Park Health and many other Hospitals, Medical Centers, EMS professionals across Northwest Colorado. The group prepares for incidents that exceed the capacity of any one facility in the region, performs table-top exercises and prepares for Mutual Aid and mobile resource allocation.





Member Dues Support for  
Watershed Services:

**\$7,000**

**Watershed Services  
(208 Plan),  
and Wild and Scenic  
Committees**

## **Water Quality and Quantity Committee (QQ)**

The Water Quality/ Quantity Committee has separate dues and a different geographic membership than NWCCOG, though through administrative support and acting as the Fiscal Agent, NWCCOG provides administrative support to the QQ team. The QQ Team also manages the Regional 208 Plan through Watershed Services. NWCCOG contract staff also manage the Upper Colorado Wild and Scenic Stakeholder Committee. For QQ's full scope of work and services, please click [here](#).

**Summary and Background on NWCCOG** which has existed and adapted since 1974 to aggregate services and meet the regional needs of local governments.

We know that these are challenging times for local governments and those of us who provide services to the public. At NWCCOG, we want you to know that we highly value your membership. This memo summarizes a few of some of the most quantifiable benefits we deliver back to you and your constituents because of your annual dues.

Directors at NWCCOG manage 11 major programs across a broad region. Some, like Vintage and Broadband, host sub-programs like Project THOR within them. A number of programs exist specifically to distribute state and federal grant dollars for such varied purposes as emergency preparedness for hospitals (NWHCC), to weatherize and do emergency energy repairs for residents in low-income homes (Energy), and advocate for the rights of the elderly, especially those most at risk in retirement facilities (Vintage Ombudsman). NWCCOG is proud that we leverage member dues to secure between \$5 and \$7 million annually in state and federal funds ([budget link](#)). Through our programs, community partners and clients, those dollars deliver positive impacts across the region. Many programs and services would not exist without matching dollars from your membership. To dive deeper into NWCCOG programs and services check out the program pages on our website at [www.nwccog.org](http://www.nwccog.org) or feel free to contact me directly at [jstavney@nwccog.org](mailto:jstavney@nwccog.org) or call me on my cell phone 970 471-9050.

**We highly value your membership in NWCCOG. More importantly, if it isn't clear from the memo, we couldn't do all that we do without your active participation and support. Thank you.**

# VINTAGE SERVES OLDER ROUTT COUNTY RESIDENTS



2024 Service  
Units provided to  
Routt County

**22,600**

2024 State Unit On Aging Database



# of people  
60+ Routt  
County

**6,398**

2023 CO State Demographers Office

**25.5%**

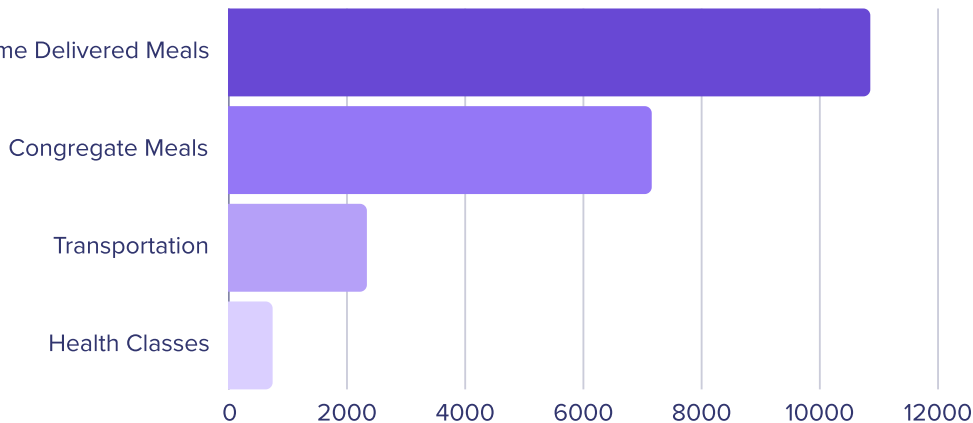
% of total  
population  
60+ Routt  
County

Economic Contribution  
of Older Adults in Routt  
County in 2022

**\$129,675,181**

2022 CASOA Survey

## Routt County Council on Aging Services Provided in 2024 (Funded by Vintage)



2024 State Unit On Aging Database

## Helping Hands Program

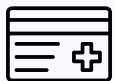
From 2022-2024, Vintage provided an additional **\$46,180** from SB-290 funding for **Routt County Council on Aging's Helping Hands Program**.

This additional funding provided **1,329 home visits for older adults in Routt County!**



SB290 Data 2024

## Vintage Services Keep Routt's Older Adults in Their Homes Longer & Delay Institutionalization & Medicaid LTC



Unbiased Medicare Counseling  
**348 Sessions** in 2024



Non-Medical In-Home Services  
**109 Hours** in 2024



Information & Referral  
**234 Contacts** in 2024



Case Management Services  
**322 Hours** in 2024

2024 State Unit On Aging Database

## What Vintage Clients in Routt County are saying in 2025:

*God has blessed me with the Routt County Council on Aging.*

*This is a lifesaver for me. Thank you.*

*Gets me out and about; made new friends.*

*It was very helpful to have somewhere to turn to get started on the Medicare process. My person was very willing to explain details, various options and in a kind manner. Thank you!*

2025 Vintage Performance Measures



SERVICES FOR AGING WELL IN COLORADO

Vintage is the Area Agency on Aging serving Jackson, Grand, Eagle, Pitkin, Routt, and Summit Counties

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### Investing in Vintage Services Costs Less

Home and community-based services offered through Area Agencies on Aging, cost a fraction of the cost of institutional care like nursing and assisted living facilities. Bringing services to people where they live saves individual and government resources, making this a more sensible approach from both a fiscal & human perspective.

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**96%** of Older Americans Act clients said the services they received helped them become more independent or remain independent. Being able to remain at home allows clients who use Area Agency on Aging services to avoid premature placement in costly facilities that offer higher (and often unnecessary) levels of care.

Colorado State Unit on Aging 2022 Raw Data

**\$77 a month**

the average cost per older adult, per month for AAA services. Budget cuts will cause Colorado's older adults to lose:

- rides to appointments
- home delivered meals
- caregiver supports
- in-home help

DRCOG Support Fiscal Responsibility Information Sheet 2024