

2005 Annual Report

The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado programs are guided by three principles:

- Form relationships which then grow collaborations, and from collaborations grow coalitions.
- Promote policies that advance social, economic and environmental health; and
- Learn from best practices wherever they are found and then demonstrate and replicate those best practices.

The Alliance catalyzes actions of nonprofits, businesses and government to *work together* for systemic change to create a sustainable future for Colorado through the three program areas. In 2005, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado carried out the following activities.

I. Alliance Center - Demonstration and Replication Program

The Alliance Center, the Alliance's flagship project, demonstrates how a building can be used as a tool for collaboration and social advocacy, and how sound building design and technologies create healthy workplaces and reduce environmental impacts.

Monthly Brown Bag Lunches

Alliance Center tenants and neighbors are invited to monthly lunch time get-togethers to meet each other, share news, and learn something new. Lunches vary from pot luck to catered meals by sponsors.

April 1, 2005 – WELCOME

This first brown bag lunch get-together provided an opportunity to get take a tour of the Alliance Center café, get to know tenants, and hear important announcements about recycling, mail boxes and grand opening.

April 29, 2005 -- IS YOUR EMAIL MESSAGING GETTING IGNORED?

Special guest Eric Johnson from Colorado Environmental Coalition gave a tour of emailing software and services aiding in email management and design.

May 26, 2005 -- SPRING CELEBRATION

BBQ in the terrace invited tenants to celebrate the spring weather and legislative victories.

June 30, 2005 -- FILM SCREENING of "READING YOUR RIGHTS"

Just Media presented its Emmy-nominated short documentary about the State Supreme Court Case involving the Tattered Cover Book Store.

July 28, 2005 -- ADA

American Disabilities Act representatives presented information that organizations need to know about making their organizations accessible. American Council of the Blind was welcomed to the Alliance Center. U.S. Alliance

Credit Union hosted the BBQ on the terrace, featuring vegetarian burgers.

August 25, 2005 -- COMMUNITY POT LUCK

A get-together in the terrace brought tenants and neighbors together for networking and distribution of office supplies.

September, 2005 -- 1st YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE ALLIANCE CENTER

The Alliance provided appetizers, drinks, and raffle items for tenants and neighbors in the Terrace. Approximately 60 people attended.

October 27, 2005 -- PUBLIC NEWS SERVICE

Special guest Lark Corbeil, founder of Public News Service, spoke about Public News media service and how to add value to the work you're already doing by getting exposure in the media.

December 1, 2005 -- FALCON WATERFREE PRODUCTS

Representatives from Falcon Waterfree Technologies described water conservation and the many benefits of the water free urinals recently installed in the Alliance Center. Falcon provided submarine sandwiches.

Building Demonstration

BUILDING TOURS

Visitors are informed by guided tours of The Alliance Center, which average 3-4 per week. Interpretive displays of features in the building are being developed for self-guided tours. Virtual tours via the Internet are planned for 2006.

ALLIANCE APPLIES FOR LEED CERTIFICATION

The Alliance submitted applications for two green building certifications from the US Green Building Council for both Existing Buildings and Commercial Interior under the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) program.

PROVIDERS RESOURCE CLEARINGHOUSE MEMBERSHIP

Through the Alliance, tenants receive a distribution of free office supplies and discounted office furniture at a clearinghouse for unsold retail goods.

BUS PASSES

The Alliance served as an outlet for RTD monthly bus passes, helping approximately 20 tenants per month take advantage of a 50% discount from highway improvement funds.

YOGA

The Alliance hosts weekly yoga instruction for tenants in the conference room during lunch time.

SPORTS PARTIES

Periodically, The Alliance is able to offer discount or free tickets to professional sports such as Avalanche hockey, the Stock Show, and the Colorado Rockies events to tenants, neighbors and friends of sustainability.

Special Events

June 22, 2005 – BIKE TO WORK DAY

The Alliance participated with RTD and Tattered Cover to encourage tenants to ride bikes to work on Wednesday, providing information on free bike parking, prize drawings, giveaways and breakfasts.

September 22, 2005 – ALLIANCE CENTER DAY AT THE ROCKIES

Twenty Alliance Center tenants, neighbors and friends were offered \$4 baseball tickets to the Colorado Rockies Game against the San Diego Padres.

ALLIANCE CENTER HOLIDAY PARTY

The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado co-hosted a holiday celebration on December 15, 2005 on the 5th floor of the Saddlery Building next door to the Alliance Center. Approximately 100 people attended.

II. Outreach and Public Policy Program

The Alliance facilitates relationships and common goals and agendas among individuals, non-profit organizations, businesses and government to unify support behind jointly backed policy initiatives that consider long-term impacts. In addition to regular meetings and major networking events, The Alliance is developing communications mechanisms and networks for collaboration through coordinating smaller, informal and occasionally impromptu gatherings around breaking issues and long-term projects.

Legislative Briefing

LEGISLATIVE BRIEFING AND BREAKFAST January 18, 2005

The Colorado Alliance of Sustainable Business Associations brought together 75 non-profit, business and government leaders to meet with leaders of both houses and both parties of the Colorado state legislature to discuss current issues affecting business and sustainable solutions. From this briefing emerged the Building Colorado Coalition and the introduction of a bill by Senate Majority Leader, Ken Gordon, to require all state funded buildings to pursue US Green Building Council's LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certification. The bill was not voted on before the session ended, but Governor Owens issued his Executive D 005 05, "Greening of State Government".

Building Colorado Coalition

HIGH PERFORMANCE BUILDINGS LEGISLATION

The Coalition, administered and supported by The Alliance, promotes state and local policies that encourage construction of high performance buildings. The Coalition includes 170 representatives from business, non-profit, and government sectors. Members meet monthly at the Alliance Center to set strategy, plan education and policy activities, and evaluate progress of voluntary and statutory green building efforts.

Greenbuild International Conference and Expo Planning

Since August, 2005, The Alliance has hosted monthly local planning meetings for 30-50 participants and several subcommittees for the U.S. Greenbuilding Council's international convention, to be held in Denver November 15 - 17, 2006. Alliance staff participate on 4 planning committees.

Speakers Events

October 10, 2005 -- PROFESSOR STEPHEN KELLERT, YALE UNIVERSITY

On the topic of "Building for Life -- Making the case for a green building at Yale University", Dr. Kellert spoke to an audience of 100 at the Tattered Cover, LoDo about a new green building (LEED Platinum) for the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in Connecticut.

October 13, 2005 -- LIZ WALKER, CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF ECOVILLAGE AT ITHACA

The author of EcoVillage at Ithaca: Pioneering and Sustainable Culture spoke to 15 Alliance Center tenants and sustainability advocates about a case study on sustainable community design.

November 29, 2005 -- DENVER GREEN CITIES FORUM

The Alliance co-hosted Denver's Green Cities Forum with the Denver Mayor's Sustainable Development Initiative. Beth Conover, Special Advisor to the Mayor and Director of the Initiative, gathered Susan Anderson, Director of the City of Portland Office of Sustainable Development (OSD); Randy Hayes, Director of Sustainability for Oakland; Sadhu Johnston, Commissioner of the City of Chicago Department of Environment; Steve Nicholas, the Director of the Office of Sustainability & Environment for Seattle, to share ideas with department heads for the City of Denver. Beth and the five directors presented to an audience of approximately 400 people at the Ellie Caulkins Opera House in Denver.

December 27, 2005 -- MICHAEL SHELLENBERGER, CO-AUTHOR OF 'DEATH OF ENVIRONMENTALISM'

Shellenberger's company, American Environics, implements the largest social values surveys in North America. Michael presented the research results that led to the report, Death of Environmentalism, to a standing room only audience at the Alliance Center.

Film Screenings

August 16, 2005 FILM ON THE ROCKS - SUSTAINABILITY FAIR

The Alliance co-sponsored the event and hosted an information table before the film, "Ray", at the Red Rocks Amphitheater for an audience of 500.

Publications

January 2005 -- CASBA DIRECTORY

The Alliance published the annual directory of 32 sustainable business associations in Colorado. The publication is available on line or hard copy.

CASBA -- CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Bi-weekly, the Alliance publishes an email calendar of sustainable business events, combining activities around Colorado of 32 business associations.

Special Events

September 22, 2005 – LUNCH PRESENTATION ABOUT REFERENDA C AND D

In order to understand Referenda C & D on the November ballot, Colorado Consumer Health Initiative and The Alliance co-hosted a lunch-time presentation and Q&A about these two initiatives. Lunch was provided by the Alliance.

III. Education and Training Program

Polls consistently show that most Americans describe themselves as environmentalists, but they lack the information and empowerment to effect system-wide change. The Alliance's educational programs are designed to meet the needs of targeted, influential audiences.

College Courses

Spring Semester 2005 -- INTERIOR DESIGN II COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

The Alliance partnered with the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design students in Green Interior Design II course. The students reviewed The Alliance Center interior materials and space layout.

Spring Semester -- 2005 GRAPHIC ARTS CLASS COLLABORATIVE PROJECT

The Alliance became the semester long focus of study for the senior graphics art class. Students offered design suggestions for "way-finding", educational displays, and organizational logos.

Summer Semester 2005 GREEN DESIGN III

A class in Green Interior Design III was completed, including groundwork for applications for LEED certifications in Existing Buildings and Commercial Interiors.

INTERNSHIP

The Alliance has an ongoing opening for a paid semester-long internship, available to college students studying green design, sustainability, non-profit management, interpretation, or policy.

Capacity Building Workshop

June 2, 2005 -- GET ACTIVE SOFTWARE Get Active Software

Chris Dworin of Get Active Software presented a ½ day workshop called "Harnessing the Power of Email".

Making the best use of email in nonprofit organizations, Chris demonstrated the newest technologies for emailing, e-newsletters, and e-advocacy services to hundreds of clients.