



# Alliance for Sustainable Colorado



## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

Look deep into Nature, and then you will understand everything better.

- *Albert Einstein*



*The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado moves sustainability forward by fostering collaboration with business, nonprofits, government and academia.*

Staff counter clockwise from front left: Jeanne Beaudry, Kendra Sandoval, Aaron Nelson, Libby Hanna, Sarah Garrison, Janna Six and Rick Blauvelt

*The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado provides an unparalleled opportunity for nonprofits, businesses and elected officials to interact on a daily basis about the issues that matter to all of us.*

*None of us can go it alone, and the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado makes links among diverse interests to make the connections we need to build a sustainable future for Colorado.*

**~ DENVER MAYOR JOHN HICKENLOOPER**

*Everyone shares the universal self-interest in protecting the integrity of the life support systems of the Earth.*

*We must unify to create sustainable development and a sustainable society, which preserve that integrity. The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado builds relationships that span cooperation, collaboration and coalitions to solve problems jointly. Problems are created one person at a time, and so are solutions. Our goal is to bring people together and knit a fabric of community that will not tear.*

**~ JOHN POWERS, BOARD PRESIDENT  
ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE COLORADO**

*Sustainability is not just an environmental issue. It's much bigger than that and so is the solution. It will take all of us working together to make the maximum impact in creating a healthier planet.*

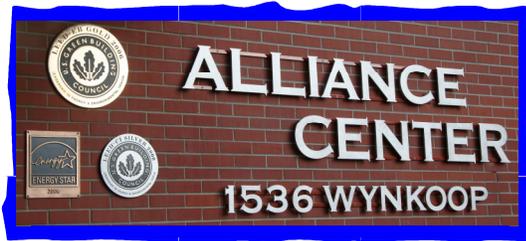
**~ JEANNE BEAUDRY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALLIANCE FOR SUSTAINABLE COLORADO**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**John Powers, Board President**

**Mark Hughes, Esq., Vice President  
Andrea J. (A.J.) Grant, Secretary**

**Steven J. Schueth, Treasurer  
Dr. David Orr, Board Member**



## BACKGROUND

The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado creates alliances among business, nonprofits, government and academia to identify, address and solve sustainability issues in Colorado. The vision of the organization is to become a leader in facilitating collaborations that seek innovative and effective approaches to ensure Colorado's long-term social, economic and environmental health. The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado is sowing the seeds of a statewide sustainability movement, which is envisioned to become part of a network of sustainability movements across the country. Sustainability is achieved when systems function to ensure the perpetual well-being of communities, cultures, nations and the planet. True to this broad definition, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado uses its resources to address a range of interrelated local and state issues including: the environment, energy use, transportation, health, social justice, education, human and civil rights, and civic engagement.

## ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY

In June 2004, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado received 501 (c)(3) status from the IRS. On June 30, 2004, the new nonprofit purchased a nearly 100-year old warehouse building and empty lot in Denver's historic Lower Downtown. The organization then renovated the building and turned it into a model of "green" technologies and a collaborative hub named the "Alliance Center." The Alliance Center at 1536 Wynkoop Street provides offices, meeting space and shared services to a community of 30 nonprofit organizations building relationships and synergies that foster collaborative connections and innovative solutions to regional and state-wide sustainability issues.



**Aaron Nelson, Project Director, with LEED Gold Award**



**Co-op America presentation at the Alliance Center**

## STAFF MEMBERS

**Jeanne Beaudry, Executive Director**

**Janna Six, Education Director**

**Aaron Nelson, Project Director**

**Rick Blauvelt, Development Director**

**Kendra Sandoval, Event and Research Coordinator**

**Libby Hanna, Project Assistant**

**Sarah Garrison, Office Manager**

*Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.*

~Margaret Mead

## **PROGRAM: DEMONSTRATION OF GREEN BUILDING TECHNOLOGIES AND COLLABORATIVE PRACTICES**

The Alliance Center has become well-known in Denver as a hub for a statewide sustainability movement. National interest in and recognition of the work of the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado has positioned the organization and the building as a national model. The organization utilizes its resources to encourage people interested in sustainability, both locals and visitors from around and outside the state, to tour, inquire about, learn from and meet in the building.

**ALLIANCE CENTER - A COMMUNITY MODEL:** In 2006, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado achieved 100% occupancy of the Alliance Center, creating a vibrant hub of 30 organizations working collaboratively to move sustainability forward. The building provided tenants with stability; healthy workspaces; cost savings from below market rent, shared services and economies of bulk purchasing; and a central Denver location.

**CERTIFICATIONS:** The Alliance Center became one of two buildings in the world to earn two certifications from the U.S. Green Building Council's (USGBC) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building program. In 2006, the Alliance Center earned Existing Building Gold and Commercial Interiors Silver. The building also earned EPA's Energy Star Leader status.

**ON-SITE TOURS:** With the assistance of a \$25,000 grant from Rebuild Colorado, a program of the Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado installed informational and educational signs throughout the building and developed a self-guided tour and brochure. Guided tours were given to more than 400 visitors highlighting the Alliance Center's green technology, healthy and productive work spaces, reduced environmental impacts and collaborative community. During the U.S. Green Building Council's annual Greenbuild convention, held in Denver in November, the Alliance Center was utilized twice as a site visit. In 2006, a virtual tour was added to the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado's website, and for the second consecutive year, the Alliance Center was featured on the Doors Open Denver tour of downtown buildings.



**Janna Six, Jeanne Beaudry  
and John Powers receiving  
U.S. Green Building  
Council's National  
Leadership Award**

### **STATE AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION:**

- The Governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation designated the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado a Colorado Energy Champion.
- The U.S. Green Building Council awarded the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado its National Leadership Award for Education by an Organization.
- Colorado Green Consortium in collaboration with Colorado State University produced a DVD featuring the Alliance Center as a green building case study. The DVD, entitled "Building Green in the Rockies," was distributed to over 2,000 conference participants at the U.S. Green Building Council's National Greenbuild Conference in Denver.

*The future belongs to those who understand that doing more with less is compassionate, prosperous and enduring and thus more intelligent, even competitive.*

~ Paul Hawken

- Media coverage included: KWGN-TV (WB2), "Imagine Cutting Your Water Bill by 84%"; KCNC (CBS), "Greener City" and "A New Use for Old Jeans"; KDVR (Fox), 4 live feeds about green features; Denver Business Journal, "Building Owners are Flush with Big Drops in Water Bill"; Natural Awakenings Magazine, "Green in Lodo" and "Aligning for the Future: A Colorado Nonprofit Grows a Vision"; and Colorado Public Radio, an interview on green buildings with staff member Aaron Nelson.

## **PROGRAM: OUTREACH AND PUBLIC POLICY**

**THE COLORADO ALLIANCE OF SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS (CASBA):** CASBA, created in 2003 as the first project of the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, continued to thrive and expand in 2006. By year-end, the CASBA network included 35 non-profit, business and professional associations representing more than 10,000 individuals, businesses and organizations. Alliance for Sustainable Colorado staff managed the organization's steering committee, maintained and distributed the CASBA Directory and distributed twice-monthly electronic alerts and event calendars to expand sustainable business practices and collaborative work among CASBA members.

**BUILDING COLORADO COALITION:** In 2005, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado sponsored a legislative briefing for members of CASBA. Nine Colorado legislators and 65 business representatives participated. That meeting spawned the creation of the Building Colorado Coalition to bring groups together and coordinate support for the promotion of high performance buildings. The Building Colorado Coalition (administered by Alliance for Sustainable Colorado staff) went on to develop proposed



**State Senator Ken Gordon  
at the CASBA  
legislative briefing**



**Green building vendors  
at the Grand Opening**

language for a bill introduced later that year by Senator Ken Gordon requiring state-funded buildings to be LEED certified. Although the 2005 legislation stalled, the Governor signed an executive order adopting LEED standards for new state buildings and requiring all government agencies to assess their sustainability practices.

In 2006, the Building Colorado Coalition provided the Colorado general assembly with data, educational assistance and testimony in support of green building standards and the U. S. Green Building Council's rating system for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. This support contributed to the passing of a joint resolution encouraging green building standards for all state buildings in Colorado. The final

resolution passed by a wide majority in both the State Senate and the State House of Representatives. This work set the stage for green building bill legislation in early 2007.

*The future will be green, or not at all. This truth lies at the heart of humankind's most pressing challenge: to learn to live in harmony with the Earth on a genuinely sustainable basis.*

~Sir Jonathon Porritt

## PROGRAM: EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In 2006, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado blossomed into a widely-used resource for those seeking to understand sustainability and move sustainability forward. Following are highlights of successful elements of the Education and Training program:

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado co-hosted:

- Internationally renowned author, Dr. David Korten, (*The Great Turning: From Empire to Earth Community*) about the need to redirect governmental and business policies to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Earth.
- Ray Anderson, founder of Interface, Inc., the world's largest manufacturer of commercial carpet, modular carpet, and carpet tiles and squares, spoke to an audience of 250 about sustainability practices in his company.
- The Alliance Center's Grand Opening Celebration, with presentations by Denver mayor John Hickenlooper and Alliance for Sustainable Colorado board member Dr. David Orr, to over 450 guests.
- Twelve brown bag lunches on such topics as leadership development, how to develop nonprofit boards, financial planning and green building certifications.



Mayor Hickenlooper at the Grand Opening

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** In September, founder and board president John Powers and Project Director Aaron Nelson spoke at the Multi-tenant Nonprofit Center's (MTNC) regional conference in Denver on the value of multi-tenant nonprofit communities, formatting and funding MTNCs, and techniques for greening these buildings. In October, Mr. Powers also addressed the Colorado Nonprofit Association's annual conference with a presentation entitled *Social Enterprise and Sustainability: Earned Income Strategies*.

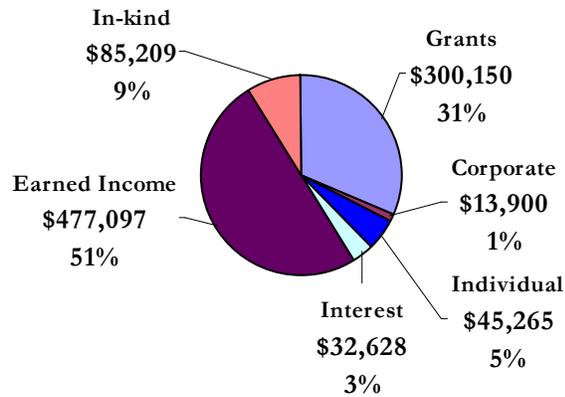


Leadership training at the Alliance Center

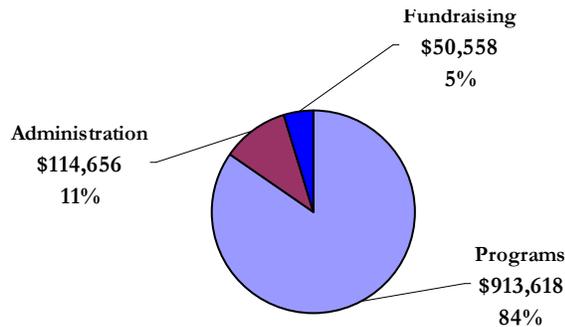
### RESOURCE REFERRALS, TRAINING AND CUSTOMIZED

**WORKSHOPS:** In 2006, use of the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado as a statewide resource increased dramatically among citizens, developers, governmental officials, media members and students seeking knowledge and guidance in green building design and technologies, and multi-tenant nonprofit communities. All-day customized workshops conducted by the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado's project director provided instruction and guidance for managers seeking to make their organizations more sustainable. Additionally, the organization provided two days of Dreamweaver web development software training for tenants in the Alliance Center.

## 2006 Income



## 2006 Expenses



## Donors

### \$50,000+

Denver Foundation -  
Donor Advised Funds  
Western Conservation  
Foundation

### \$25,000 - \$49,999

Community Foundation  
Serving Boulder County  
The Prentice Foundation  
Thompson, Sue

### \$10,000 - \$24,999

Anonymous  
Aspen Community  
Foundation  
Dalvast BV  
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund  
State of Colorado  
The Ettinger Foundation  
Threshold Foundation

### \$2,500 - \$9,999

Adolfson & Peterson  
Construction  
CO Office of Energy Mngmt &  
Conservation  
Gay and Lesbian Fund for CO

Jared Polis Foundation  
MWH  
Whiting, Michael

### \$1,000 - \$2,499

E.M.C. Engineers  
Falcon Waterfree  
Technologies, LLC  
Green Fund  
Hughes, Mark  
Interface Inc.  
McLaughlin, Don and Sharon  
Orr, David  
Schueth, Steve and Darla  
Six, Janna  
US Bank  
VanDyck, Tom

### \$500 to \$999

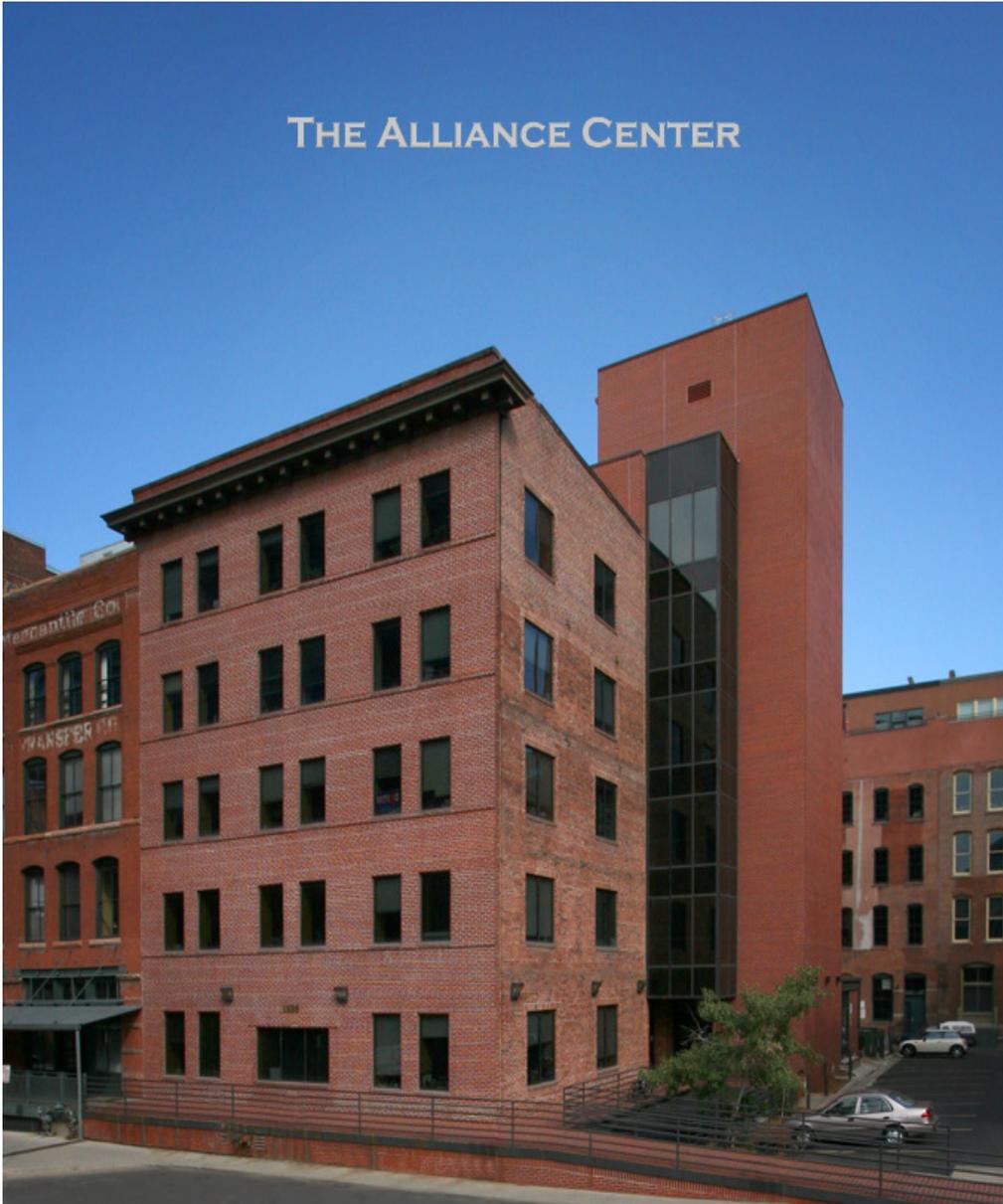
CH2M Hill Inc.  
Domani Sustainability  
Consulting LLC  
Dowling, Michael  
Godfrey, David  
Nelson, Bob  
Powers, John  
St Charles Town Company

Stowe, Erick David  
Xcel Energy

### UP TO \$499

Ambient Energy, Inc.  
Bain, Stephen and Lisa  
Beaudry, Jeanne  
Benneman, James  
Community Shares of Colorado  
Crosby, Christian  
Dye, Gregory  
Franklin, Neal  
Hobbs, Hunter  
Lamm, Dorothy  
LRK Enterprises Inc.  
Lynn, Anne  
Progressive Asset Management  
of Colorado  
RDD Corporation  
Ringsby, Don & Karen  
Schaller, David  
Schmid, John  
Snyder, Matt  
Todd, Gerald  
Tuteur, Kathy and Dan  
Watkins, Wendy and  
Scott Denman  
Zurcher, Antonia

## THE ALLIANCE CENTER



**The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado**  
**1536 Wynkoop, B-500**  
**Denver, CO 80202**  
**303-572-1536**  
**[www.allianceforcolorado.org](http://www.allianceforcolorado.org)**