

# 4CORE

Four Corners Office For Resource Efficiency

# 2014 Annual Report



The leading resource for the effective and efficient use of energy  
to promote and sustain vibrant local communities.

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An equal opportunity provider and employer

Cover Photo by Teresa Shishim

# Mission

4CORE serves Southwest Colorado as the leading resource for the effective and efficient use of energy to promote and sustain vibrant local communities.

# Focus Areas

Energy Efficiency

Innovative Solutions

Resource Efficiency

Education

Energy Information Hub

# 2014 Board of Directors

Peter May-Ostendorf/  
Werner Heiber (Chair)

Kurt Schneider (Treasurer)

Paul Senecal (Secretary)

Enid Brodsky,  
Citizen at Large

Tom Holcomb,  
Energy Industry

Mary Beth Miles,  
City of Durango  
(Alternate Roy Peterson)

Mark McKibben,  
La Plata County

Lew Pratsch,  
Energy Industry

For a current list of board members, visit [www.fourcore.org/AboutUs/BoardofDirectors.aspx](http://www.fourcore.org/AboutUs/BoardofDirectors.aspx)

# 2014 In Review

## Energy Efficiency

- 4CORE's HomeRx Program assessed 33 homes, creating potential for \$11,610 in annual utility savings and preventing 67 metric tons of carbon pollution.
- Launched the CommercialRx Program, providing seven (7) commercial audits, opening pathways to \$5,180 in annual utility savings and preventing 30 metric tons of carbon pollution.
- Certified 11 businesses through the Resource Smart Business Program, saving an estimated \$18,782 for businesses and reducing emissions by 142 metric tons annually.

## Innovative Solutions

- Completed the Solarize La Plata Campaign and signed up 101 homes for 522 kilowatts of electricity generation, preventing an estimated 567 metric tons of carbon pollution.
- Facilitated four regional meetings and two working group meetings to discuss alternative fuel vehicles for fleets. Provided fleet analyses for eight (8) local fleets as part of the Refuel Colorado Fleets program.

## Resource Efficiency Education

- Completed the Healthy Homes Program providing indoor air quality information to low-income households, resulting in 188 households signing a pledge to keep a healthy and smoke-free home.
- Presented energy efficient and/or innovative energy information to 1,191 participants in trainings, open houses, classes and workshops.

## Energy Information Hub

- Responded to 38,633 information requests about resource efficiency through phone, walk-in, and e-mail inquiries, attendance at presentations, newsletters, web site visits and social media.

# Energy Efficiency for Home & Business

4CORE worked with the City of Durango, and Energy Smart Colorado, Amerigas, and a variety of other entities to make rebates and incentives for energy improvements available in Southwest Colorado. 4CORE conducted home and commercial energy assessments for a variety of clients, and developed a referral program to connect home and building owners to local energy professionals.



Photos by Jack Dea



4CORE provided assessments, education, and recognition to Resource Smart Business Program participants.



Five businesses are certified at the highest level of 'Going Beyond', each having completed three improvements based on work site wellness, sustainability and energy recommendations.

# Shine On Solarize La Plata

4CORE is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
Copies of 990s and audits can be found at  
[fourcore.org](http://fourcore.org).



Photo by Todd Shevland

Solarize La Plata was initiated by 4CORE and a group of committed citizens who created a shift in Southwest Colorado's solar paradigm,

making it feasible for more residents to 'go solar.' This was accomplished through increased awareness and education and breaking down financial, technical and inertial barriers that usually exist during the solar purchasing process.

Find the final report, a video highlighting Solarize La Plata Projects and more at [fourcore.org/Residential/Solarize.aspx](http://fourcore.org/Residential/Solarize.aspx).



Photo by Jay Hecker

*'The program made it easy and was a good push for us. We had been thinking about doing it, but this process pushed us to do it. It helped to have it available for a limited time.'*

- Erika Brown



results

**101**  
Solar contracts signed

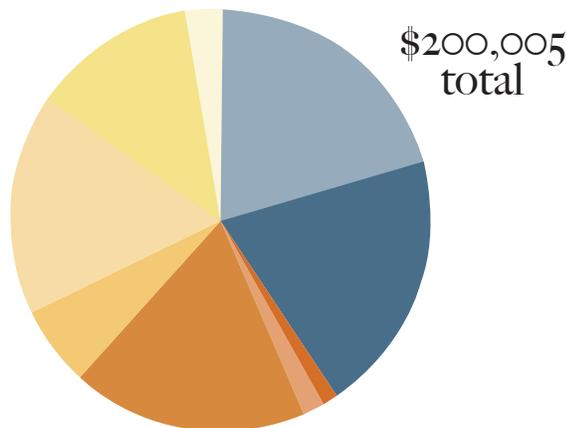
**522**  
Kilowatts committed

**14,175**  
Metric tons of carbon pollution prevented over the next 25 years

**\$2,173,000**  
Infused into the local economy  
60-65% remains circulating in Southwest CO

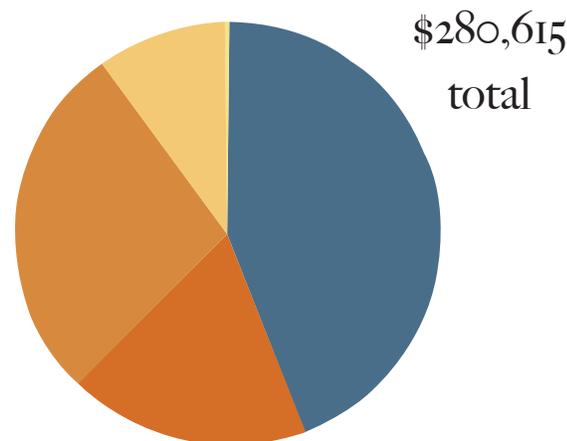
## 2014 Financials

### How was 4CORE funded?



- State Grants
- Federal Grants
- Local Grants & Individuals
- Utilities
- Municipalities
- Sponsors
- Fee for Service
- Campaigns
- Fundraising & Other

### How were funds spent?



- Energy Efficiency
- Education & Training
- Innovative Solutions
- Information Hub
- Fundraising & Other

We are grateful for the financial support of the following local funding partners in 2014:



# Alternative Transportation Fuels

## 2014 Results

116,159

Dollars saved through services

5,892

People served

188

Families pledged to keep homes healthy

806

Metric tons of greenhouse gases prevented

11

Businesses assessed and/or upgraded

81,559

Dollars brought in to region

Under the Refuel Colorado Fleets program 4CORE assisted vehicle fleets, fuel providers and auto dealers in La Plata and Montezuma Counties with assessing the viability of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) through Energy Coaching. Organizing stakeholder meetings, conducting fleet audits and disseminating information on AFV models, fueling infrastructure, incentives and tax credits for AFVs and the associated infrastructure were all components of Energy Coaching. 4CORE customized Energy Coaching services for eight (8) fleet managers in 2014 based on their needs. Four public meetings were held to showcase AFVs, answer questions, dialogue about infrastructure



Photo by Sarah Rank

and provide information on the latest technologies. Two additional meetings were held with a small group of stakeholders to best determine how Southwest Colorado could overcome the “chicken and egg” dilemma associated with compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicles and fueling infrastructure.

## Looking Ahead

4CORE is the only regional non-profit specializing in resource efficiency, continuing our commitment to inspire residents, businesses and communities to save and use energy more efficiently. The monetary savings we generate will stay in our local economy, making it more resilient and able to adapt to change. A blog of the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy stated:

*“Communities that embrace energy efficiency are more ‘resource resilient.’ That is, energy efficiency reduces a community’s natural resource demands, enabling it to instead spend its income on needs that directly benefit the local economy, including other resiliency measures.”*

Placing the potential savings into perspective, all energy expenditures combined in La Plata County – electricity, fuel, natural gas and propane - amount to about \$200 million per year. Assuming we achieve a 1% reduction in energy use per year, two million dollars would be left in our local economy – a considerable economic boost!

4CORE will be revisiting its business plan in 2015 to ensure we are meeting the needs of our Local Funding Partners and are providing our community with programs that benefit it most. I invite you to join us by supporting our efforts with a monetary contribution or by volunteering your time.

In Cooperation,

*Werner Heiber*

Werner Heiber, 4CORE Board Chair

Contact 4CORE to donate and learn more about ways to save:  
[www.fourcore.org](http://www.fourcore.org) • 970.259.1916 • [info@fourcore.org](mailto:info@fourcore.org)

