## NORTHEAST COLORADO RE-WIRED

*An economic development strategy which involves, develops and supports older adult workers*

Sedgwick, Yuma, Phillips, Logan, Morgan, Washington, Kit Carson Counties

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| Outreach-Education             | Life-Long Learning Series            | 1. Mindfulness series presented by Sue Schneider of Larimer County Extension.  
2. Monthly informal, peer delivered workshops which also use ZOOM teleconferencing to reach remote audiences.  
3. Monthly classes are taught by local subject matter experts at NREC on the first Thursday of each month.  
4. A collaboration with CSU Online may occur in the future. |
| Resource Access                | Northeast Senior Access Points (NESAP)| 1. This is a collaboration between NREC; Logan, Morgan, Washington, and Yuma County Extension; DHS; AAA; and the Logan County Heritage Center (Senior Center).  
2. Result will be a website, hosted by CSU Extension, which provides information and contacts for all activities and services for people over age 50, family and caretakers.  
3. The NESAP project, through Washington County Extension, was recently awarded HDFS funding to assess community needs, convene a region-wide coalition, and adapt existing SAP materials/website to Northeast Colorado needs.  
4. This project will need teams of champions in each county to gather and continually update information on the website.  
5. NREC participates in the Interagency Council on Aging and hosts the Logan County Council on Aging |
| Employment                     | Retirement Encore                    | 1. Survey older adult workers, build networks of older adult workers who want to return to work, develop a data bank of receptive employers and teach job seeking skills.  
2. This is a collaboration between Morgan and Logan ED, Logan County Chamber, Workforce, NREC and Heritage Center. |
| Age-Friendly Policies          | Changing the Narrative               | 1. Four workshops presented by Janine Vanderburg of Changing the Narrative Co. at CSU NREC attracting 75-100 people.  
   - Explored messaging that reduces ageism and increases support for age-friendly policies.  
   - Presented research based evidence to businesses that hiring older workers improves profitability and improves communities. |
| Sustainability                 | To be developed                      | Grant funds are available from Next 50 Foundation to support innovative programs and changes in communities that help older workers thrive. Next 50 looks most favorably on multi-location, multi-faceted programs when determining funding. |
| Technology Skills Acquisition  | Senior Planet (OATS)                 | OATS provides free technology lectures, workshops, and classes to older adults, ranging from lecture only to full hands on experiences.  
Pilot lecture to be held at NREC to determine audience interest.  
Goal would be to hire and train a local lecturer who would conduct classes in many locations in the region – possibly libraries, colleges, community centers, etc.  
Next 50 is funding some of these services and part of OATS mission is to reach rural communities. NE Colorado would be one of their first. |