Hey Community Engagers,

You may recall that 16 CCTSI community engagement pilot grants were funded in Year 1 (7 joint pilot projects, 9 partnership development projects) and 11 CCTSI community engagement pilot grants in Year 2 (5 joint pilot projects, 6 partnership development projects). Good news! Nick Cutforth, PhD (University of Denver) and Elaine Belansky, PhD (Rocky Mountain Prevention Research Center), from one of those first-year partnership development projects, are receiving $1.8 million from the Colorado Health Foundation for a three-year grant. Nick and Elaine’s Year 1 partnership development project was to establish the San Luis Valley Physical Education Collaborative; in their CCTSI proposal, they said they would submit a larger application to the CHF to take their work to scale. In this new community-based participatory research project for CHF, Nick and Elaine will implement evidence-based, school-level environment and policy changes in 57 K-12 underserved, rural, low-income Colorado schools to increase student access to healthy foods, quality physical education, and physical activity opportunities. Congratulations!

SAVE THE DATE: PACT Council Meeting – January 13, 2011, 4:00-7:00pm
Based on a request from Ron Sokol to adjust our January PACT Council meeting date/time to coordinate with and accommodate the CCTSI External Advisory Committee’s attendance at our Council meeting, notice the date and time change of this meeting from Wed, January 12, 5-8pm to Thursday, January 13, 2011, 4:00-7:00pm. Be sure to change your calendars.

Andy plans to attend at least a portion of the November 9 PACT Council meeting, where we’ll do a brief presentation to Andy in honor of his vision and leadership of the PACT Council and Community Engagement. I’m asking that each of you send in (to dee.smyth@ucdenver.edu) one or two sentences on what Andy meant to you, either personally or professionally. We’ll consolidate your thoughts into the presentation.

Thanks and have a good week!

Jack Westfall