The leading resource for the effective and efficient use of energy to promote and sustain vibrant local communities.
2013 In Review

4CORE’s evolution in 2013 included developing a new mission and honing in on four focus areas to deliver the following notable results:

**Energy Efficiency**
- Weatherized 52 low-income homes, saving an estimated $24,012 in annual bills and ending 4CORE’s tenure as Weatherization Assistance Program administrator.
- Launched the HomeRx Program, assessing 15 homes and prompting the savings of $6,990 annually.
- Certified 14 businesses through the Resource Smart Business Program, saving an estimated $30,100 for businesses and reducing emissions by 230 metric tons.

**Innovative Solutions**
- Launched the Solarize La Plata Campaign and signed up 287 homes with the goal of installing solar on 100 homes in 2014.
- Facilitated four regional meetings to discuss alternative fuel for fleets with support from La Plata County Energy Council, BP America, the Colorado Energy Office, and Refuel Colorado.

**Resource Efficiency Education**
- Initiated the Healthy Homes Program, providing indoor air quality information to low-income households.
- Hosted 17 trainings and open houses highlighting sustainable building practices.

**Energy Information Hub**
- Brought $724,406 in funds to Southwest Colorado, fortifying our local economy.
- Introduced the Southwest Solar Transformation Initiative to convey best practices in solar processes for planning, zoning and interconnection.
- Responded to 31,722 information requests about resource efficiency.
- Increased and improved newsletter offerings and increased circulation.

**Solarizing Southwest Colorado**

Solarize La Plata County was initiated by 4CORE and a group of committed citizens in the Spring of 2013. Goals include installing solar photovoltaic (PV) systems on 100 homes in La Plata County (including all cities and towns within the county), with an aggregate total of 325 kilowatts (kW) in system capacity. The campaign launched in October of 2013 and installations will take place March through June of 2014.

This limited time offer provides a simple process and a package PV solution for home and business owners who would like to go solar, but haven’t been able to afford it or have been confused by the process. Through increased awareness and education, installations in La Plata County will increase and the market is primed for future solar growth.

This initial campaign will likely spur future campaigns in other Southwest Colorado counties.
Tim Wheeler is making use of 4CORE’s services. He was one of the first participants in 4CORE’s HomeRx Program and his business, Durango Coffee Company, is making improvements due to the Resource Smart Business Program (RSBP).

The RSBP helped connect Tim with local professionals. He is making changes to his business to save money, help the environment, and improve the wellbeing of his employees.

Tim’s HomeRx energy assessment helped him prioritize home upgrades based on safety, return on investment, and utility savings. Tim fixed and sealed air ducts, as well as installed more insulation, and he is now saving over $1,000 per year.

“Participating in these two programs has been very valuable to my business and my home. 4CORE has made these services accessible for people like myself to foster connections that wouldn’t have come about otherwise.”

Find a video interview with Tim at fourcore.org.
Looking Ahead

Doing more with less will be a theme in 2014 for non-profits, families, businesses and governmental organizations. What does this look like from an energy efficiency point of view? When we change out light bulbs, air seal our windows and doors, or install more insulation in our homes and businesses we prepare ourselves to do more with less energy.

“Colorado households consume an average of 103 million Btu per year, 15% more than the U.S. average. The average U.S. home spends approximately $2,000 per year on energy.” -Energy Information Association.

You can contribute to lowering our collective consumption by learning more about efficient appliances, water heaters, heating systems, computers, and light bulbs.

As 4CORE strives to fulfill our mission of inspiring our community to be more efficient in our energy use we also need to do more with less staff and funding. Please join us in 2014 as a volunteer, a donor, and as an energy champion in your home or business.

Warm Regards,

Gregg Dubit, Executive Director

4CORE has now served over 650 homes, which equates to a total of $312,650 saved per year. That is over $3,126,500 over 10 years!