

# Rico, Colorado



## Community Giveback Catalog

2013-14

# Dream Big for Rico...



*A little town with a huge heart*





# Make an Impact... Pay it Forward

This **Community Giveback Catalog** provides a way for everyone (residents, former residents, our summer folks, and visitors) who cares about Rico and its future to giveback to Rico...by paying it forward. How? Contribute to one of Rico's organizations or initiatives described in this Giveback Catalog.

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# The Rico Center

The Rico Center is a non-profit community foundation committed to preserving and enriching the quality of life of the residents, visitors and workforce of Rico, Colorado. To accomplish this, The Rico Center concentrates its efforts in three areas:

SUSTAINABILITY  
RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
SUPPORT

The Rico Center is funded by Dolores County property tax revenues, grants and private donations. Our primary work is to award grants to local non-profits, governmental entities and individuals involved in community development and/or community-based efforts with a focus on:

- Life safety
- Education
- Outdoor Recreation
- Historical Preservation
- Town Services
- Health/Social Services



The Rico Center awards its grants once a year. The application deadline is October 1. Grant policies, application forms and more information about The Rico Center can be found on our website:

[www.ricocenter.org](http://www.ricocenter.org)

This Giveback Catalog features many of the projects and organizations that The Rico Center has supported since it was established in 2003.

Through your generous donations to these causes, you can have a tremendous impact on our tiny Town, help us sustain our rich history, protect our alpine environment and expand our education, health and economic resources.





# Rico Alpine Society

## Mission:

Rico's greatest asset is its stunning scenery and natural alpine setting. The Rico Alpine Society ("RAS") promotes the preservation and enjoyment of Rico's alpine environment and natural surroundings through the active involvement of the Rico community.

RAS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization formed in 2003.

Our diverse programs... (Skating rink, cross country ski trail grooming and maps, for-loan sports equipment, group hikes, Town and river corridor clean up events, and various ecological activities) ...are always free, serve all ages and abilities, bring locals and visitors closer to nature, and foster a sense of responsible environmental stewardship and community.

We interface with governmental entities and work to involve all members of the community in local public lands debates to help ensure that all users are served while representing the voice of the community as a whole.

## Request:

The Rico Alpine Society is accepting donations for additional recreational amenities, the Dolores River Park corridor, and other programs and initiatives.

## To give or learn more contact:

Deanna Drew – *Director*  
P.O. Box 185  
Rico, CO 81332

Phone: 970.708.9482  
Email: [pddrew@fone.net](mailto:pddrew@fone.net)





# Rico Preschool

*A true "school of choice"*

## Mission:

The Rico Preschool's mission is to provide a developmentally appropriate program that emphasizes experiential learning and encourages social growth, academic readiness and emotional development in Rico's young children.

## About:

While the Rico Preschool is the sole licensed childcare facility in Rico, we provide much more than daycare. Our school provides high quality preschool education in a small classroom setting at an affordable price. The opportunity to attend school locally gives Rico children the benefit of an intimate classroom environment and enables them to spend more of their time learning instead of commuting to other communities. The classroom combines self-directed activity centers (e.g.: manipulatives; art; dramatic play) with teacher-led exercises in letter recognition and phonemes that lay the foundation for reading.

In addition to the added social and academic benefit of shared activities with the Elementary school across the hall, Rico Preschool also acts as a "feeder" program (while ensuring that young students are academically prepared) to the Rico Elementary School.

## Request:

Our entire school is about to embark on an "expeditionary learning" program developed with Harvard and Outward Bound. Our preschoolers will participate in much of the program. Please help our mission with your gift.

## Contact:

Eileen Cahalane - Director  
P.O. Box 250  
Rico, CO 81332

Phone: 970.967.3540  
Email: [ecahalane@dolorescounty.k12.co.us](mailto:ecahalane@dolorescounty.k12.co.us)





*"You folks revived  
me before Cortez  
took me away.  
Thanks for saving  
my life..." -W.B.*



# Rico Fire Protection District

## About:

Rico Fire Department (RFP) provides fire, EMS and Search and Rescue (SAR) emergency response not only to residents of the Rico Fire Protection District, but also to those visiting the USFS lands that surround Rico, and travelers on Colorado State Highway 145 (the steep, winding, and avalanche-exposed path south of Rico and up to Lizard Head Pass.)

## History:

The RFP started in the 1880's. Formed into a special district in 1992, RFPD initiated the Ambulance Service and SAR for eastern Dolores County. RFPD has built a heated fire station, purchased a new ambulance, and obtained multiple fire apparatus. RFPD has also modernized its rescue, extrication, structural and wildland firefighting equipment. As a result, Rico's ISO rating has improved from a 9 to a 6 (ISO factors into homeowner insurance premiums).

RFPD is facing a dramatic decrease in its property tax revenues. At the same time, severe drought and the rigors of ever increasing fire and life safety standards have forced many small communities into crisis mode. While the RFPD is very strong, new equipment is required to mobilize against the now (all too real) threat of forest fire.

## Request:

Please support the RFPD's campaign to raise \$40,000 for new equipment and training.

## To give, please contact:

Dave Kunz  
P.O. Box 39  
Rico, CO 81332

Phone: 970.967.2222  
Email: rico\_vfd@yahoo.com





# Rico Historical Society

## Mission:

The Rico Historical Society was founded to acknowledge, conserve and promote awareness of Rico history.

## About:

The Rico Historical Society collects, interprets, protects and makes available to the public historical information dating back over 150 years. Our interpretive displays are located at historically protected sites such as mining head frames and the Denver & Rio Grande water tank. Our large collection of historic pieces and information is housed and displayed at the Rico Museum, opened in 2010 and visited by locals, tourists, passers-by and school groups.

The Rico Historical Society operates as a 501(c)(3), non-profit organization. We have accomplished much in our ten-year history. After establishing protection for the three previously mentioned historic sites the Society

began an inventory of the 140 mine sites and camps in the Rico area. Ten of those sites in the Newman Hill vicinity were completed prior to focusing all emphasis on building and operating the museum.

## Request:

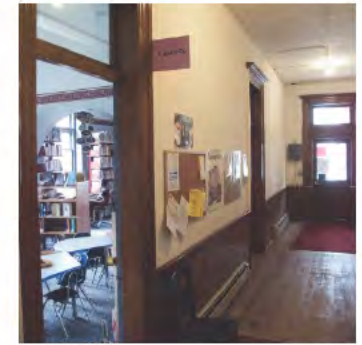
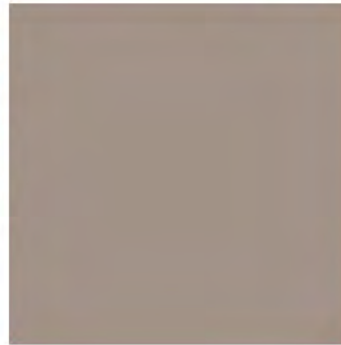
Funds raised through the Giveback campaign will be used for an addition to the Rico Museum, a \$200,000 project, and to complete the inventory and documentation of the 140 mines surrounding Rico.

To learn more and donate to RHS's projects, please contact:

Mike Curran  
P.O. Box 281  
Rico, CO 81332

Phone: 970.967.2185  
Email: [churranho\\_8@hotmail.com](mailto:churranho_8@hotmail.com)





# Rico Public Library

## *"We love the library!" – Summer Reading Program Participants*

### Mission:

Rico Public Library's mission is to foster personal enrichment, growth, enjoyment and education for Rico's residents and visitors by providing literature and other written materials in a variety of formats and offering programs to stimulate children's interests and appreciation for reading and learning.

### About:

Rico Library has become a library that is inviting, stimulating and relaxing all at the same time. Our goal is to keep a broad range of relevant materials to engage our patrons. While everyone benefits by visiting us, we give special focus to the children of our community and cultivating their interest in reading and writing.

The Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. We have evolved from a de facto library facility that arose out of the need to house the former school library, following its closure in the 1980s (the school has since reopened) into a thriving branch library of the Dolores County Public Libraries.

### Request:

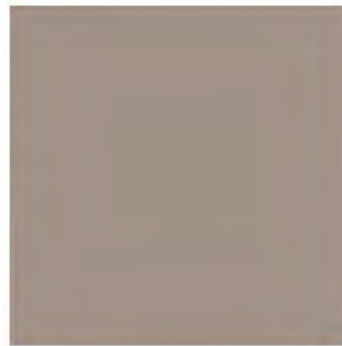
Your generous contributions will be used for community outreach, programming, and equipment.

### Contact Information

Susan Robertson – *Library Director*  
PO Box 69  
Rico, CO 81332

Email: [ricopubliclibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:ricopubliclibrary@yahoo.com)





# Engel House Project

## About:

The Engel House Project is an initiative to restore and protect one of the few impressive historic structures remaining in Rico. The Engel House is situated in a particularly historic area of Rico (near the Rico Community Church, the Town Hall and the Kaufman House on Silver Street which is listed on the National Historic Register). It was the home of Charles Engel an important citizen of Rico, whose photographs, writings and collections chronicle the history of Rico's mining era (featured in Dell McCoy's R.G.S. Railroad book series).

The Rico Center successfully raised over \$250,000.00, in funding from the Colorado Historical Society, The Gates Foundation and private donations to acquire the Engel House, protect it with a conservation easement and perform an architectural assessment.

The next step of this project will be preservation and rehabilitation of the structure, so that it may be opened for community service gatherings and functions.

## Request:

Your generous donation to the rehabilitation of the Engel House will ensure that this critical asset will be protected for current and future generations.

## Contact Information

Barb Turrin – *The Rico Center*  
P.O. Box 114  
Rico, CO 81332

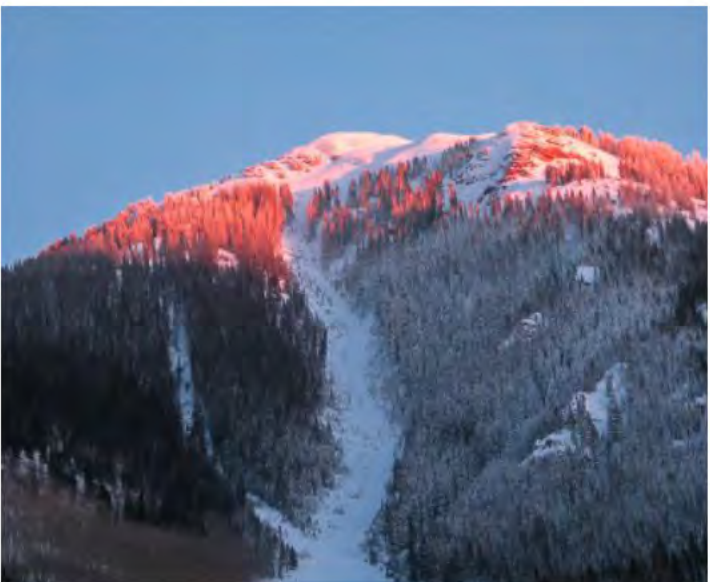
Phone: 970.729.0237  
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[www.ricocenter.org](http://www.ricocenter.org)





Let's  
Give.



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