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**COLORADO NAHRO SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

Summary Report, November, 2014

**Overview:** Colorado NAHRO established a Sustainability Policy by vote of the Board of Directors in 2008. The purpose of this report is to identify the areas of success in implementing the nine point policy and the areas that still need to be addressed. Each policy objective is listed below followed by a summary of what has been done to date and what further steps or initiatives, both short and long term, can or should be taken going forward.

1. All printing and copying for CONAHRO activities, operations, conference materials, etc. to be accomplished utilizing paper with a minimum 30% post-consumer waste content utilizing environmentally “friendly” inks. As appropriate such printing will use the EPA approved “chasing arrows” symbol to notify readers that such paper is being used. Front and back copying and printing will be practiced and utilized whenever feasible.
2. Conference vendors will be encouraged and mild incentives presented to those conference vendors who demonstrate a sustainable consciousness in their conference displays and materials (incentives could include prime placement for exhibits, etc.).
3. CONAHRO to research and adopt sustainable criteria to be applied in selecting conference and training venues such as hotels. Examples of criteria would include application of the three R’s (reuse, recycle, and reduce) in their operations regarding, for example, such items as in room recycling bins, use of non-throwaway items for meals or breaks, evidence of use of post-consumer content in printed and paper products used by the venue, energy conserving operations in the venue, etc.
4. CONAHRO to utilize as practical or feasible paperless options for the dissemination of information or in operations.
5. Continue to encourage and provide for attractive transit alternatives as practical and feasible during CONAHRO conferences and training and encourage attendees to utilize such alternatives perhaps with incentives.
6. Provide information and perhaps coordinate or institute joint efforts regarding recycling and purchasing opportunities for member agencies and members such as for electronics recycling, information on green products for agencies, model agency sustainability plans that could form the basis for adoption of such plans by member agencies, etc.
7. Enhance the reputation and responsible approach of CONAHRO through the website and to the public as to sustainability and environmental stewardship practiced by CONAHRO.
8. Incorporate the specific items of CONAHRO sustainability policies or operations as appropriate in the service officer’s work program.
9. Coordinate as appropriate or needed CONAHRO sustainability practices and initiatives with MPNAHRO and National NAHRO.

**Additional Initiatives:** Consider researching and identifying a legitimate, recognized non- cost entity that certifies or accredits an organization as being sustainable or green when it practices sustainable and environmentally aware practices? Such a certification would demonstrate our commitment to sustainability, lend additional credibility to our partners and others that we may influence.