

John Galusha, Chairman  
Arica Andreatta, Commissioner  
Karl Sporleder, Commissioner



## Board of County Commissioners

Ms. Lisa Rucker  
Gates Family Foundation  
1390 Laurence St, Ste. 400  
Denver, CO 80204

June 13, 2023

Re: Gym Equipment Grant Proposal

Dear Lisa,

Huerfano County appreciates the opportunity to present this grant proposal to the Gates Family Foundation. Huerfano County, in collaboration with Two Peaks Fitness (TPF) and the Huerfano Parks and Recreation District (HPRD), is working to open a fitness center in Walsenburg, Colorado, which has been without a fitness center since the previous one closed in March 2022.

Fitness centers make a difference in Huerfano County. Huerfano is one of the poorest and least healthy counties in the state of Colorado, and one with an ever-growing senior population. By helping our population become and stay healthier, we can help lessen the cost of medical expenses to county, state, and federal government, while increasing their quality of life.

Recognizing that regular physical activity is important for health, the Huerfano County Commissioners, HPRD, and TPF began discussions in December 2020 on how to best make available an indoor exercise facility for the Walsenburg area. This cooperation has led to an arrangement where the County will maintain the building at 611 Main St, fund its build-out as a fitness center, and pay utilities for 3 years; HPRD will provide equipment from their previous facility which closed in March 2020; and TPF will operate the fitness center. The build-out is underway, and is planned to be complete by October 1.

While availability of the HPRD equipment helps reduce startup expenses, many pieces are in need of repair. TPF has identified the equipment that most needs repair, replacement, or upgrades, and has applied to USDA-Rural Development for a Communities Facility Grant of \$50,000 towards purchasing this equipment. The grant requires a 25% match, and we are hoping that the Gates Family Foundation will help by providing that match.

Sincerely,

John Galusha  
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

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