

# Colorado Rural Health Care GRANT PROGRAM

## FINAL REPORT TEMPLATE

*This form must be signed and returned with the Grant Report Narrative. Please complete and return this report by June 30, 2010. No further grant requests from your organization can be considered until this report has been completed and returned.*

Name of organization reporting: **Miramont Family Medicine** \_\_\_\_\_

Dates covered by this grant: from **7/1/2009** \_\_\_\_\_ to **7/31/2010** (per extension \_\_\_\_\_)

Executive Director: **Teresa E. Bender** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and Email: **970-482-0213 tebender@miramont.us** \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: (If different from Executive Director) **John L. Bender, M.D.** \_\_\_\_\_

Title: **Medical Director** \_\_\_\_\_

Phone and Email: **970-482-0213 jlbender@miramont.us** \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: **4674 Snow Mesa Drive, Suite 140** \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: **Fort Collins, CO 80528** \_\_\_\_\_

Fax Number: **970-482-946** \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Grant: **\$50,000.00** \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose of Grant: **To purchase lab and X-ray equipment for the Miramont Family Medicine clinic in Wellington, Colorado** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**I. NARRATIVE** (maximum of 3 pages, exclusive of photographs and testimonials)

**A. Results/Outcomes**

- 1. Please describe the progress made toward the stated goals and objectives related to this specific grant.
- 2. What difference did this grant make in your community or neighborhood and for the population you are serving? Please discuss evidence of effect (e.g. numbers served, demographic information, community indicators, outcomes, client satisfaction survey results, etc.). *Note: If you have evaluation materials that document outcomes and impacts of your work, feel free to attach in lieu of answering this or other questions.*
- 3. Describe collaborations, if any, related to the work funded by this grant and how it impacted your efforts.

**B. Photographs and Testimonials**

- 1. Please provide any photographs or testimonials that demonstrate the impact the project has had on the community.
- 2. Please provide an example of a success story that demonstrates the benefit of the project to your community.

**C. Future Plans**

- 1. What are the plans for sustaining the impact of the use of these funds?
- 2. What plans do you have to communicate your outcomes and lessons learned with others?
- 3. If you have identified areas where increased collaboration between organizations or sectors would lead to increased positive outcomes for your constituents, briefly describe your ideas.

**D. Other Comments**

- 1. Please share with us any recommendations you have for our grant making or reporting process.

**II. FINANCIALS**

- 1. Please provide income and expenditure information compared to the approved budget for that project or program. If there are any major variances, please explain.



July 30, 2010

## **Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Program – Final Report Project Narrative and Financials**

### **I. Narrative**

#### **A. Results/Outcomes**

**A1.** The main thrust this past year has been equipment acquisition, lab credentialing and design and construction of a new 5,100 square foot medical facility on the I-25 corridor to serve the rural population in Wellington Colorado and surrounding Larimer and Weld Counties. From July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup>, Miramont acquired a Coulter cell counter, Schiller spirometer, table top chemistry analyzer (Abaxis Piccolo), lipid analyzer, A1C analyzer, BNP triage meter, urinalysis strip meter reader, centrifuge, microscope, and a miniVidas immunoanalyzer. These units were installed in our current Wellington facility, into a closet vertically on Gorilla™ shelving, calibrated and certified by a federal CLIA inspector, then COLA certified as a level II complexity laboratory on November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. As of June 30<sup>th</sup>, Miramont Family Medicine Wellington has performed patient 988 tests.

On November 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Miramont affiliated investors acquired interstate frontage property on 6<sup>th</sup> street in Wellington and shortly thereafter retained VFR Design Inc who completed the architectural specifications for a new medical building that would house both laboratory and X-ray services for Miramont Family Medicine in the community. From April to June of 2010 we acquired a precision tomographical X-ray table, tube and generator with operator control unit, as well as a CR digital reader system capable of developing and transmitting the film images all electronically without using older silver salt processing or dark room technologies. The building has been framed and is being sheet rocked this week; an exact opening date expected to be late September 2010, contingent on certificates of occupancy from the city of Wellington and receipt of a successful X-ray machine facility certification evaluation report from CPDHE.

**A2.** The grant has allowed the people of Wellington access to laboratory services without having to travel 40 minutes round trip to Fort Collins. Because we are a Medicare and Medicaid provider, and accept new Medicare and new Medicaid, this access has been extended to underserved populations as well in this rural community. Since the technologies we utilize in our laboratory are so fast, for example being able to report a complete blood cell count in under 10 minutes or a basic metabolic panel in

under 18 minutes, patients are given immediate feedback about their disease or health status. This facilitates better intervention opportunities, when communication can be face to face with the provider, and decreases the likelihood that the patient will never get the final laboratory result. It also shortens the cycle time for medical decision making, such that referrals and medication changes can be made at the same visit, and eliminates repeat visits simply to review blood work, improving employee absenteeism.

## **B. Photographs and Testimonials**

**B1.** The attached photographs tell the story of Wellington losing their only clinic when Cheyenne Regional Medical Center unexpectedly closed their doors in the community January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009. Three days later, Miramont Family Medicine opened a satellite clinic in a warehouse. The story was covered by channel 9News and the Denver Post, largely because several other large hospital systems had declined to save the clinic, suggesting daunting odds. Miramont believed by building an NCQA certified Patient Centered Medical Home offering ancillary services that it could reproduce its financially viable model in Wellington that had grown so well in Fort Collins. Those ancillaries include the laboratory and X-ray services that the Colorado Rural Health Care Grant Program helped fund.

**B2.** Amber Buhl, PA-C reflects on how the in-house lab has impacted the Coumadin management and safety for the residents at Wellington Assisted Living. "Previously \*Eve and \*Joe (\*names changed) relied on the care staff at the facility to transport them to Fort Collins each month to ensure that their Coumadin levels were therapeutic. Oftentimes, these trips were a burden for residents and caregivers alike, and sometimes were missed altogether. Now, we can manage the Coumadin levels for the five residents at the assisted living facility needing this service safely and conveniently; Although they were not all Miramont patients, we worked collaboratively with their specialty physicians in Fort Collins to get the lab work and medical decision making completed, and for those needing a local physician we were able to then assist with their other comorbidities like COPD, CHF, etc."

## **C. Future Plans**

**C1.** Once we take occupancy of our new facility in the fall of 2010, we anticipate access for more patients simply because we will have more space. We happily accept new Medicare and Medicaid patients and offer the discount Miramont Value Plan to those patients that do not have insurance coverage. New services not currently available due to lack of space will include mammography, physical therapy, urgent care services and in-house prescription filling with a drive through pick up window!

**C2.** Miramont Family Medicine remains committed to its involvement in the HealthTeam Works Patient Centered Medical Home pilot project and regularly participates in collaborative and workshops around the state, sharing our successes and lessons learned with others. We currently communicate our clinical outcomes to a statewide disease registry where we can compare our results to other primary care

providers in the state. Dr John L. Bender, our medical director, has written articles and lectured for the Colorado Academy of Family Physicians on how to build ancillaries into a primary care practice to increase efficiency, improve patient safety, decrease waste, and help ensure solvency for struggling primary care providers.

**C3.** Because lab and X-ray reporting at Miramont is electronic to our regional data center, we have health information exchange among our four locations, Wellington, Red Feather Lakes, Fort Collins-Centre and Fort Collins-Harmony. In order to participate in the Patient Centered Medical Home Pilot we retained the Clinical Integration Networks of America (CINA) to mine our SQL database and report some, but not all of our lab metrics to a central repository at the state level for quality improvement. We do also allow our patients, via a patient portal on our website, to access their lab results online with appropriate password protections. We long for the day when a regional Accountable Care Organization might be built that will allow us to share our lab and X-ray reporting in true Health Information Exchange with our local hospitals, specialists and skilled nursing facilities as well. Perhaps the promise of CORHIO and the TeleHealth Network, and our local IPA will facilitate some of this as well.

#### **D. Other Comments**

**D1.** We greatly appreciate the flexibility to return the report electronically with attachments.

#### **II. Financials**

1. Please see attached spreadsheet.

# Clinic breaking ground

## Work begins today on new Miramont Family Medicine facility in Wellington

BY PAT FERRIER

PatFerrier@coloradoman.com

**WELLINGTON** — The year-old Miramont Family Medicine practice in Wellington will break ground this morning on a 5,100-square-foot clinic that will enable it to expand its services to this town of 6,000.

Owned by Dr. John Bender of Miramont Family Medicine in Fort Collins, the practice will offer mammography, X-ray, physical therapy and a drug dispensary for patients, office manager Jessica Jaques said.

### Interested?

Miramont Family Medicine will break ground on a new facility at 8 a.m. today at 7950 6th St. between Taco John's and the bank.

Miramont stepped in to provide medical services a year ago when the former Wellington Medical Center, run by Cheyenne Regional Medical Center, shut down after two years.

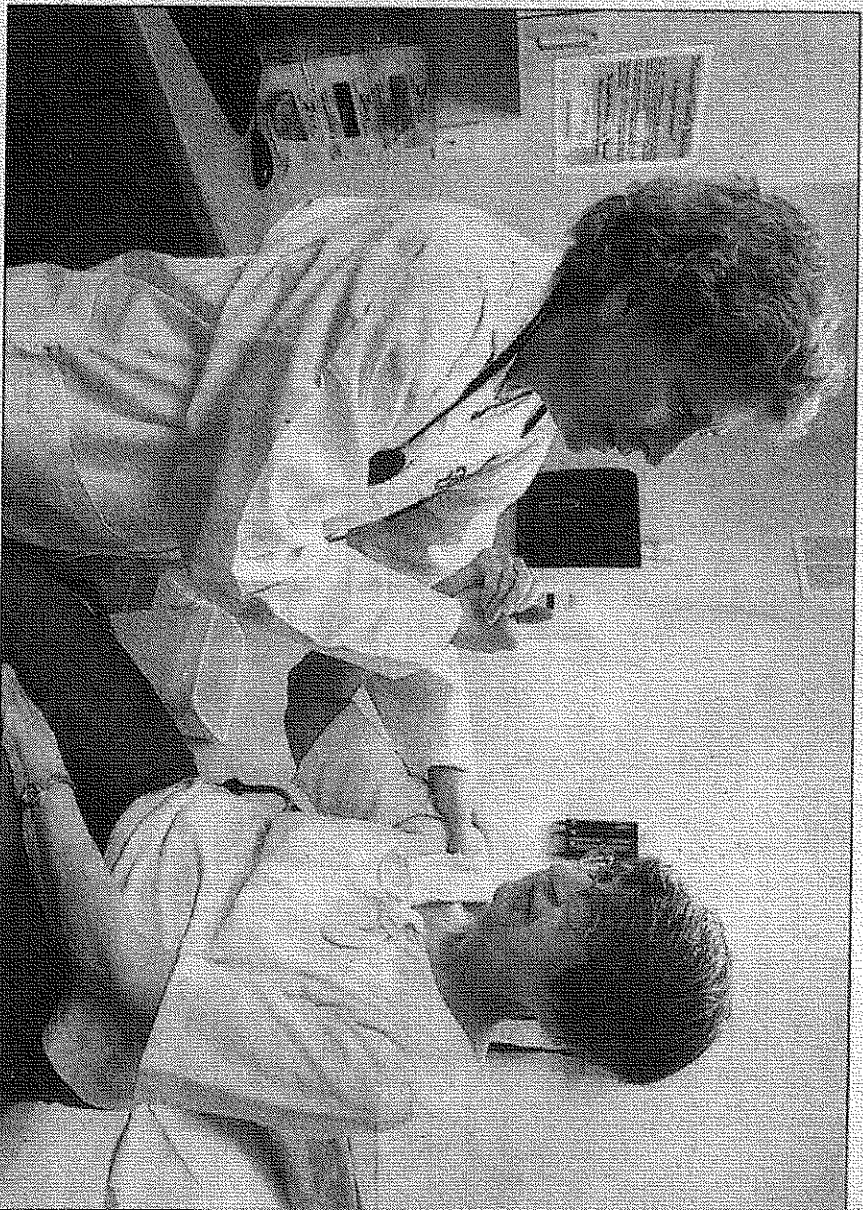
The hospital said the Wellington office was too expensive to keep open at a time when it wanted to concentrate its services in Wyoming and Nebraska. Bender had hoped to buy that existing facility but said the \$1.3 million price tag was too hefty for a building that was built for \$850,000 two years earlier.

The building is currently listed with Health Connect Properties of Denver for \$1.2 million. Bender and investors in the new Wellington facility will spend \$1.1 million on the land and building, said Jaques, an investor and employee.

Miramont Wellington LLC bought the property in November for \$250,000.

The clinic is staffed by Dr. Janice Weixelman, two physician assistants and office staff.

Miramont Family Medicine in Wellington took over all 2,900 patients left behind by Cheyenne



Dr. Janice Weixelman, left, of Miramont Family Medicine in Wellington examines the shoulder of patient Kay Horvath on Friday.

Regional but is seeing about half of those patients, Jaques said. The clinic hopes to build up the practice to between 4,000 and 5,000 patients, she said.

"We would love to have as many people in Wellington as possible," Jaques said.

The clinic also draws patients from Carr, Ault, Nunn and Cheyenne.

The clinic has been renting a small space at 8017 First St., unit C, while it looked for a new home.

"This building we're in now was due to the generosity of Richard Seaworth," Bender said. "He knew when Cheyenne Regional closed down we needed something. He was most generous to get us into something right away with very low rent."

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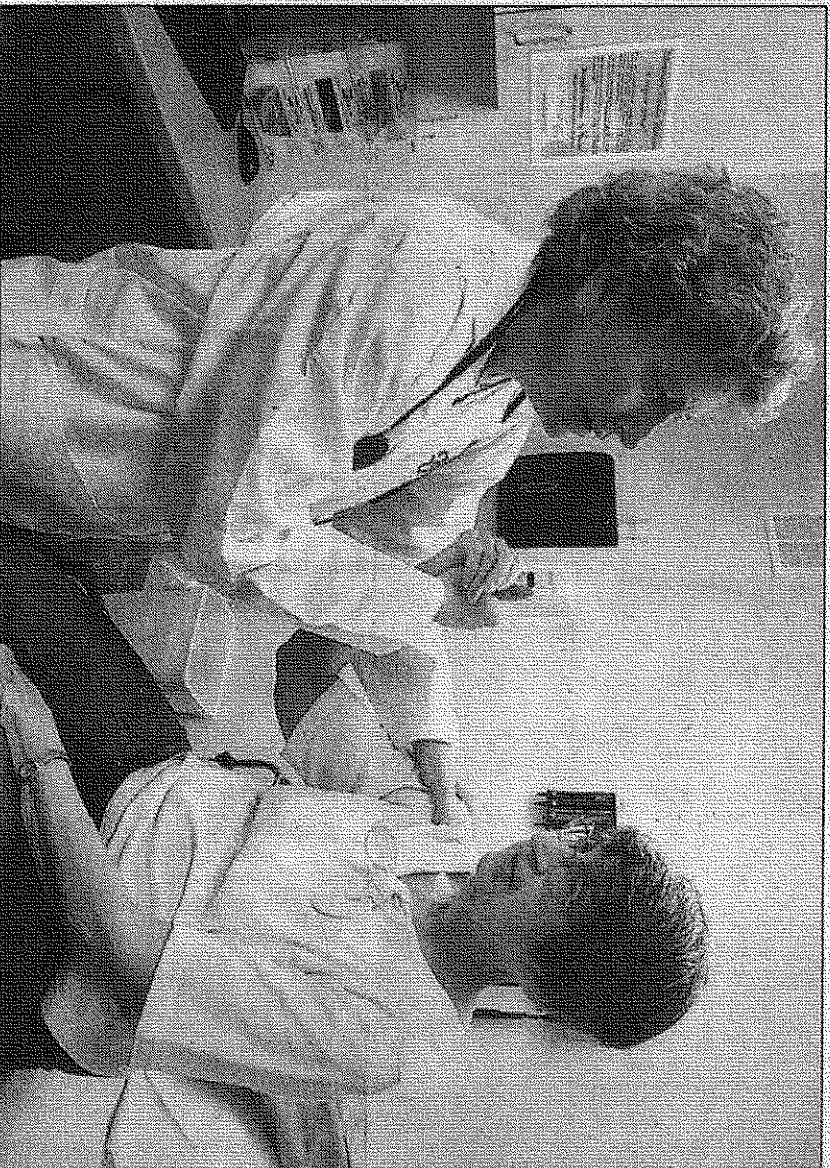
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V. Richard Haro/The Coloradan

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