

EPA Awards CARE Grant to Pueblo



In a ceremony at the Pueblo County Courthouse, Art Palomares, Director of the Region's Environmental Justice Program awarded a \$280,273 grant to Citizens for Clean Air and Water in Pueblo (CCAP).

This Level II Community Action for a Renewed Environment (CARE) Grant will be carried out over the next two years and will educate residents on how to remove household risks from radon, mold, lead paint and household hazardous chemicals.

"EPA's CARE program is about helping communities where there is a strong local commitment to identifying and solving environmental problems, and we certainly have that here in Pueblo," said Palomares, "This grant is a testimony to the agencies, health advocates and citizens who live in Pueblo County. Today, we are collectively making a very real investment in the future health of adults and children throughout the community."

This is the second CARE grant the group has received. This new award reflects well on the quality of CCAP's efforts in the Level I grant work.

Margaret Barber, President of CCAP, said "We are thrilled to have this opportunity to improve health and even save lives in Pueblo. We will now be able to provide access to tools that reduce exposure to radon gas, lead paint and paint dust, mold and hazardous household chemicals. The good news today is that no matter how high they are, radon levels can be brought down dramatically," said Barber. "We intend to make Pueblo a model for other communities who want to address radon exposure in a comprehensive way."

Partners in this work include the Pueblo County Commissioners, the Pueblo City-County Health Department, local officials and health experts.

For more information on EPA's CARE grants visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/care/>

For more on radon, visit: <http://www.epa.gov/radon/>

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