



Spring 2009

TO: Colorado's Libraries

FROM: Special Populations & Issues Committee, Colorado State Library

RE: **COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS PROJECT AND STATEWIDE PARTNERS**

We are happy to announce the affiliation of a number of statewide nonprofits as partners in our Community Conversations project.

These diversity organizations have an interest in:

- Reaching a special populations that may be underserved in YOUR community (various cultures, persons with disabilities, speakers of languages other than English, etc.);
- Outreach to communities through libraries;
- Familiarizing Coloradans with inclusive services and resources.

Enclosed you will find information about several of these statewide partners. We hope you will

- Look these over;
- Circulate them to the appropriate staff;
- Contact partners for advice or resources as needed.

Find more info on statewide library diversity partners at
<http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/librarydiversity.htm> and at our Library
Diversity Ning group, <http://librarydiversity.ning.com/>.

Enhancing diversity benefits your library, strengthens community support, and builds library leaders. Your work can be enhanced through our partners such as Anti-Defamation League, DBTAC: Rocky Mountain ADA Center, NAMI-Colorado, Spring Institute, Expanding Nonprofit Inclusiveness Initiative of the Denver Foundation and others.

Sponsored by the Special Populations & Issues Committee of the Colorado State Library, Community Conversations includes two components.

- (1) Ten libraries are outreaching to new and diverse groups.
- (2) Statewide diversity organizations are serving as partners and providing informational resources.

The Special Populations & Issues Committee has hundreds of FREE resources, examples, and PROMISING PRACTICES online at www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/librarydiversity.htm. For information on the Committee or Community Conversations, contact Jean Heilig, heilig_j@cde.state.co.us, 303.866.6731

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