Supporting Immigrant and Refugee Families
Supporting residents in working together for healthy communities

Community: Mesa County
Year Started: 2005
Population: ~142,463
Project Contact: Project Common Ground
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Focus Areas
Community and leadership • Education and training • Health • Workforce and economic development

Project Description

- **Dialogue Activities:** To provide diverse opportunities that encourage discourse and social interaction, Project Common Ground’s activities include Café Social gatherings and Film & Dialogue presentations – including a variety of documentaries.

- **Resource Toolkit Project:** This effort provides a range of resources to schools and community organizations that wish to explore immigration integration. The toolkits, customizable to meet specific themes and interests, are available on such topics as women, children and youth, refugees, immigrant integration, immigration policy, immigration history, farm labor and immigrant workers, and homelands and the causes of immigration.

- **Literacy Center:** The English-Spanish Rosetta Stone® language-learning curriculum is offered online and at Project Common Ground’s computer lab, and onsite classes are offered at places of employment – including conversational opportunities, one-on-one tutoring, and adult- and family-based classes.

- **Family Health Fiesta:** Organized and sponsored by a collaborative of community agencies, this free, annual event reaches out to some 600 underserved community members who may not attend the larger community health fairs and/or do not have access to basic health care services. As well, this event is an opportunity to identify at-risk individuals, connecting them with local health care and community services.

- **Business Incubator Center:** In partnership with Project Common Ground, the Center develops resources for non-English speaking immigrants. Offerings include such classes as “How to Start a Business,” “How to Start a Food-based Business” and “How to Start a Construction-based Business,” as well as the opportunity to receive micro loans.

- **Photo Essay Project:** To help raise awareness about the changing demographics of the Grand Valley, this traveling exhibit of photographs and stories of immigrant community members represents eight different nations living in the area.

- **Community Radio:** Project Common Ground hosts a monthly show on KAFM Radio featuring information about upcoming events and activities, as well as interviews with immigrant community members, or other community members with strong immigrant roots.