



OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Phone: 970-336-7204

Fax: 970-352-0242

1150 O Street

P.O. Box 758

Greeley, CO 80632

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 1/26/12

Contact: Jennifer Finch, 970-336-7203

RE: Romansik Retirement

TREASURED WELD COUNTY EMPLOYEE OF 29 YEARS RETIRES, PASSES HER PASSION FOR CHILDREN TO HER REPLACEMENT

WELD COUNTY, CO – After 29 years of service to Weld County, Gloria Romansik, Child Welfare and Adult Protection Administrator for Weld County’s Department of Human Services, will retire on January 31, 2012. Romansik, who started working with Weld County in 1983 as a Juvenile Diversion Counselor with the Weld County District Attorney’s Office, has spent her career working for the youth of the county. She joined the Department of Social Services (now Human Services) in 1989 and was promoted to child protection intake supervisor for the department in 1994. In 2002, Romansik was promoted to the position of Child Welfare and Adult Protection Administrator.

“Since February 2002, Gloria has guided the development of the child welfare and adult protection system in Weld County,” said Judy Griego, Director of the Weld County Department of Human Services. “She has worked tirelessly to develop and diversify programs and services that increase the quality and support of families, children and youth. She has networked with many agencies, programs, professionals, and the court system to respond to the safety and protection of children and adults.”

In preparation for her departure, Romansik has mentored her replacement, Heather Walker. “Gloria and Heather share many of the same visions and values,” said Griego.

Walker, a Weld County native and graduate of Colorado State University, brings a wealth of skills to the Child Welfare Administrator position. Walker started her career with (the then) Island Grove Regional Treatment Center in the detox unit while working toward her Master of Arts in Community Counseling from the University of Northern Colorado. She was later hired by Weld County Social Services as a Child Protection Ongoing Caseworker and then promoted to Caseworker IV, which provided her full knowledge of the Child Welfare system including training Youth in Conflict workers and licensing foster homes. Walker who was promoted to the positions of Child Protection Manager II and, subsequently, to Child Protection Manager III, was a participant in many successful changes within the Department of Human Services.

“Heather’s main goal as an Administrator is to promote increased and productive communication between staff and management, and all individuals, in order to provide the best support for families,” said Griego. “Heather feels all community agencies should play a part in helping children and youth become stronger in their environment.” Walker also plans to continue implementing an internship program started by Romansik.

“We appreciate the dedication to children Gloria has shown throughout the years,” said Board of County Commissioner Chairman Sean Conway. “It says a lot about the strength of a department when an employee dedicates 29 years of their life to an employer. She is a treasure to Weld County, and we wish her the best in retirement!”

###