September 11, 2019

Boulder Housing Partners Honors Five Partners with Awards

The Boulder Housing Partners (BHP) Partnership Awards program recognizes the efforts of individuals, businesses, corporate partners, and non-profit and governmental agencies for their support of BHP and its mission. The September 2019 award winners in the categories of non-profit, governmental agency and volunteer partners who make a difference are:

Volunteer Partner: Victor Aguilar and Paola Barron, Bringing School Home Family, presented by Amanda Maya-Dickson and Ingrid Castro-Campos

As participants of the Bringing School Home Program, Victor and Paola have consistently been engaged in their four children’s education, supporting neighbors with community childcare, and participating in multiple parent programs. Their leadership has shined by voicing their neighbors’ interests and concerns. Both participate in several community events and classes, including community meetings, parenting classes, financial workshops, and recently a community BBQ. As a couple, Victor and Paola will participate in a "Train the Trainer" course led by El Centro Amistad. They will learn how to instruct an eight-week parent program with a focus on positive parenting skills and supporting other parents in their community.

Non-profit Partner: Allison Billings, Jen Biegen and Kathy Luna, Impact on Education, presented by Amanda Maya-Dickson

We would like to recognize Impact on Education, Foundation for Boulder Valley Schools for their collaborative partnership in BHP’s Summer Shuffle School Readiness Program. This is the 7th year we have been able to provide quality programming to 3, 4, and 5-year-old children. We would like to acknowledge the Boulder Valley School District teachers for the following: Kathy Luna, who created a fun, interactive, age appropriate curriculum; Jen Biegen, who made sure all teachers were equipped with the tools needed for teaching and providing food; and Allison Billings, who secured BVSD transportation, which helped students get to the program, as well as supporting the program with funding and integrity.

Governmental Agency Partner: Alison Rhodes, City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department (BPR), presented by Karin Stayton

The City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department has provided services to support opportunities that enhance the quality of life for BHP residents. Thanks to this agency and support from a Health Equity grant, funded by the Sugary Beverage Tax, 200 households, that included BHP residents and participants, received a voucher for a free annual pass to the recreation centers. As of July 15, 2019, 388 families and 139 seniors, a total of 1,376 individuals, have received free passes to the recreation centers. These free passes have resulted in 7,855 visits made to BPR facilities. Additionally, the City of Boulder has worked closely with BHP and the "I Have a Dream" Foundation to implement the Healthy Together Program. This program provides BHP Dreamer Scholars with health and wellness activities as a part of their afterschool and summer programming.
We thank the City of Boulder Parks and Recreation Department for its commitment to reaching under-served populations, helping address health equity issues in Boulder, and supporting BHP residents to achieve their health goals.

Volunteer Partner: Parvinder Wahla, presented by Claudia Perez Rogerio
We would like to acknowledge Parvinder for his remarkable collaboration for the past 15 months with Boulder Food Rescue at Glen Willow, a BHP Housing Community. Boulder Food Rescue’s No Cost Grocery Program is a food distribution program that delivers vegetables and fruits to housing communities. Their efforts aim to address barriers to food access. Boulder Food Rescue leans on their volunteers to deliver several pounds of food on bikes and bike trailers. They create a network to distribute this food. Part of this network includes engaged residents at our housing communities who are in charge of receiving the delivery and coordinating the logistics for distribution among their neighbors. It's because of Parvinder’s involvement and relationship building skills that other residents benefit from BFR’s program. Parvinder goes beyond expectations and is a solution-oriented resident. We are very thankful for his contributions.

Non-profit Partner: Leslie Mader, TRU PACE, presented by Lyndall Ellingson
TRU PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) coordinates and provides all needed preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services so that older individuals can continue living safely in their community. TRU PACE is an innovative model that enables individuals who are 55 and older and certified by the state to need nursing-home-level care to live as independently as possible. BHP residents have been introduced to the program through community presentations, trainings on the Secrets of Living Independently, and individual meetings. Residents who are both interested and eligible are enrolled through a low-barrier assessment that takes place in their home. Once enrolled, participants experience a high level of coordinated care that can include transportation to and from medical appointments, support from social services, in-home healthcare and personal care. We have heard overwhelmingly positive feedback from residents in addition to seeing residents who might otherwise move into nursing care start to once again thrive independently.

About Boulder Housing Partners
Boulder Housing Partners strives to make living in Boulder welcoming and affordable for people from a diverse range of backgrounds, regardless of income. The housing authority for the City of Boulder for over 50 years, BHP builds, owns, and manages quality affordable homes for low and moderate-income Boulder residents, and helps those residents pursue successful and dignified lives. BHP is one of a select group of public housing authorities in the United States participating in the prestigious Moving to Work program, which encourages local innovation by providing flexibility in the use of federal funds. Its communities have won national and international awards for sustainability and affordable housing development. For additional information, please visit www.boulderhousing.org.