## BOULDER HOUSING PARTNERS BOULDER HOUSING PARTNERS NEWS

# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER Spring 2023

## Dear BHP Residents,

As we begin this season of spring, we look to opportunities ahead to help create and preserve affordable, welcoming, and community-enriched homes in Boulder. We invite you to read our BHP Overview Presentation for the Boulder City Council.

We thank you for your continued residency and important partnerships through challenging times in our community. We hope you'll find opportunities in this spring newsletter to enjoy your home, and as always, please stay in touch with us with questions. The best way to reach a member of your property management team is through each community's direct phone and email. We look forward to continue working with you this year.

Jeremy Durham, Executive Director



BHP OVERVIEW PRESENTATION AT BOULDER CITY COUNCIL



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

We're hiring! Come join our mission-driven team.



See all job opportunities at: <u>boulderhousing.org/jobsvolunteering</u>. NEW Positions Include:

- Housing Navigator/Customer Service Specialist
- Junior Accountant
- Maintenance Administrative Assistant
- Maintenance Technician I
- Painter
- Resident Services Coordinator Families
- Resident Services Coordinator Seniors and People with Disabilities

## PAY YOUR RENT ONLINE

BHP offers RENTCafé, a free online portal where you can easily schedule rent payments, pay additional rent-related charges, set up multiple roommate payments, and submit non-urgent maintenance requests. You can also download the mobile app for convenient on-the-go access.



boulderhousing.org/easy-rent-payment-options

## **REMINDER ABOUT CONTACTING MAINTENANCE**

**For Routine Maintenance,** place a work order through your RENTCafé account, email <u>workorder@boulderhousing.org</u>, or call (720) 564-4620. Please leave your name, phone number, address, and description of work needed. If you have a special need in scheduling, please leave this information in your message and how to contact you.

We try to complete all work orders within five days of the request, but there are times, when due to the total number of work

requests, it will take a little longer. **PLEASE NOTE:** By requesting a repair, you have given Maintenance permission to enter your home without further notice.



IN THE COMMUNITY

## FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY (FSS)

Are you unemployed or underemployed? Interested in pursuing your education? Now may be the best time to join the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program! If you currently receive rental assistance through the Housing Choice Voucher Program from Boulder Housing Partners, and you are able to work, and want to become self-sufficient, you may be eligible.

Another benefit participants receive is an interest-bearing non-taxable savings (escrow) account. A savings account is opened for each FSS participant when program benchmarks (such as attending workshops and maintaining employment) are met. Escrow account savings, based on a participant's employment success, are awarded to participants upon completion of the program.

Participation in the FSS program does not affect a household's Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) subsidy.

For more information, please contact the FSS Team:

- Katie Frye 303-441-3923 or <u>kfrye@bouldercounty.org</u>
- Mariela Ruiz Mondragon (bilingual) 303-441-1221 or mruizmondragon@bouldercounty.org
- Alicia Sheflin Thompson 303-682-6717 or <u>asheflinthompson@</u> <u>bouldercounty.org</u>

#### CHANGES TO SNAP (SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM) & MEDICAID

As a result of federal congressional action, there is a reduction in SNAP benefits. To learn more, visit: <u>cdhs.colorado.gov/snap-ea-ending</u>. To receive automated information about your SNAP case, call the 24/7 Interactive Voice Response Center at 1-800-816-4451. SNAP-participating households are encouraged to log onto PEAK (<u>co.gov/PEAK</u>) to learn about other programs you may be eligible for, such as Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP), Old Age Pension (OAP), etc.

There are also changes to Medicaid benefits; Medicaid renewal packets were sent out by Boulder County Housing and Human Services in January. To learn more, visit: <u>healthfirstcolorado.com/</u> <u>renewals/</u>.

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# BOULDER HOUSING PARTNERS

# RESIDENT NEWSLETTER SPRING 2023

FILE YOUR TAXES FOR FREE

certified preparer!

**TaxHelpBPL** 

If your household income was \$57,000 or less in 2021, you are

1. Get in-person help at our locations. Boulder Public Library

– Main Library 1001 Arapahoe Ave, Boulder, CO 80302.

Saturdays 10:30AM - 3PM Tuesdays 3PM - 6:30PM Mar

15th – April 16th. For an appointment go.oncehub.com/

2. File your own taxes for free online if you make \$72,000 or

less at <u>MyFreeTaxes.com</u>. You may also qualify for valuable tax credits like the Earned Income Tax Credit, which is worth as much as \$6,728 cash back, but you must file your taxes to claim the credits! For more info, please visit 211colorado.org/tax-assistance/ or TaxHelpCO.org.

eligible for FREE, trustworthy tax filing services from an IRS-

## PARTNER HIGHLIGHT

## FOOD TAX REBATE

The City of Boulder provides rebates to help compensate lowincome residents for the city sales tax they pay on food. Those eligible to apply for the rebate include seniors 62 and older individuals with disabilities, and families with children under 18. Seniors and people with disabilities that qualify and apply for the rebate will receive \$99 and families with at least one child under 18 for all of 2022 will receive \$280. Applications are available at the BHP office, the W. Boulder Senior Center, or online at: www.bouldercolorado.gov/services/food-tax-rebateprogram. Applications are due by June 30, 2023.



## FLOWS - COMMUNITY VOICES IN ACTION

Since 2016 Foundations for Leaders Organizing for Water and Sustainability, or FLOWS has been flourishing and serving BHP communities. We are housed at the CU Boulder Environmental Center and our program partnered under-represented CU Boulder students and BHP community members to do eco-home visits in BHP communities. While one team member talked with families about sustainable practices another installed low-flow showerheads and LED light bulbs.

Our work has shifted since the pandemic, yet we continue our commitment to center the voices of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) in climate and sustainability work. Together with BHP we offer education, training, and community events around climate and social solutions. Our climate is changing with real impacts and our communities have many of the answers. We center community input and participation. To learn more, visit www.colorado.edu/ecenter/FLOWS, email us: FLOWS@colorado.edu.

# ELOWS

## **NEW – CHANGES TO COMPOSTING GUIDELINES** EFFECTIVE APRIL 1, 2023

Starting April 1, 2023, only food scraps and yard and plant trimmings will be accepted for composting by the region's compost processor. The green, compostable waste bags will only be accepted if they are 3-gallons or smaller. The compost processor is making the change in order to try and eliminate micro- and macro-plastics from the final compost product. Got a question? Check out on the link to help find your answer. bouldercounty.gov/environment/composting/compostingchanges-faqs/

New guides can also be found on the Eco-Cycle website - <u>ecocycle.org</u>.

# MONTHLY RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Resident Representative Council (RRC) is a non-profit organization composed of BHP residents. The RRC meets monthly, in partnership with BHP, to address the needs and concerns of residents. While the RRC has primarily focused on BHP's Deeply Affordable Communities, Council Members look for solutions to benefit all Boulder Housing Partners residents and welcome resident feedback. Residents from any BHP site are welcome to attend as guests.

The RRC meets on the third Thursday of each month from 1:00-3:00pm. Interpretation and childcare may be provided by prior arrangement. Please contact Mark Fearer, RRC President with any questions or to join as a guest at <u>surmonk@gmail.com</u>.

# FREE MUSEUM & PARK DAYS

## LOCAL FREE DAYS

Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art	Denver Art Museum (720) 865-5000	Denver Museum of Nature and Science (303) 370-6000	Plains Conser- vation Center (Aurora) (720) 865-3500	Denver Botanic Gardens (York St. & Chatfield Farms) (720) 865-3500
Free - every Sat 11am-5pm	Tues, Apr 11 10am-9pm	Sun, Apr 30 9am-5pm	Thurs, Jun 15 10am-3pm	Sat, Apr 22 9am-4pm
Museum of Boulder	Children's Museum of Denver (303) 433-7444	Museum of Natural History, CU-Boulder (303) 492-6892	Denver Zoo (303) 832-4092	Longmont Museum (303) 832-4092
Free for SNAP recipients. You can bring up to 4 people. EBT card needed.	\$1 per person admis- sion for groups of up to 10 people with an EBT card Free - Fri, May 19 10am-4pm	Free - 7 days a week	Sun, Apr 9 10am-5pm Register in ad- vance	Free - 2nd Sat of each month from 8am-5pm



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