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July 2, 2018

### Closing the Achievement and Opportunity Gap for Low Income Children Starts Now

Boulder, CO—Boulder Housing Partners (BHP) has launched several summer educational programs for children who live in public and affordable housing.

"We believe that affordable housing can be a platform for learning, to improve the health and economic opportunities for children in our community," said Jeremy Durham, Executive Director at BHP. "To that end, we partner with numerous local organizations to provide services close to home, which helps eliminate barriers for children and families to participate in health and learning opportunities."

# **Kindergarten Readiness**

Up to 70 children ages three to five are participating in a summer literacy program to prepare them for kindergarten. The "Summer Shuffle" program began on June 11 and is a partnership with the Boulder Valley School District and Impact on Education, the district's foundation. District teachers are providing participants with a literacy-rich curriculum and engaging parents one evening a week to share strategies to support their children's learning.

#### **National Book Foundation**

BHP communities are among only 37 sites in the country selected to participate in the <u>Book Rich Environment</u> program, a partnership between housing authorities and public libraries led by the National Book Foundation. Through this program, the Boulder Public Library and BHP will connect families with free books, programming and vital connections to libraries and other literary resources.

Several events are coming up for photo-ops. Please coordinate with Joanna Wittig, Communications Specialist, at 720.564.4606 or wittigi@boulderhousing.org.

### • Friday, August 24, 5-7 p.m.

Kalmia Community Center: 3502 Nottingham Court "Leap Ahead at Your Library: going back to school and preparing for success at the next grade level."

## Friday, November 9, 4:30-7 p.m.

Boulder Public Library Main Branch: 1001 Arapahoe Avenue "Your Public Library, Your Second Home: introducing children and families to the local library."

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