



www.buildinglivablecommunities.org

THE BOULDER COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN

Boulder County is a diverse community with substantial needs for human services in order to improve the lives of a breadth of individuals of all ages, income levels and walks of life. In this landmark collaboration, various community, nonprofit and governmental agencies that provide for these needs are joining forces to forge a comprehensive, communitywide strategic plan for human services in Boulder County.

“Building Caring and Livable Communities for All: The Boulder County Human Services Strategic Plan” will draw on public input and participation as well as an analysis of existing data in order to examine Boulder County’s needs, resources, and service gaps. The goal of the strategic plan is to arrive at a communitywide vision of what it would take for communities in Boulder County to provide for the needs for all residents – and then implement concrete actions to make that vision a reality.

The strategic planning process will launch with a pair of community meetings in March. Community members from throughout the county are invited to come to the meetings to gain a snapshot of the issues and challenges we face, to voice their issues and challenges, and to help implement the mission of this process: to develop a plan that will result in a coordinated, community-wide, dynamic, accessible human service delivery system.

During the meetings, consultants will present the findings of a “meta-analysis” of numerous data sets describing the county’s current needs, demographics, services, funding and other human service issues.

The community meetings are:

Longmont: 7 – 8:30pm, Wednesday, March 14th at the Longmont Public Library, 409 4th Avenue, Longmont.

Boulder: 7 – 8:30pm, Thursday, March 15th, at the East Boulder Senior Center, 5660 Sioux Drive, Boulder.

Refreshments, childcare, English-Spanish translation and sign language translation will be provided at both meetings. Please RSVP and notify us of your childcare or translation needs by visiting www.buildinglivablecommunities.org or by calling Kay Bishop at 303-441-1616.

Development of the “Building Caring and Livable Communities for All” vision will occur during a two-day, intensive, “Future Search” process April 13-14. This unique planning process is one that is used worldwide by hundreds of communities and organizations. Participants will be selected to represent a diverse cross-section of the entire community, including service providers, funders, business people, consumers, clients, elected officials and multi-ethnic and cultural perspectives. Participants will discover values, purposes, and projects they hold in common and to create a shared vision of what “*caring and livable communities for all*” would look like.

After the Future Search, action groups, comprised of community members and representatives from local nonprofits and funding agencies, will be convened to develop specific strategies and actions to implement the vision. Their recommendations will address what is needed in order to better plan and coordinate services, funding, resources, grant applications, and outcome measurements among agencies and funders.

We hope that you will spread the word about this effort and participate by attending one of the community meetings, respond to an invitation to attend the Future Search, or volunteer for one of the post-Future Search action committees. We also would appreciate any opportunity to come and speak to your agency, board, neighborhood meeting, or civic group during the process and especially when our plan is completed. We’d like all sectors – human service providers, public and private funders, policymakers, business, faith, educators and most importantly the people we serve – to understand why we are undertaking this ambitious effort, what we believe will be accomplished, and how the various communities in Boulder County can participate to ensure that all residents of Boulder County experience a caring and livable community.

Building Caring and Livable Communities for All: The Boulder County Human Services Strategic Plan is a collaboration sponsored by Boulder County, City of Boulder, City of Longmont, City of Lafayette, Human Services Alliance of Boulder County, St. Vrain Community Council, Boulder County Civic Forum and Foothills United Way.

For more information check our website at www.buildinglivablecommunities.org . This website will be updated regularly and will also have a link to provide immediate feedback (via email) to the sponsors of the process, or you can contact Robin Bohannon, Director of Boulder County Community Services at 303-441-3996 or rbohannon@co.boulder.co.us .