

### This is what's happening in Cohousing Now!



# DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

Since the beginning, cohousing communities in the US have named diversity as a core value. We have wanted to live among a variety of people: race, gender, orientation, wealth. In this moment, as our nation is more vividly aware than ever before of the ways race influences individuals' experience of life in community, it seems appropriate to ask ourselves, where is cohousing in all this?

There is no question that across cohousing there is a strong desire to be welcoming to all. We ask ourselves, how do we attract people of color? It is a very difficult question. Anyone who has hung out in the cohousing world and visited a range of communities will tell you, we mostly haven't figured it out. Our communities are far more white than their surrounding areas.

Perhaps this is because we are asking the wrong question. Perhaps we are falling into the common majority-culture trap of missing the perspective of the very people we would like to engage. To put it in the words of one wife responding to her husband's suggestion that they move to cohousing, "Why would we want to live with a bunch of white people?"

So in the midst of a huge national shift around race, we offer a new set of questions cohousers might ask ourselves in our effort to live in more diversity:

How do we join people of color? How do we meet communities of color where they are, to best serve them?

What sort of community would meet the particular needs of non-white people? What can we learn from other cultures about doing community really well? What are the unmet needs, which may be very different than ours? Are there things we have learned through cohousing that can be offered to communities, existing and forming, that reflect a culture different than white-majority?

#### Join Us Online for this Event!

#### **Friday Sessions**

Friday sessions are designed specifically to share the basics of cohousing to city planners and other development professionals. Sessions are open to all.

#### **Saturday Sessions**

Saturday's sessions are designed for anyone who is interested in cohousing, especially those who currently live in cohousing or plan to soon. Session are open to all.

**Click here** for more information

<u>Click HERE to register NOW</u> for early bird discount pricing.



## Life is Better Together

Casa Verde Commons

Now online! Fri July 24, 2020 Sat July 25, 2020

#### Click Here for ALL CohoUS 2020 Events

Watch for information on the next online conference Community For All August 23rd



#### **Cohousing and the BLM Movement**

~ by Jim Leach

Hanging on the wall in my house is a dyed silk-screen print done by an artist from the first cohousing community I worked with in California. On it is the simple quote by Rumi that says: "Out beyond the ideas of right and wrong there is a field. I will meet you there."

#### **Cohousers for Racial Justice**

~ by Ann Lehman

What's new in Cohousing in June of 2020? One exciting thing is a new group of cohousers working together. COHOUSERS FOR RACIAL JUSTICE (FACEBOOK Cohousers for Racial Justice)

full report here

full article here



#### **Drastic Downsizing**

~ Barbara Simkowski

I write this knowing few people will think this is good advice, or advice they could actually take, but I've been observing move-ins at Village Hearth Cohousing for nearly a month, and had my own experience, so here goes.

Downsizing from a large, typical American home, where you are surrounded by the things you've acquired over a lifetime, in order to move to a far smaller home in a senior cohousing community is a project few of us can approach with any equanimity.

click here for full article



#### **Urban Cohousing**

~ by Bryan Bowen

For many, the term "cohousing" may conjure up an image of a rural community situated in a pastoral environment, complete with chickens, gardens, orchards, even mini-farms. And in fact, many cohousing communities throughout the United States are bucolic retreats from the hustle and bustle of cities.

But now there is a resurgence of interest in low-impact urban living, resulting in benefits for both the cohousing communities and the cities in which they choose to locate.

click here for full article

#### Let the Unpacking Begin!



Village Hearth Cohousing

Welcomes New Residents!



Fair Oaks EcoHousing

First Residents Move In!

#### **Classified Ads**

#### Forming Communities and Communities Seeking Members







Prairie Hill Cohousing /
Iowa City Cohousing
Iowa City, IA



Rocky Corner Cohousing
New Haven, CT



River Song Cohousing Eugene, OR

Heartwood Commons Tulsa, OK



Bay State Commons Malden, MA



Skagit Cohousing Anacortes, WA

Cohousing ABQ Albuquerque, NM



Washington Commons West Sacramento, CA



Sunnyside Village Cohousing Marysville, WA

#### **Homes for Sale or Rent**



Nubanusit Neighborhood and Farm Peterborough, NH



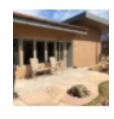
Wolf Creek Lodge Grass Valley, CA



Solterra CoHousing
Community
Durham, NC



Southside Park Co-housing Sacramento, CA



Silverleaf Cohousing
Community
Paonia, CO



Phoenix Commons Oakland, CA



Aria Cohousing
Denver, CO



Wild Sage Cohousing Boulder, CO



Sharingwood Cohousing
Community
Snohomish, WA

#### **Cohousing Professionals**







Fitch Architecture and Community Design



**Caddis Collaborative** 



**CoHousing Solutions** 



Wonderland Hill
Development Company



Cohousing Opportunities
Group



#### **Cohousing Directory**

Interested to learn about different cohousing communities? Are you seeking them? Are you looking for a Professional that is helping create them? Check out the CohoUS Directories:

Community Directory
Seeker Directory
Professional Directory

Thanks for reading! Please forward to your friends, communities, and other lists to spread the word about cohousing!

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