



This is what's happening in Cohousing Now!



Let's Play!

In cohousing we talk a lot about the hard work of building relationships and maintaining our communities. It turns out play may be even more important for creating the joyful, productive lives we hope for.

Play comes in many forms, from interactive games, to solitary clover gathering. The point is mostly to do something for which there is no point beyond your own interest and joy. The result is better health, better learning, more motivation, and, particularly important to community, relationships with more harmony and connection.

As we begin to leave behind the restrictions of Covid and the full range of possibilities for play open up, we hope you will prioritize playing in your community - spontaneous play, planned play, playful meetings, play in nature and play with things.

For more on why play matters, you might enjoy Stuart Brown's [TedX talk](#).

For more on play in cohousing as summer beings, see Re-Open Cohousing below.

Events

Cohousing communities are doing a lot of adjusting these days, and at CohoUS, we are too. What we are hearing from our community of communities is that across the US you are figuring out how you can safely re-open your common houses, social programs and common meals. The shifts are coming with much discussion and many unique approaches (this is cohousing, after all!) and the



trend is more physical gatherings, more gardening and outdoor tea drinking, and less interest in sitting inside on zoom. In other words our surroundings at CohoUS are calling for a readjustment of our planned online event for June 26.

We are transforming our 2021 Cohousing Open into Re-Open Cohousing 2021! We hope you will participate in this 2-part event:

Part 1 - Gather with your community! Within whatever practices feel safe to you, do something fun, look into each other's eyes, speak, sing, dance and celebrate the (perhaps gradual) return of all the joy that is living together in community. [Click here](#) for some innovative activity ideas, or just live your favorite community traditions. Take some photos, and send them our way (email to karencohous@gmail.com) so we can use them for . . .

Part 2 - Show and Tell across the nation. We will gather on zoom at 5pm Pacific, 8pm Eastern for a combined slide show (please, please send photos!), and a chance to talk about the experience of re-opening after Covid. We'll learn from other communities, celebrate successes and strategize for challenges. And, we'll share some tidbits about our plans to gather in person for our next National Cohousing Conference.

Celebrating successes and supporting transitions are among the many ways we support each other. We're looking forward to doing both June 26, 2021. [More details available here.](#)

CohoUS BOD

Like many non-for-profit organizations, CohoUS is directed by a group of volunteers called a Board of Directors. In addition to meeting monthly to review the direction of the organization and approve budgets and major initiatives, board members participate in committees to help move those initiatives forward.

The board also supervises the Executive Director, our one full time employee, and provides broad oversight of the financial and staff activities. An annual retreat supports connection amongst the board and visioning for the future of the association and the cohousing movement.

The BOD is currently seeking a Treasurer.

To apply to join the BOD [click here](#).

Welcome to our two newest Board of Directors Members!



Introducing Jim Mendell: Jim is co-founder of Bristol Village Cohousing. He is also co-founded and served as Co-Director of Common Ground Center, a Vermont retreat and family center now in its 28th year. Before

moving to Vermont, Jim edited a community newspaper in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. He loves to photograph people and continues to cover many political events as a member of Extinction Rebellion and 350VT.org. Jim currently meets weekly in a cooperative governance circle to introduce sociocracy to Bristol Cohousing.



Introducing Heidi Berggren Ph.D.: Heidi is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Chair of Women's and Gender Studies at the University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth. She publishes research

on the cohousing movement; the politics of work and family; gender and politics; social movements; and political behavior. Heidi is responsible for creating and maintaining CRN's extensive bibliography of cohousing research.

To 'meet' all of our current board of directors members, [click here](#)

Journey to Ahhh ...



This is a five-post series about the journey to the feeling of *Ahhhh.... I'm home!*

Our Home – Cathedral Park is an actively forming, unique and exciting community in Portland, Oregon. Please read with us as we share our twisting journey Home!

by Abby Braithwaite

[Read Part 1](#)

[Read Part 2](#)

[Read Part 3](#)

[Read Part 4](#)

[Read Part 5](#)



What's Ahead For LGBTQ Senior Housing?

By Mary Siobhan Brier
Article posted in Forbes

Excerpt: "Hundreds of LGBTQ senior living facilities have opened around the country and more are coming on stream ... there has been a massive spike in demand since the beginning of Covid-19. I think the pandemic and politics really just drove people to seek more peaceful, safe communities of people of like minds."

Click [HERE](#) to read more

Diversity in Dreams

By Karen Gimnig
Blog posted in cohousing.org

Excerpt: "It has to do with every sort of diversity and how we build community from the very beginning. I imagine most communities start in much the same way – with a dream. And the dreamer creates a vision and the visionary becomes a founder and begins to attract other members who share that vision and they become a community."

Click [HERE](#) to read more

We very much appreciate your generous donations!
Donations, as a community or as an individual, are accepted year round and can be made to: CohoUS 4710 16th St Boulder, CO 80304 or [Click Here](#) to give, Thank You.



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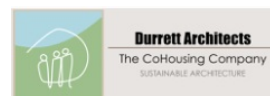
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