# Thistle ROC

#### Newsletter - Q1 2024

#### La Luna Community Cooperative has Closed!

La Luna Community Cooperative is Colorado's 9th Resident Owned Community!! The process to purchase the community started back in 2022, and after a lot of work by community members and partners, the residents were able to complete the purchase on January 31, 2024. <u>Read more here</u>



### **ROCKET** Trainings

How many <u>ROCKET</u> trainings have you completed? If you are looking to build your skill base to better service your community and/or to develop your leadership skills, ROCKET is a great place to start! ROCKET features specialized training for ROC Members, and delivers the training through self-paced trainings that are available 24/7.

We recommend starting with a new training called ROC101: ROC Essentials. It is a foundational training to help ROC Members learn the business and basics of operating and governing their ROC.



# Grant Opportunities

- Opens: April 5th
- Applications Due: May 5th
- Amount: Up To \$2,000

Check out the ROC USA website for more information on eligibility and start thinking about your possible projects! If you received funding in 2023, you will not be eligible this year. For more information, check out: <u>2024 Better Together Grant</u>

#### SB22-160 Funds

RENT STABILIZATION FUNDS FROM DOLA More information coming soon! We are working quickly to build out the application, Notice of Funds Available, and the overarching grant cycle with DOLA.



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#### Meet Two New Thistle ROC TA's



Francesca Rossi - is one of Thistle's new ROC Technical Assistance Providers. She has extensive experience with affordable housing, community development, and has a passion for community organizing and empowerment. She believes in the potential and collective power of communities to bring about positive change, both for themselves and for others. Outside of work, Francesca spends time with her partner and her family, organizes book club, and enjoys hosting dinner parties for her friends.

David Wehrwein - is another of Thistle's newest ROC technical assistance providers and brings years of experience supporting English- and Spanishspeaking families in Denver with navigating state and city rental assistance programs and with case management. He is driven by small daily actions leading to wider change for our communities and our world. Outside of work, David enjoys reading, volunteering, exploring, and hanging out with friends. David's cat can frequently be heard on calls too as she is very opinionated.



#### Thistle News!

#### The Heart And Soul Of Affordable Housing In Boulder County, CO

"NeighborWorks Capital extended a \$5,000,000 permanent loan to Thistle for Fairways Apartments, a LIHTC development consisting of 70 units that provide long-term affordability for individuals and families earning 30 – 50% of the Area Median Income. The property includes four three-story apartment buildings that were originally constructed in 1983 and renovated in 2008." <u>Read more of the article here!</u>



The Fairway Apartments Team



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#### Colorado Free Days!

\*Be sure to check out each locations website to make sure the dates haven't changed\*

#### Longmont Museum Apr. 13 | May 11 June 8 | July 13

Aug. 10 | Sept. 14 Oct. 12 | Nov. 9 Dec. 14

Clyfford Still Museum Apr. 28 July 28 | Nov. 2

#### National Parks Apr. 20 | June 19 Aug. 4 | Sept. 28 Nov. 11

Denver Zoo Apr. 7 Nov. 1, 9 & 17 Dec. 12

## Denver Art Museum

Apr. 9 & 28 | May 14 June 11 | July 9 & 21 Aug. 13 | Sept. 7 & 10 Oct. 8 | Nov. 2 & 12 Dec. 10

#### ROC Association Members Share Strategies For Boosting Mental Health

Better Together Call focuses on personal stories, practical tips, and community support to navigate winter, enhance well-being, and challenge stigma.

For Kelly Jensen, working a 5 a.m. shift at her local YMCA is worth the early wakeup call because of the generous mental health boost she receives when connecting with other people... <u>Read more here!</u>

#### MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS



#### Share a Story with Us

Please let us know if you have a story from your community! <u>Email Justin</u> some basics on the story, and he will follow up with you.



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