

NonProfit Spotlight: Community Cycles

Our Mission:

Community Cycles is a nonprofit organization of bicycle enthusiasts whose mission is to educate and advocate for the safe use of bicycles as an affordable, viable and sustainable means of transportation and personal enjoyment. Community Cycles provides recycled bikes and a welcoming space to learn about bicycle repair, maintenance and operation through outreach and advocacy activities.



We Serve: Community

Cycles serves residents of Boulder County through a variety of educational and advocacy programs. We support low-income or higher needs individuals to earn a bike through class participation; we support individuals trying to get back on their feet coming out of correctional settings by providing reliable transportation; we work with local teens to teach them the basics of bicycle safety and maintenance; we support businesses as they work to make their workplaces more bike-friendly; and we support all local residents by advocating for smart bicycle commuting policies.

Brief History: In early 2006, a handful of bike enthusiasts and advocates, many of whom had been involved in other grassroots bicycle organizations, formed Community Cycles. The group brought forward ideas such as providing access to affordable bikes to people in our community; supporting groups such as Bicycles for Humanity and the Village Bicycle Project to ship bikes to health care or aid workers in Africa; teaching local kids and adults to work on their bikes so they stayed on the road; and helping businesses to support workers to commute via bike through installation of bike racks, safe routes, and more. The organization moved to our current location on Wilderness Place in 2007. Community Cycles continues to build partnerships and obtain tremendous support from the Boulder community, local leaders and businesses. The organization was named coordinator of GO

Boulder's 2008 Walk & Bike Month this June.

Proudest

Accomplishment: We are extremely proud to have been selected by GO Boulder to coordinate the 2008 Walk & Bike Month activities, with Sue Prant, our advocacy director serving as WBM director too. This was a large but exciting undertaking, with a record number of registered bikers this year. There have been several positive accomplishments financially, including

grants from the Beanstalk Foundation, Santa Fe Real Estate Company, Whole Foods and Elevations Credit Union recently. Our largest accomplishment is seeing people ride off with reliable transportation after participating in one of our programs.

Greatest Needs: All our programs work on generous donations of bikes, parts and accessories; we always need more bikes to keep our programming going. Another part of the equation is attracting reliable volunteers to support shop activities, classes, or help to work bike sales held twice annually. Strategic support is always welcome through participation in board meetings and light bookkeeping is sought also. As a membership-based organization, the more members we have, the stronger our programming.

Future Plans: To continue to expand our efforts to provide Earn-A-Bike programs for a variety of ages or groups; to work with businesses to nurture worker-friendly programs; to educate school-age children to become future bike commuters; and to get people out of cars and onto bikes in bike-friendly Boulder.

Contact Information: Rich Points, Executive Director, Community Cycles, 2805 Wilderness Place, #1000, Boulder, Colo., 80301, rich@communitycycles.org. Web site: www.communitycycles.org or call 720-565-6019.