



For Immediate Release

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BOEC Cancels Specific Components of Summer Programming

Summer Internship Program, all residential programs, and all camping and mobile programs affected. Virtual and local programs on the horizon.

[Breckenridge, Colo., May 11, 2020] – During the past few weeks the [Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center](#) (BOEC) has looked closely at every aspect of its program operations in hopes of finding a feasible way to offer its camps and retreats to those with disabilities and special needs. Based on the honest assessment of the types of programs we provide, those we serve and the reality of the risks associated with the COVID-19 environment, we cannot move forward with business as usual this summer while ensuring the health and safety of our participants, staff and volunteers. For that reason, we have made the very difficult decision to cancel specific components of summer programming and will, over the coming weeks, be evaluating what might be possible through the end of the summer and fall.

Programs that are immediately affected by this decision include the cancellation of the summer Internship Program, all residential programs held at the Scott Griffith Lodge in Breckenridge, and all camping and mobile programs.

Virtual and Local Programs

In an effort to continue serving those we care about so deeply we will be launching a series of fun, interactive and engaging virtual games, lessons and programs in the coming weeks. We are working closely with program partners who regularly bring groups to BOEC for days of summer fun and engagement, to put together programs that will meet the needs of their clients.

We have also been asked by local community program leaders and officials to leverage our staff's skills and expertise in helping to meet the critical local needs of teens, children, and those with special needs or other challenges, all of whom are being hit unusually hard by social isolation, the loss of routine and of so many other activities that until now we have all taken for granted. We are currently collaborating with local providers to determine how we can support this effort and to decide what types of programs BOEC will provide.

Next Steps

This has been a painful decision to make but we know there is a silver lining on the horizon. We will continue to monitor the evolving environment, county and local guidelines and the demand for local programs over the coming weeks. It is our hope that in addition to the newly developed virtual offerings we will be able to provide small group programs that align with community need during this unprecedented time.



Breckenridge Outdoor Education Center

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“This was obviously a difficult decision that had to be made for the safety of all those involved,” said BOEC Executive Director Sonya Norris. “However, we now move towards a renewed commitment to focusing on community needs for those who need it most during this difficult time. We remain committed to the safety of our staff, participants and volunteers and know that we will all get through this together.”

For more information or questions regarding this announcement, please contact BOEC at boec@boec.org.

About BOEC

BOEC is a non-profit 501(c)3 human service organization whose mission is to expand the potential of people with disabilities and special needs through meaningful, educational, and inspirational outdoor experiences. BOEC offers state-of-the-art programming and features a highly trained professional staff. The major programs include the Adaptive Ski and Ride Program, Wilderness Program and Internship Program that serves over 2,500 participants each year for over 10,000 programming days. Participants come from all over the world and include adults and children with physical, cognitive, and sensory disabilities, injured veterans, youth at risk, and many other interested parties.

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