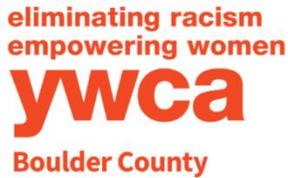


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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**YWCA Boulder County Announces Persimmon Early Learning Grand Opening**

*Event Featuring Guest Speaker Congressman Joe Neguse to Take Place from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 21, 2021*

**BOULDER, CO** – July 27, 2021 – YWCA Boulder County has announced the grand opening of Persimmon Early Learning on Saturday, August 21, 2021, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The event will allow YWCA volunteers, families, donors, program participants and community partners to tour the fully renovated indoor and outdoor learning spaces and first floor facilities of YWCA Boulder County.

Guest speaker Congressman Joe Neguse is confirmed to join the celebration and open the ceremony. He will address the urgent need for affordable, high-quality child care in Boulder County and beyond as well as how safe, affordable child care is essential to getting parents back to work and growing our local economy.

The event will begin at 3:00 p.m. with an open house and refreshments on the large playground. Congressman Neguse will speak at 4:00 p.m., with the final donor and funder presentations scheduled for 4:20 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Food and beverage refreshments will be offered to attendees.

“We are thrilled to finally be celebrating the expansion of Persimmon Early Learning,” said Debbie Pope, CEO, YWCA Boulder County. “One way to ensure upward mobility for everyone in the community is to invest in affordable child care. This gives all children the opportunity to build foundations for success in school and life while allowing parents to work or attend school and pursue greater economic security,” she added.

Finding quality affordable child care is becoming more difficult, according to an April 2020 survey by the [Bipartisan Policy Center](#). More than half of the child care facilities nationwide were closed at that time due to the pandemic, and 63% of parents reported difficulty finding any child care. Over 40% of parents working from home needed child care, and 34% were alternating shifts with someone in their home in order to provide care. Many single parents, the survey found, did not have that option.

Since [YWCA USA](#)'s founding in 1858, YWCA has been at the forefront of the most critical social movements. This rich history, along with its current program offerings, makes YWCA

USA the oldest, largest, and one of the most accomplished multiracial organizations in the fight for social justice. In Boulder, YWCA has evolved over the years from boarding house to social club and today is a human service agency. The organization is a non-sectarian nonprofit that is not affiliated with any religious group, and is a publicly funded, inclusive organization that welcomes everyone to participate, male and female alike.

Throughout the last century, women have come to YWCA to find housing assistance, business advice, career counseling, and affordable childcare. Beginning in the 1980s, community members could count on YWCA Boulder County to provide low-cost parenting classes and valuable resources to support healthy self-esteem and economic self-sufficiency. Its wide range of programs continue to provide services to those who need them.

### **About YWCA Boulder County**

YWCA Boulder County is dedicated to eliminating racism and empowering women. The organization has been providing a variety of vital services to the women, children, and families of Boulder County for nearly 100 years. For more information on our programs, visit: [www.ywcaboulder.org](http://www.ywcaboulder.org).

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