Right RelationshipBoulder

**Coordinators:** Jerilyn DeCoteau, Turtle Mountain Chippewa ([decoteau\_jerilyn@hotmail.com](mailto:decoteau_jerilyn@hotmail.com))

Ava Hamilton, Arapaho

Jake Matlak ([jake@philanthropiece.org](mailto:jake@philanthropiece.org))

Paula Palmer ([paulaRpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:paulaRpalmer@gmail.com))

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RightRelationshipBoulder/>

**Who are we?**

We are Native and non-Native people working with local governments and organizations to help all Boulder Valley residents learn about the Native peoples who lived here historically and those who live here today. Our goal is to promote and practice right relationship with Native peoples.

**Background**

The City of Boulder’s 2016 Indigenous Peoples Day Resolution calls for building collaborative relationships with Native peoples and educating all Boulder citizens about the history, presence, and contributions of Native peoples in the Boulder Valley. The City of Lafayette passed a similar resolution, and we hope other Boulder-area towns will do likewise.

The Arapaho people were living in the Boulder Valley when Euro-American miners and settlers arrived, and they were essentially banished from Colorado after the 1864 Sand Creek Massacre. Right Relationship Boulder decided our first effort would be to learn from and engage with the Southern and Northern Arapaho tribes, who now live in Oklahoma and Wyoming. With funding primarily from Boulder’s Human Relations Commission, we sent a delegation to visit the tribes in the fall of 2017. We asked the tribes how they would like to relate to the land and current population of the Boulder Valley. They all said they think of Boulder as home and would like to establish people-to-people and institutional ties. They would like to share their history, culture and current realities with the people of Boulder, and they would like to have a protected space here to honor their ancestors, camp, and hold sweat lodges and ceremonies.

**Work Plan for 2018: “Welcome the Arapaho People Home”**

In response to what we heard from the Arapaho tribes, Right Relationship Boulder proposes to bring Southern and Northern Arapaho people to Boulder to participate in the 2018 celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day, October 6-8. In order to plan and prepare for this event, we have invited delegations from both tribes to a meeting here, June 7-8. In addition to planning the October event, we will arrange private meetings for the Arapaho delegates with Boulder and Lafayette City Councils, City and County departments and commissions, Boulder Valley School District, University of Colorado’s Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies, American Indian Youth Leadership, the Museum of Boulder, faith communities, and others who request meetings. We also hope to provide a dinner reception for these groups and the Arapaho delegates, with performances or presentations by Native organizations in Boulder, led by American Indian Youth Leadership students. 2018 fund raising goal: $40,000.

**Looking Ahead**

Beyond these 2018 events, Right Relationship Boulder will continue to promote and facilitate relationships and collaborations among the Arapaho tribes, other Indigenous peoples of the Boulder Valley, and Boulder-area governments, institutions, and organizations.

**How You Can Help**

1. **Participate in Right Relationship Boulder**

We meet monthly at public locations open to all. To be informed, register for our email listserv by contacting [paulaRpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:paulaRpalmer@gmail.com) and join our Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RightRelationshipBoulder/>

1. **Raise Funds to “Welcome the Arapaho People Home” in June and October 2018**

**Fund Raising Goal: $40,000.**

**Join the fund raising team.** Contact Jake Matlak, [jake@philanthropiece.org](mailto:jake@philanthropiece.org)

**To make a donation online, go to: philanthropiece.org/donate** or send a check to: Philanthropiece Foundation (on the memo line, write: Right Relationship Boulder). Mail to: Philanthropiece, 6105 Monarch Rd, Longmont CO 80503.

*Philanthropiece Foundation, a Boulder County nonprofit, serves as fiscal agent for Right Relationship Boulder. “The mission of the Philanthropiece Foundation is to empower changemakers around the world to co-create resilient communities.”*

1. **Organize June 7-8 and October 7-8 Events** (venues, transportation, lodging, meals, publicity)

**Join the Organizing Team.** Contact Paula Palmer, [paulaRpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:paulaRpalmer@gmail.com)

**Pledge In-kind Support** (venues, lodging, facilities, meals, publicity, performances, etc.) for the June planning meetings and the October Indigenous Peoples Day events.

1. **Keep Learning; Learn More**

* Host and/or participate in “Toward Right Relationship with Native Peoples” workshops. See [www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship](http://www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship) or contact [paulaRpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:paulaRpalmer@gmail.com)
* Host and/or watch the documentary film, “Two Rivers.” See [www.tworiversfilm.com](http://www.tworiversfilm.com) or contact [paulaRpalmer@gmail.com](mailto:paulaRpalmer@gmail.com)
* Join Right Relationship Boulder’s Study Group (monthly meetings for interactive learning). Contact Ann or Amy, [ann.scarritt@gmail.com](mailto:ann.scarritt@gmail.com) or [zuckerman.amy@gmail.com](mailto:zuckerman.amy@gmail.com)
* Read: “An Indigenous Peoples’ History of the United States,” by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, and “RESOURCE KIT,” posted at [www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship](http://www.boulderfriendsmeeting.org/ipc-right-relationship)