

Christian Samora

From: Cherri Houle <choule@honservice.org>
Sent: Thursday, December 4, 2025 4:22 PM
To: William Karspeck; Chris Kirk; May Albrecht; Sean Murphy; Brett Wing; Tim Hardy; Karl Ayers; Mark Brodie
Cc: Cheryl Wong; Pamela Berry; KAYE KOHLER; 'Jed Link'
Subject: Update Regarding the Sonoco Berthoud Life Center Project

Dear Mayor Karspeck, Town Administrator Kirk, and Honorable Trustees of the Town of Berthoud,

I am writing to share where we are in the Sonoco/Berthoud Life Center Project.

First, I want to express sincere gratitude for the time, care, discussion, and energy each of you invested in this incredible project. This was never “just a building” to us. For House of Neighborly Service, this vision has been years in the making. And since last fall, it has been a deeply shared journey with the Town of Berthoud. What unfolded over the past year was built on countless hours of collaboration, creativity and care for this community. Thank you!

As previously communicated, a ballot process would introduce too much instability and risk for our organization to continue responsibly. With the petition now exceeding 900 signatures, our Board of Directors has issued the following statement:

“For more than 36 years, the community of Berthoud has channeled much of its generosity and volunteer efforts through the House of Neighborly Service. It has been, and will remain, our great honor to work alongside the people of Berthoud, shoulder to shoulder in the trenches to help provide essential resources, care, and support for our community’s most vulnerable populations. As the local need has increased in recent years, HNS was invited to establish a Life Center similar to what has worked in Loveland, and the HNS Board of Directors agreed to pursue that opportunity.

It has since become clear that this effort has not yet earned universal support from the Berthoud community. A petition, circulated to place this question on the ballot, recently secured enough signatures to move forward. After careful consideration, the HNS Board has determined that risking a prolonged and divisive campaign is not in the best interest of our mission, our staff, our volunteers, or the neighbors we serve. We seek to work alongside our neighbors, not to pit them against each other. We are, therefore, respectfully discontinuing our efforts for the Berthoud Sonoco/Life Center Project at this time.

The HNS Board of Directors wishes to express our appreciation to the hard-working HNS staff and administration who have dedicated countless hours to this effort, to the civil servants with the Town of Berthoud for their dedication to the community and to the thousands of men and women who have supported HNS over the years. Together, in partnership with Grace Place, we will continue to make a real difference, providing a safety net for families and individuals who might otherwise fall through the cracks.” House of Neighborly Service Board of Directors

While this outcome is deeply grieved by our organization, we remain grateful for the journey, the support of the Town, and the extraordinary generosity of donors and volunteers towards the HNS mission in Berthoud. The heart of House of Neighborly Service remains unchanged: we are here to care for our neighbors and serve this community with compassion and integrity.

Thanks you again for your leadership and service to the Town of Berthoud!

Ps. I plan to share a short personal statement sometime next week after the Board’s statement is released publicly.

With respect and gratitude,



Cherri Houle

Executive Director

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