

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## CITY AND COUNTY HONOR EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION (EFAA) FOR 100 YEARS OF HELPING LOW-INCOME FAMILIES

City of Boulder and Boulder County proclaim August 11, 2018 as "EFAA Day," commemorating 100 years of service in Boulder County

**August 8, 2018, BOULDER, CO** – In recognition of Emergency Family Assistance Association's (EFAA) 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Boulder City Council, at their meeting Tuesday night, proclaimed Saturday, August 11 as "EFAA Day." Boulder County will make a similar proclamation on Thursday. A community celebration hosted by EFAA will take place on Saturday from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. in Central Park, Downtown Boulder, alongside the Boulder Farmers' Market. The event is free and open to the public.

For 100 years, EFAA has served as the community safety net in Boulder County, offering stabilizing services to local families when they have nowhere else to turn and self-sufficiency programs that provide a springboard out of poverty. EFAA has worked extensively with both the City of Boulder and Boulder County for decades to provide basic supports to low-income families and to expand opportunities for all. EFAA's work, supported by the City and County, advances the City and County's efforts to improve the quality of life for everyone living in our community.

"I believe that one of EFAA's greatest strengths is our collaborative approach to addressing family homelessness," says Julie Van Domelen, EFAA's executive director. "The City of Boulder and EFAA have a long history of collaborating to stabilize families in crisis and give them the tools they need to build a brighter future."

Nearly half of Boulder's homeless population is comprised of families with children, many of these families couchsurfing, living in motels, and sleeping in their cars. As the cost of living in Boulder County continues to rise, more and more families struggling to make ends meeting will be facing the possibility of homelessness, making the 100 year-old agency's work as important as ever.

"Not only is EFAA a leader in providing critical services to low-income families, but they have taken the lead on preventing family homelessness," says Aaron Brockett, City Council, Mayor Pro Tem. "EFAA has earned its place as a trusted community institution. On behalf of City Council, we are thrilled to celebrate EFAA's tremendous contributions to this community by pronouncing EFAA Day in celebration of their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary."

The City of Boulder and Boulder County have helped Emergency Family Assistance Association through standard governmental grants for over 40 years. The City has also worked with EFAA to bring new programs to its participants. Keeping Families Housed, a homelessness prevention program, provides rental assistance to families on the brink of homelessness, helping over 350 families stay housed in the past year alone. EFAA also receives funding to help improve nutritional offering in their food pantry from the City's Health Equity Fund, also known as the sugary drink tax.

The combined effort between the City of Boulder, Boulder County and Emergency Family Assistance Association bolsters our community's ability to effectively respond to family homelessness in Boulder County. Dedicated to strengthening the community, these agencies are committed to working together to build a brighter future for families in need for the next 100 years.

## ABOUT EMERGENCY FAMILY ASSISTANCE ASSOCIATION

For 100 years EFAA has been dedicated to empowering families to thrive. Since 1918, EFAA has been Boulder County's community safety net for families, seniors and people with disabilities to meet their basic needs. As Boulder's official Family Resource Center, EFAA operates 57 emergency and transitional shelter units, provides food, rent assistance, utilities assistance, and supports participants' efforts toward financial stability and self-sufficiency through long-term and short-term casework, education and advocacy. For more information please visit www.efaa.org or connect with EFAA Boulder on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Visit <a href="mailto:efaa.org">efaa.org</a> for more information.

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