

## Golden, CO Restaurants and Civic Organizations Work Together To Feed People in Need & Support Businesses

- STARTING MARCH 24, BGoldN TO PROVIDE FREE MEALS FROM LOCAL RESTAURANTS
  & GROCERY DELIVERY TO THOSE IMPACTED BY COVID-19
  - DONATIONS NEEDED FOR INNOVATIVE PROGRAM

GOLDEN, Colo.... **BGoldN**, an unprecedented public-private-non-profit partnership, launches March 24, 2020, in Golden, Colorado. The program, initiated by Golden Mayor Laura Weinberg, is an innovative, two-pronged approach to stymie the economic impact of the COVID-19 crisis on local restaurants and help feed residents in need.

First, to aid residents who are financially impacted by the crisis, BGoldN, will provide free nutritious meals for pick-up, twice daily, Monday – Friday. BGoldN will also offer free meals and grocery delivery to people under quarantine and in financial stress.

Second, to support restaurants that are scrambling to keep afloat, BGoldN meals will be prepared by a rotating schedule of Golden restaurants that agree to make the meals at a break-even cost, helping them to keep their doors open and staff employed while under current restrictions that only allow for take-out/delivery.

"Our most immediate need is for people to donate to help support BGoldN. Any financial contribution is a one-two punch because BGoldN offers families in need nutritious foods, and also helps fuel our local restaurants that have a long history of supporting Golden with giveaways and community support. Now, it's our turn to show them how invaluable they are," said Weinberg.

The program, which needs more funding from community donations, is getting off the ground thanks to initial financial and logistical support from the City of Golden's Disaster Relief Fund, the <u>Golden Civic Foundation</u>, the <u>Golden Backpack Program</u>, the <u>Neighborhood Rehab Project</u>, students at the Colorado School of Mines, individual donors, a volunteer committee led by Tyson Noeth, executive director of the Golden Backpack Program, and Golden restaurants led by Café 13/Connects Workspace owner Jen Thoemke.

**HOW IT WORKS:** The BGoldN program will offer free, pre-packaged, made fresh breakfasts and lunches, Monday – Friday for pick-up at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. at Bell Middle School, 1001 Ulysses St, Golden, CO 80401. The first come, first served meals will be prepared by a rotating schedule of Golden restaurants, picked up by trained volunteers who will then distribute the meals in drive-up fashion in front of the school. Meals are intended for people whose livelihoods have been impacted by the crisis and need help.

"The initial outpouring of community support in this very difficult season has been astonishing," said Noeth. "We have received hundreds of requests to volunteer and thousands of dollars in monetary and food donations, all in a few days' time. We are hopeful this will continue so BGoldN can support our community as long as there's a need."

To make a donation, volunteer your time and learn more about BGoldN, visit <a href="https://example.com">HelpGoldenNow.org</a>. People who are underserved and cannot leave the home, can call 720-432-5048 or email BGoldNcity@gmail.com.

"The challenges we face can only be overcome by working together," said Weinberg, who spearheaded the effort to create BGoldN. "I am so proud that our Golden community has come together so quickly to create a lifeline to help us through these uncertain times."

Participating restaurants include: <u>Cafe 13</u>, <u>Windy Saddle Cafe</u>, <u>D'Deli</u>, <u>Nosu Ramen</u>, <u>Buffalo Rose</u>, <u>Old Capitol Grill & Smokehouse</u>, <u>Launch Espresso</u>. <u>Food</u>. <u>Spirits</u>, <u>Mr. Miners Meats</u> & Cheese, Woody's Wood Fired Pizza and Bonfire Burritos.

Noted Thoemke, "All participating BGoldN restaurants also offer standard pick-up, curbside and/or delivery. It is vital the Golden community supports their favorite restaurants by continuing to patronize them during these next few months." For a list of restaurants offering take-out in Golden, visit: <a href="https://www.visitgolden.com/takeout-takeover-golden/">https://www.visitgolden.com/takeout-takeover-golden/</a>

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