

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

ROCKY MOUNTAIN DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC. PLANS GRADUAL REOPENING

This week marks one year since Rocky shut its doors to the public due to COVID-19. Since that time, many of us have suffered loss, illness, and isolation

The pandemic has been hard on everyone, but older people carried the very worst of it, both in catching the virus and in the shelter-in-place mandates that created unprecedented social isolation. Our goal has always been getting seniors back to the Senior Centers. Lewis & Clark County and its partners have done a spectacular job in getting people vaccinated, with Rocky playing a critical role in helping those without internet access or capabilities get appointments.

It is almost spring, but more importantly, a time for a renewal. We are pleased to announce that Rocky will begin a gradual reopening of our locations starting on March 22, 2021.

Rocky's services at our Jackson Street Center – LIEAP, Area IV Agency on Aging, and AmeriCorps Seniors – will be open for business with limited numbers of people in the building beginning on March 22.

On March 29, 2021, the Senior Center at the Neighborhood Center in Helena will begin reopening with small group activities include Jennie's Arthritis Exercise Class, Line Dancing, Crafty Quilters, and Woodcarving. As soon as instructors or leaders are ready to teach again or organize the classes, other activities will start. Class sizes may be limited in order to adhere to required social distancing regulations.

We are currently working on a safe plan to reopen our congregate dining in Helena, Augusta, and Lincoln. We expect to open on April 26, 2021. We are pleased that the Senior Center will soon join Rocky's Head Start, Meals on Wheels, and Rocky Mountain Preschool that continued service throughout the pandemic.

Thank you for your patience. We look forward to seeing you very soon!