

Announcements

Village Exchange Center welcomes DRIVE Project Colorado and the Colorado Ethiopian Community to our family of resident partners at our Havana Street Location! We encourage you to stop in this month and learn more about our new programs and each of our partner organizations. *Check out DRIVE at <https://driveprojectcolorado.org/> and the Colorado Ethiopian Community at <https://ethiorado.com>*



Featured Content

VEC NATURALIZATION CLINIC

Mark your calendar for an informational Citizenship and Naturalization Clinic with local lawyer Matthew Shaftel, **6:30pm on January 31, 2018** at the Village Exchange Center at 1609 Havana St. Aurora CO 80010. For more information please call our office (720) 668-9968.

OPEN HOUSE FOR NEW COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOL

Come attend one of three Open House events to learn more about a new Community High School opening in North Aurora in 2019. A project of the HadaNou Collective, the school is designed by students, teachers and families in North Aurora. Come with your ideas and curiosity. All are welcome! Open Houses will be held at VEC on **February 1, 7 and 15 from 5:30 to 7:00**.

WARM COOKIES OF THE REVOLUTION

Come learn about a local community organization, Warm Cookies of the Revolution, at their event on **Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 11:00am**. Their event, **Home Bigger Than Houses: East Side**, invites you to share your experiences and hear about solutions regarding our housing crisis. Come enjoy the rich and diverse culture and tasty foods from the Westside and the Eastside while exploring creative solutions to our housing crisis. With music, poetry, food, resident experts, and YOU! Learn more at <http://www.warmcookiesoftherevolution.org/>

BECOME A NATURAL HELPER - NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

The next **FREE 20-hour** Natural Helpers Training will be held for three Saturdays: **February 24, March 3 and March 10** from 8:30 – 4:00 pm. The training focuses on cultural understanding, servant leadership, the helping process and systems of care. A **community resource guide** for Natural Helpers with information on community and social service providers that work with immigrant and refugee populations is also provided. The program is co-sponsored by the City of Aurora Office of International and Immigrant Affairs. Apply online at <https://villageexchangecenter.org/natural-helper-application/> or by email to lara@villageexchangecenter.org



Adult Education

CITIZENSHIP CLASS WITH APDC

What: Classes to prepare students to become US Citizens. Students study vocabulary for the citizenship test and interview, the 100 civics questions, interview practice, and assistance filling out the citizenship application (N-400).
When: Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 – 11:00 am
Cost: FREE

Email: michaelyr@apdc.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC)

Sponsored by: City of Aurora Office of International and Immigrant Affairs

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) CLASSES WITH APDC

What: 10-week ESL classes for low-beginning (level 0 – 1) and high-beginning (Level 2-3) students. Students learn reading, writing and speaking life-skills English for the job, family and society.

When: **Low-Beginning Class:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9:00 – 11:00 am

High-Beginning Class: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Cost: \$25/10 weeks and \$20/book

Email: michaelyr@apdc.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Asian Pacific Development Center (APDC)

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ACQUISITION (ELA) WITH FOCUS POINTS

What: A semester (14-week) class for adult English language learners. Class focuses on reading, writing, speaking and listening English skills. Childcare available.

When: Monday & Wednesday or Tuesday & Thursday, 8:45 – 11:45 am or 12:15 – 3:15 pm

Cost: \$30/semester and \$10/book

Phone: (303) 292-0770 Ext. 147

Where: 1085 Peoria St, Aurora, CO 80011

Host Org(s): Focus Points Family Resource Center



Adult Education

ENGLISH CONVERSATION CIRCLE

What: A conversation circle to improve conversation and speaking skills. Call to register.

When: Mondays, 10:00 – 12:00 pm

Cost: FREE

Phone: (303) 915-3105

Email: di_ots@hotmail.com

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center (VEC)

CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION CLINIC

What: Shaftel Law will provide information and answer questions about the citizenship and naturalization process including

Community Support Services

CITIZENSHIP AND NATURALIZATION CLINIC

What: Shaftel Law will provide information and answer questions about the citizenship and naturalization process including eligibility and documents and forms needed to apply eligibility and documents and forms needed to apply

When: Wednesday, January 31, 2018, 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center, Shaftel Law

COMMUNITY CARE – DROP-IN HOURS

What: The Village Exchange Center provides a safe space where all are welcome to come for general support, a place to ask questions and tell your story to help with community needs and concerns.

When: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 2:00 – 5:00 pm

Cost: FREE

Email: marcel@villageexchange.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center

IMMIGRATION CONSULTATIONS

What: The Village Exchange Center is now available to support with basic immigration questions from N-400 applications, green card renewals, to questions of legal status.

When: Tuesdays by appointment only

Cost: \$25

Email: lara@villageexchange.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana S, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center

FAMILY HEALTH NIGHTS

What: An educational night for families focusing on health and wellness. Information and resources are provided to support healthy and happy living in Colorado.

When: February 6 and 20 (1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the month), 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Cost: FREE

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center (VEC), International Rescue Committee (IRC), Women Infants and Children (WIC) and Tri-County Health

DIABETES PREVENTION PROGRAM (IN SPANISH)

What: Weekly course in diabetes prevention and wellness taught in Spanish. Call or email to register.

When: Tuesdays, 11:00 am, class begins February 1, 2018

Cost: FREE

Email: lmendivil@denverymca.org

Phone: (303) 591-5685

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): YMCA

COMPUTER CLASS AND RESOURCE LAB

What: Open computer time for adult learners to gain basic computer literacy and job search support.

When: Tuesdays, 11:00 – 12:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center

SCRAP BOOKING AND STORYTELLING

What: Learn how to create colorful memories and life stories in beautiful scrapbook pages; and have a fun social time. Experienced scrap-bookers at each session.

When: 1st Monday of every month 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Cost: FREE

Email: betty@villageexchange.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Room: Martin Luther King Room

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center

Youth Programs

INTERNATIONAL AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM

What: An afterschool wellness program for middle school youth with games, tutoring and homework help, karate, and more. Snacks included.

When: Monday – Thursday, 3:30 – 6:00 pm

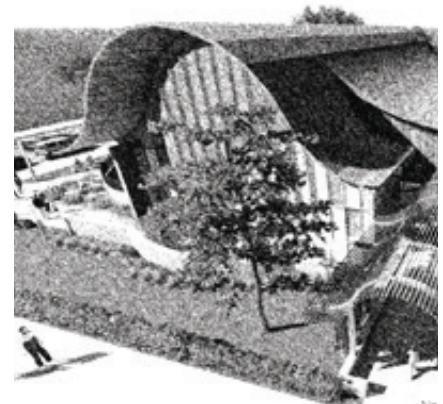
Cost: FREE

Email: amy@villageexchange.org or sam@villageexchange.org

Phone: (720) 668-9968 or Amy at (510) 717-6720

Where: 1609 Havana St, Aurora, CO 80010

Host Org(s): Village Exchange Center



Get Involved

HOST YOUR EVENT IN OUR CENTER!

VEC has a variety of spaces and rooms available for rent for special events, classes and services. Please contact us through our website at <https://villageexchange.org/contact-us/> or by phone at (720) 668-9968.

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We are always welcoming volunteer applications. Some areas of need include: youth tutoring, event staffing, and front office reception. Contact us through our website or call us at (720) 668-9968 for more information about how to volunteer your time!



Support Our Work

You can make contributions through our website using our online donation form. Visit www.villageexchangecenter.org/donate/

As a new and emerging organization we also welcome in-kind donations.

Currently we are looking for:

- Classroom size whiteboards
- Projectors and other AV and IT equipment
- Recreational and educational items for our afterschool program such as board/card games, art materials, books, and sports equipment (soccer balls, basketballs, etc.)



Donate While Shopping!

We are participating in AmazonSmile! Follow this link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/81-5174986> and 0.5% of your eligible purchases on Amazon will be donated quarterly to the Village Exchange Center through a direct deposit! Remember to bookmark this link and always start from the www.smile.amazon.com link every time you shop at Amazon!



Special Event Sponsorship



The Village Exchange Center occasionally has sponsorship opportunities for one-time special events. Please contact amy@villageexchangecenter.org or sam@villageexchangecenter.org to enquire about upcoming sponsorship opportunities.

SHARE YOUR NEWS AND EVENTS IN OUR NEWSLETTER

Do you have something to add to future issues of *The Exchange*? Send content submissions to Kasey@villageexchangecenter.org.



VILLAGE EXCHANGE CENTER

 [vecaurora](https://www.facebook.com/vecaurora)  [villageexchange](https://www.instagram.com/villageexchange)

www.villageexchangecenter.org