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## **BRC University to Begin March 22nd 2015**

Chainbreaker is a membership-based economic and environmental justice organization. We work to expand access to affordable transportation and sustainable communities for low-income people in the Santa Fe. Some people in the community know Chainbreaker only as a bike shop but our efforts in the community go much further than turning wrenches and pushing pedals. The Bicycle Resource Center (BRC) has been our flagship project for the last 10 years and continues to be a major focus of the organization, but since 2008, we've also been working to include influencing public transportation and housing policy, mobilizing community members and holding elected officials accountable. The BRC helps bring people in to the organization but there are many opportunities to be involved without ever touching a wrench. We encourage people to be involved on all levels but are in specific need of skilled mechanics in order to expand shop hours for the BRC.

The *BRC University* is a mechanics training program intended to create a broader base of skilled volunteers who are committed to working for change in our community. The training will take place over **ten two hour sessions starting on Sunday, March 22**<sup>nd</sup> at 10 AM and will address every essential aspect of bicycle mechanics. Trainings will consist of discussion, demonstration, shadowing during shop, and ultimately teach backs in which participants will demonstrate the skills they have learned. By the end of the training participants will be able to name all parts of a bicycle and will be familiar with a variety of bicycle specific tools and concepts. We will learn that while bicycles are simple machines there are a lot of unique concepts and related skills that go in to making a bike work well. Advanced as well as basic concepts will be addressed. Participants will be able to work on their own bikes when applicable.

This training is intended to build a team of skilled volunteers who are interested in becoming more involved with the organization. Attendance to all sessions is mandatory in order to complete the training. After the training we are asking for a commitment to volunteer for an equal number of shop days. Everyone will be expected to be respectful of themselves and others during the training.

**To apply** to participate in the training please submit a letter of intent that addresses the following questions.

- 1. How did you hear about Chainbreaker?
- 2. What is your experience with bicycles?
- 3. What is your commitment to Santa Fe and the mission of the Chainbreaker Collective?

The letter should be no longer than two pages. Letters can be submitted in person at our office at 1515 5<sup>th</sup> St., by email at <u>brc@chainbreaker.org</u>, or by mail at PO Box 31666, Santa Fe, NM 87594. Chainbreaker's mission can be found at <u>www.chainbreaker.org</u>.