



# Chainbreaker

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## Call for Applications for BRC University

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 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 over a decade 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 into 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 positive change in our community. The training will take place over 13 two hour sessions starting on **September 9 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM** and will address every essential aspect of bicycle mechanics. Trainings will consist of discussion, demonstration, shadowing during shop hours, 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 committed to becoming more involved with the organization. Attendance to all sessions is mandatory in order to complete the training. After each training session, participants will remain at the BRC for 2 hours to receive hands on, real world experience to apply the skills they just learned. Once the entire training is completed, participants **commit to volunteer to staff the BRC for at least 12 shop days** and ideally more. Successful graduates receive a certificate of completion along with a Chainbreaker mechanic shirt.

**Similar training programs can cost thousands of dollars. Chainbreaker is offering this opportunity free of charge in exchange for the commitment to remain involved with the organization. Acceptance to the program will be contingent upon a demonstrated dedication to Chainbreaker's goals and mission and a commitment to remain active in the organization. Please take these commitments seriously. If you have any doubt about your ability to meet these obligations, please do not apply until you are able to do so.**

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

1. What is your relationship with Chainbreaker?
2. What is your experience with bicycles?
3. What will you bring to the BRCU and what do you hope to gain from the BRCU?
4. What is your commitment to Santa Fe and the mission of the Chainbreaker Collective?

**Deadline to apply is Sunday, August 19.** BRCU applicants will be accepted and notified by August 27. The letter should be no longer than two pages and can be hand written or typed. Letters can be submitted in person at our office at 1515 5<sup>th</sup> St., by email at [George@chainbreaker.org](mailto:George@chainbreaker.org), or by mail at PO Box 31666, Santa Fe, NM 87594. If you have any questions or need help filling out the application, please call BRC Coordinator George Cortez at 505-316-9293. Chainbreaker's mission and more info can be found at [www.chainbreaker.org](http://www.chainbreaker.org).

Siempre Adelante