



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Kelsey Coleman

Interim Communications & Engagement Director

970-985-8180

kelsey.coleman@gjcity.org

City of Grand Junction Hosts Rent Smart Tenant Education Workshop for "At Home in GJ" Program to Address Housing Challenges

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — January 15, 2026 — The City of Grand Junction will host a Rent Smart Tenant Education Workshop as part of the City's *At Home in GJ* Landlord and Tenant Program. The workshop will take place on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Garden Village Apartments, located at 2601 Belford Avenue. Rent Smart workshops are free to attend; however, participants [must register online](#).

The Rent Smart Tenant Education Program is a key component of the City's *At Home in GJ* program, a comprehensive landlord and tenant initiative developed in partnership with the Grand Junction Housing Authority, Housing Resources of Western Colorado, and local landlords representing approximately 3,000 rental units. The program is designed to maintain housing affordability, attract and retain landlords serving low- to moderate-income households, increase housing availability, and support successful tenancies.

The HUD-endorsed Rent Smart workshop includes six instructional modules and results in participants becoming Rent Smart Certified Tenants, a designation that benefits both renters and participating landlords. In conjunction with the program, Grand Junction-area landlords are invited to participate in a voluntary rental registry to help provide real-time rental data and vacancy information. Landlords enrolled in the City's incentive program may receive up to a \$300 signing bonus for each unit leased to an income-qualified Rent Smart Certified Tenant (at or below 60% AMI) and up to \$2,500 in reimbursable mitigation funds for eligible costs such as tenant damages, eviction prevention, or loss of rent.

When asked about the value of the Rent Smart program, Ashley Chambers, the City's Housing Manager provided, "RentSmart education helps renters build the skills and confidence needed to secure and maintain housing, while giving landlords greater assurance—creating more opportunities for tenants and stronger outcomes for our local housing market."

To participate in the Rent Smart Tenant Program or to learn more about the program, visit gjcity.org/housing, call the Housing Division at 970-256-4081 or email housing@gjcity.org

###