

## JUMPSTART YOUR COHOUSING COMMUNITY

### Homework Invitation

### Session 1

#### PRIMARY INVITATION

*Write a short story, describing how you envision your typical day living in cohousing. Consider how you will interact with your community: the people and the common spaces. Imagine what it will be and feel like to live in this neighborhood.*

Sharing these stories will be one of the first things we do together next week. Each person will have 2-3 minutes to speak. You are welcome to bring an object, photo, drawing, or other inspiration to support your story.

#### GOING DEEPER

- Reading
  - *Creating Cohousing: Addressing our Changing Lifestyles* (p. 3-8 PDF)
  - *Creating Cohousing: An Old Idea – A Contemporary Approach* [A.K.A. Six Pillars of Cohousing] (p. 24-36 in your copy)
  - *Pocket Neighborhoods: Living in a Large-Scale World* (p. 14-16 PDF)
  - *Collective Courage: Introduction* (p. 1-16 PDF)
  - [New York Times: Does Co-Housing Provide a Path to Happiness for Modern Parents?](#)<sup>1</sup>
- Video
  - [Happy](#) (cohousing starts at 38:30)
  - [Grace Kim's Ted Talk: How Cohousing Can Make Us Happier \(And Live Longer\)](#)
  - [Trish Becker-Hafnor's Ted Talk: The Future of Community and Human Connection](#)

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that Katie McCamant was a co-founder of the cohousing movement in the United States but wasn't interviewed in this article. We see the systemic omission and diminishment of her role in media coverage as an opportunity for the anti-sexism work which is still needed, especially in the building industry.

## ASYNCHRONOUS LEARNERS

Do you intend to participate in this class asynchronously? (I.e. Do you plan to watch the recorded sessions rather than participating in real time)? If so, we'd love to give you the opportunity to interact with other participants and the instructors in some similar ways to what we do during class time. Using course forum board is the first of these opportunities. You are invited to post your answers to the following questions to the forum:

1. *Why are you taking this class? Are there specific burning questions you have?*
2. *List three specific reasons you are interested in cohousing. Reflect on how are those reasons are similar or different to others' reasons? How might connecting with people with different reasons help you build a community?*