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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2022

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One Valley Community Foundation Releases A Seat at the Table 2021 Outcomes Report on Housing

Gallatin County, MT – This week, One Valley Community Foundation is releasing a report from the A Seat at the Table initiative that documents the stories and ideas of Gallatin County community members about addressing housing availability and affordability issues. On October 14th, 2021, A Seat at the Table inspired hundreds of community members from throughout Gallatin County to come together to discuss the top challenge of our region: housing. This conversation initiative, A Seat at the Table, was hosted by One Valley Community Foundation.

“Nearly every day we hear from community members who are concerned about the availability and affordability of homes in Gallatin County. Although housing issues are complex, we believe that solutions can be generated from listening to and understanding the lived experiences of individual community members. A Seat at the Table provided an important opportunity to elevate community voice around a challenging topic,” said Bridget Wilkinson, President and CEO of the One Valley Community Foundation.

A Seat at the Table is a proven civic engagement event that inspires community members to engage in decision making by collecting stories and input from numerous small group conversations focused on a single topic on the same day. Across Gallatin County, these conversations were held in each municipal library, in private homes, places of employment, the Gallatin County Detention Center, and numerous online forums. The stories and data collected from those conversations are included in a report, a social media campaign and a series of presentations to decision makers – including funders, employers, governments and nonprofit leaders.



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To create this report, stories and data were gathered through surveys from each host and participant who attended an A Seat at the Table conversation. They are compiled into the final report that presents the results of an English or Spanish language questionnaire. The report is available at www.onevalley.org/regionalhousing. Additionally, a companion piece to the report called Housing Solutions in Action, provides a current snapshot of initiatives and projects happening right now around Gallatin County by diverse partners to address housing needs.

“Our next step is to bring these important ideas, strategies and stories to the attention of decision makers and funders to turn ideas into action,” said Wilkinson.

About One Valley Community Foundation

Formerly known as the Bozeman Area Community Foundation, One Valley Community Foundation’s mission is to connect people who care to causes that matter to build a better community. Through philanthropic services, strategic investments, and community leadership, One Valley Community Foundation helps people support the causes they care about, now and for generations to come. The Community Foundation serves the areas of Bozeman, Big Sky, Belgrade, Manhattan, Churchill, Three Forks, and the rural areas in between. Since its inception in 1998, the Foundation has galvanized more than \$9.6 million for 200+ local nonprofit organizations. Read the [201 Annual Report](#) and learn more at www.OneValley.org.

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