

2015-2016

The Methow Housing Trust (MHT) was formed to address the need of affordable housing for Valley residents, following a six-month housing assessment involving a diverse committee of valley residents, sponsored by the post-fire Methow Valley Long Term Recovery Group.



2017



May 2017 MHT gained it's 501 (c)(3) status to develop and preserve permanently affordable housing for residents of the Methow Valley

August 2017

Danica Ready hired as Executive Director



MHT is one of over 250 community land trusts nationwide. Danica and Brooke Bourne, MHT's first Outreach Coordinator (pictured above right), attended their first national community land trust conference in 2017.



Thanks to a significant donation from a private donor, MHT was able to purchase the Canyon Street property in 2017. The ribbon cutting ceremony (pictured above) was held in 2017, after the purchase of the Canyon Street property.

2017 continued



Students from Liberty Bell Middle School toured the Canyon Street property in 2017 with Danica, and created models of what homes could look like in this soon to be developed neighborhood (pictured above).



Lee Whittaker approached the MHT with a vision he and his late wife Marilyn (both pictured left) had for their property in Mazama. A neighborhood with a mix of affordable and market rate homes. The generous support from the Marilyn Whittaker Fund was the beginning of the Methow Housing Trust's McKinney Ridge Neighborhood in Mazama.



Through a bridge loan* from the Community Foundation of North Central Washington, MHT also purchased property in Winthrop (pictured above).

*A generous gift in 2019 allowed MHT to pay back this loan in full.

2018

The Board celebrated the first year anniversary of the Methow Housing Trust in May 2018. By this time the following year, the first Methow Housing Trust home would be sold!



The wonderful team at CAST Architecture (pictured left) designed the MHT Canyon Street and McKinney Ridge homes.

Ground broke on the Canyon Street neighborhood in 2018. The celebration (pictured below), included community partners, board members and staff.



2018 continued

2018 saw the beginning of construction, applications for homeownership, development of policies and procedures to support the organization. Erika Krumpelman (pictured below right) was hired and attended training to package USDA Direct Loans for homeowner applicants. This lending tool, and Erika's expertise, has proved essential for serving many of our homeowners. 11 of the 17 current homeowners secured their financing through a USDA Direct Loan.



Birdseye views of construction of the Canyon Street neighborhood (above), and the McKinney Ridge neighborhood (below), in 2018.



Significant community support, including that of our local Methow Valley business community (Hank Konrad, Foundational Business Member, pictured right), ensured that the Methow Housing Trust remained on track to complete our first 9 homes by 2019.



2019



By May 2019, the first homebuyers had purchased their Methow Housing Trust homes in the Twisp Canyon Street and Mazama McKinney Ridge neighborhoods. Canyon Street homeowners were gifted with Nice Nest birdhouses (pictured left)

The Methow Housing Trust's current staff were all hired on by 2019, with the addition of Callie Fink and Sarah Thomas (all staff pictured right)



in 2019 5 homes were completed in the Canyon Street Neighborhood (pictured top center) and 4 homes were completed in the McKinney Ridge Neighborhood (bottom center).

The Methow Housing Trust welcomed members to the 2019 annual meeting with a pie potluck (pictured right)



MHT Staff and Board (pictured left) had a lot to celebrate at the end of 2019.

2020

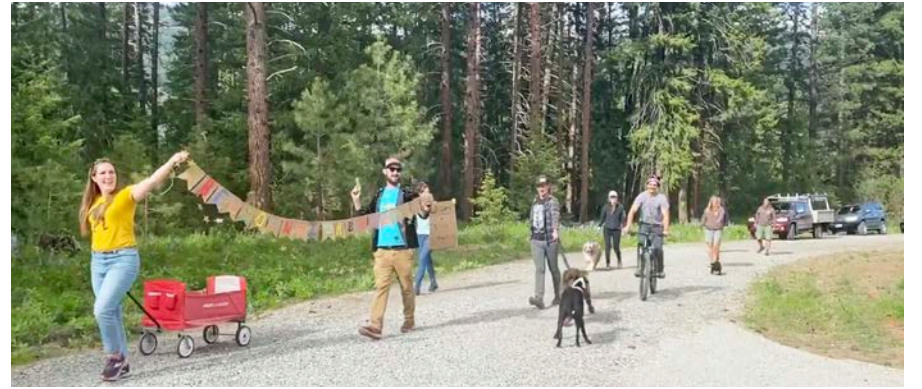


In 2020 the COVID-19 pandemic changed our world dramatically. And through it all, the Methow Housing Trust continued to work with applicants to become purchase ready, and the stellar crews of Big Picture Construction and Methow Valley Builders completed the next phase of construction.

In a year filled with uncertainty, 17 families were able to attain secure, permanently affordable housing thanks to our community. 8 in the McKinney Ridge Neighborhood (pictured top right) and 9 in the Canyon Street Neighborhood (pictured middle right)



MHT homeowners grew their new communities in more ways than one. The first community garden was formed (harvest pictured above left), and the first baby, Harper Lee, was born in a MHT neighborhood (pictured left)



New homeowners were met with a welcome parade in the McKinney Ridge neighborhood (pictured above)



An end of year donation of 14 shovel ready lots in Winthrop, Cascade Meadows (pictured right), ensures that MHT will be able to continue to build homes for our full time residents. In a year where the median home sale price jumped to \$420,000 and a household of two would need to earn double the average income in the Valley to afford it, this gift could not have come at a more important time!



2021



Larry Miller of Big Picture Construction and Jeff Kovitz of MB Studios are hired as the design team for Cascade Meadows at the beginning of 2021 (pictured above)



Big Picture Construction sets to work completing the final Phase of the Canyon Street Neighborhood. (pictured above)



Liberty Bell High School students and homeowners partnered to build a garden shed for Canyon Street's community garden (pictured left)



Preliminary renderings of Cascade Meadow homes are completed by MB Studios (pictured above)

Based on increased need for affordable homeownership in the Methow Valley, the Methow Housing Trust expands eligibility to serve a wider sector of our community.

The MHT waitpool has grown exponentially each year since 2018.

MHT leads the creation of the Housing Solutions Network. A group of community leaders dedicated to determining other innovative, and impactful housing solutions to increase our community efforts to address the growing and complex housing crisis in our Valley.

MHT's first 21 homes are owned and occupied by:

Educators **Firefighters**
Non-profit workers **Store Managers**
Healthcare workers **Graphic Designers**
Servers **Carpenters** **Bakers** **Arborists**
Yoga Instructors **Baristas** **Volunteers**
Retail workers **Musicians** **Artists**
Students **Massage Therapists**
Historians **Jewelers**
Neighbors
Friends

Thanks to amazing community support, the Methow Housing Trust will have provided 21 permanently affordable homes for our full time Valley residents by the Summer of 2021.

Continued investment in MHT will allow up to 70 homes to be built within the next 9 years.