



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Partners for Rural Washington Appoints Jody Opheim as New Executive Director

GARFIELD, WA – Partners for Rural Washington (PRWA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Jody Opheim as its new Executive Director. Opheim, who has been an instrumental part of the organization since 2022, brings a wealth of experience and a deep commitment to enhancing the quality of life in rural communities with populations of 5,000 or less.

Opheim has a distinguished track record in the field of rural development, having most recently served as PRWA's Southeast Region Director. In this role, she provided crucial assistance and guidance to rural governments in Eastern Washington, focusing on grant funding, project development and management. Her leadership was pivotal in advancing a wide array of projects, including water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, disaster recovery efforts, public safety, healthcare facilities, and digital equity programs.

In her new role as Executive Director, Opheim will lead PRWA's efforts to support and empower rural communities throughout Washington State. Her appointment comes at a pivotal time as the organization continues to expand its programs and services to meet the evolving needs of rural areas.

"We are thrilled to have Jody step into the role of Executive Director," said Kim Herman, Chair of PRWA's Board of Directors. "Her extensive experience, proven leadership, and passion for rural development make her the ideal person to lead our organization forward."

For more information about Partners for Rural Washington and its initiatives, please visit <http://www.partnersruralwa.org/>.

About Partners for Rural Washington: Partners for Rural Washington (PRWA) is the state's federally designated Rural Development Council dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in rural communities across Washington State through strategic partnerships, resource development, and advocacy. PRWA works closely with local governments, nonprofits, and community groups to address critical infrastructure needs and promote sustainable economic development.

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