



# Partners for Rural Washington

Working with rural communities  
to develop their capacity to create  
a prosperous and sustainable future



Washington state is extraordinarily blessed with an abundance of natural capital, a diversified economy, community-minded citizenry and a plethora of economic development programs driven by the state, federal programs and NGOs. However, with all that going for us, the benefits are not positively impacting all citizens. Many of our rural areas have high unemployment and stagnant or declining economies.

We started by asking, “What’s not working and why?” “What could work better?” We help aggregate resources, facilitate sound policy and collaborate with rural communities to help them thrive in the 21st century. By doing so we enhance the resilience and competitiveness of our state to the benefit of all its residents.



Partners for Rural Washington (PRWA) is the newly formed, statewide non-profit council of Partners for Rural America, a National organization of State Rural Development Councils.

We are composed of representatives from all levels of government, community and regional nonprofit organizations, and the private sector.

Our collaborative structure enables us to work with residents and policy makers to develop:

- Vitality-improving projects and initiatives
- Planning-reduce regulatory and other barriers
- Understanding- addressing community needs and building confidence in the local and regional development process
- Convening-opportunities for collaboration
- Resources- Share best practices, obtain technical assistance, identify funding sources and assist local leaders in community development

At its core PRWA is a partnership involving a strong, committed Board and a broad range of active partners

and champions representing all key stakeholders interested in the vitality of rural Washington communities.

PRWA regularly assesses its processes and products to ensure relevancy to the needs of our rural communities, reaches out to learn from others, shares knowledge with its colleagues in Oregon and Idaho and successfully communicates its value to state interests.



## Tri-State Convening

June 15-16 this year, Board members and guests of Partners for Rural Washington will meet with representatives from the organizations of Idaho and Oregon in Boise. Our mission is to share our strategic plans, exchange best practices, and create a collective voice for the rural Northwest region.

We invite you to work with us. PRWA is developing a number of projects and you, and/or your organization can help us with knowledge and support. Find out how.

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