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PRESS RELEASE

MCDC Unveils Housing Study on Co-Op Models for Seniors and Rural Communities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Montana Cooperative Development Center (MCDC) proudly announces the release of its comprehensive housing study, focusing on cooperative housing models for workforce and senior housing in rural communities. This research highlights innovative cooperative approaches to address Montana's housing challenges, especially in areas needing affordable and sustainable options.

The study explores various models, emphasizing shared ownership, affordability, and long-term community benefits, offering practical solutions to enhance housing security and economic development across Montana.

“Cooperative housing can serve as a vital tool for rural communities, creating opportunities for affordable, sustainable living while fostering a sense of shared responsibility and self-help; values that Montanans embrace,” said Nicole Borner, Cooperative Specialist at MCDC.

MCDC’s housing study results from in-depth research and collaboration, designed to assist:

- Community members: in need of affordable, sustainable housing options
- Community leaders: addressing housing shortages
- Economic developers: attracting and retaining workforce populations
- Nonprofits and organizations: exploring cooperative approaches
- Advocates for affordable housing: seeking innovative solutions
- Business owners: interested in affordable housing for employees
- Advocates for senior housing and services: providing safe, affordable options for the elderly

“Access to affordable housing is fundamental to the vitality of rural communities,” said Tracy McIntyre, Executive Director of MCDC. “This study showcases how cooperative models can help rural communities tackle housing challenges.”

As Montana’s only statewide cooperative development organization, MCDC brings extensive expertise and technical support to communities exploring cooperative solutions. Through this housing study, MCDC continues its mission of empowering communities to achieve economic and social well-being using the cooperative model. Thank you to Community Development Foundation, USDA Rural Development and MT Healthcare Foundation for their funding in this project.

For more information about the housing study and how MCDC can support your community, please visit mcdc.coop or contact us at mcdc@mcdc.coop.

MCDC is an equal opportunity employer and provider. Disclaimer: Montana Cooperative Development Center and the Montana Council of Cooperatives provides cooperative education and information to those interested in and/or part of the cooperative community. Our information does not replace legal and accounting services. We recommend contacting a qualified professional as needed.