YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

Enjoy a meal at Fork and Spoon Kitchen Homestyle Kitchen. Montana's only pay-what-you-can restaurant gives you the chance to set the price and if you wish pay it forward to buy a meal for someone who isn't able.

Buy a coffee at Higher Ground Coffee
Owned and operated by HRDC, 100% of the profits support Fork and Spoon Homestyle Kitchen.

Join the HRDC volunteer team.
Learn more about volunteer opportunities at thehrdc.org.

Be a HRDC Hero:
Consider a donation to HRDC to ensure community needs can continue to be met.
Learn more.

Invite us to speak at your group, club or congregation or just call us for coffee 406-585-4877.

Follow Us:
FACEBOOK / Human Resource Development Council District 9
INSTAGRAM / Bozeman_HRDC

Printed and inserted in this publication provided by the Bozeman Daily Chronicle and sponsored by 45 Degrees North.
An average of $4,600 PER HOME in energy saving materials were installed in 100 homes.

Positively impacting the lives of 12,390 people in the Gallatin Valley in 2017.

420 families experienced homelessness and came to HRDC for help.

On average, 7,026 pounds (3.91 tons) of food are distributed to families every day.

24 affordable housing units were created or preserved.

72 at risk seniors receive weekly in home support helping them remain independent.

630 tax returns were prepared bringing $823,547 back into our service area.

90% of Head Start children met or exceeded educational expectations for entering kindergarten.

107,593 fare free rides were provided to foster independence and maintain an inclusive community.

36,000 free rides were provided to foster independence and maintain an inclusive community.

FINANCIALS - CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS OF JUNE 30, 2017

FISCAL Year Ended June 30, 2017
Audited financial statements available at thehrdc.org

ASSETS
Investment in Partnership 211,262
Escrow & Building Reserve 275,263
Construction in Progress 711,637
Investments 1,017,999
Receivables 1,918,689
Cash 2,234,252
Inventory & Prepaid Expense 2,510,340
Deferred Loans Receivable 3,771,618
Total Liabilities 21,610,238

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS
Unearned Revenue 5,546
Rent Deposits 76,547
Accounts Payable 127,599
Loans Payable 2,945,984
Total Liabilities 4,181,726

SOURCES OF FUNDS
Local Government 331,203
Private Foundations/Grants 347,144
Private Donations 1,585,863
Other 2,461,596
Food Donations 3,503,478
Federal & State Grant/Contract 7,877,655
Total Sources of Funds 16,106,939

USES OF FUNDS
Fundraising 246,197
Rent Deposits 74,387
Program for Seniors 297,672
Youth housing/workforce 645,892
Administration 949,287
Affordable Housing Debt 1,139,196
Energy Assistance 1,060,644
Housing Services 5,846,771
Early Childhood Education 2,314,212
Transportation 2,056,327
Food Banks & Food Programs 4,538,054
Total Uses of Funds 14,680,482
An average of $4,600 PER HOME in energy saving materials were installed in 100 homes positively impacting the lives of 12,390 people in the Gallatin Valley in 2017.

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90% of Head Start children met or exceeded educational expectations for entering kindergarten.

72 at risk seniors receive weekly in-home support helping them remain independent.

FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends, Partners and Community,

As we look back on 2017, it was a year of investment. Investment in capital, long range planning, and our vital programs serving our community every day.

Capital investments included the acquisition and preservation of a scarce affordable housing resource in Belgrade, the Big Sky Villas, preserving 24 units of low income housing for the Belgrade community for another 46 years. Additional capital was acquired in an effort to respond rapidly to the ever increasing need for affordable and workforce housing. 75 manufactured homes were purchased as we worked with partners across our region to put them in use for our local workforce.

A new preschool was built in Belgrade, creating four new classrooms for our Early Childhood Education programs, expanding our services from 40 to 80 students and from a half day program to full day programming.

Long range investments included strategic planning and advocacy for inclusion of affordable housing options across the region in planning and growth policy discussions.

Investments in both of our Social Enterprise ventures, Fork and Spoon Kitchen (previously known as our Community Café) and our Higher Ground Coffee Hut, continue to be models appropriate for continued investment. Providing a real tangible benefit to the end user – an affordable meal and job skills - as well as a responsible approach to community service engages the entire community in its success.

We are humbled by the generosity and friendship of our community each and every year. We thank our (more than) 500 partners, 1,000 volunteers and 7,000 donors that make our efforts and future possible. This year’s report features our partners, volunteers, donors and staff who make our impact possible. Together we are creating change!

Heather Grenier
Chief Executive Officer

HRDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Kack, Board Chair, Western Transportation Institute (MSU)
Gene Townsend, Vice Chair, Three Forks, Community Representative
Mitch Bradley, Heboli Grocery
Ron Bray, City of Bozeman, Retired
Chris Budeski, Madison Engineering
Scott Malloy, Montana Healthcare Foundation
Pierre Martineau, West Yellowstone Town Council
Al Maurillo, Bozeman Job Service, Retired
Kris Moos, Moos Financial Services
Peter Schmidt, Big Sky Western Bank
Billie Warford, MSU Early Childhood Project, Retired
LeRoy Wilson, Vice President of Senior Services, Bozeman Health
Linda Young, MSU Department of Political Science

HRDC is governed by a Board of Directors and advised by additional program and service area advisory boards. We sincerely thank our board for dedicating their time and talents to our mission.

SPECIAL THANKS

HRDC extends a special thank you to Chris Budeski and Al Maurillo who are retiring from our Board of Directors.

* It has been a pleasure to serve on the HRDC Board for the past 10 years. I have never seen an organization that reacts to community needs quicker or more effectively than HRDC. Jeff Rupp, the former CEO, deserves credit for his commitment to his constituents and his single-mindedness as an advocate for community needs. The current CEO Heather Grenier is taking that commitment to the next level. I know the communities that HRDC serves appreciate the public amenities that they provide and support HRDC in their endeavors." - Al Maurillo

CEO, Heather Grenier and HRDC Associate Directors: Left to right
Tracy Merzak, Margaret Massis, Heather Grenier and Sara Savage
FROM CRISIS TO THRIVING

Melissa and her family moved to Bozeman in 2010. Melissa’s husband had just gotten out of the Army and they were excited to build a life in this beautiful community. When they arrived to see the property they had purchased they discovered some challenges which changed their plans. After a couple of weeks in a hotel their money was quickly running out. Melissa went online and learned about our Gallatin Valley Food Bank. Feeling scared and embarrassed when she walked in, she recalls immediately feeling a sense of relief after talking to our staff. Melissa was referred to our Home to Stay program and with a little help, was able to get into a small trailer within a couple days. Melissa’s husband was deployed with the National Guard and the change in income allowed them to find an apartment on their own. Later down the road, the family went through our HomeOwnership Center and just four months after completing the class, became first time homeowners.

Melissa explains the 15 month journey from homelessness to homeownership with gratitude towards everyone she met at HRDC. Melissa’s husband retired from the National Guard and started an apprenticeship program. After celebrating his graduation last May, the family is settled and thriving.

Melissa is still involved in HRDC but now as a volunteer. Each week she volunteers as an intake specialist at our Gallatin Valley Food Bank. Volunteering has been her way to try and repay the kindness HRDC had shown to her. She also serves on our Gallatin Valley Food Bank Advisory Council.

Melissa believes in passing on the spirit of volunteering to her family, sharing and loving their time together by helping HRDC make an impact!

CHALLENGES AHEAD

As we look to 2018, our focus will be to generate enough resources to implement our strategic plan goals for year one and be able to continue to provide our essential services. With increased transportation needs, increased preschool options, affordable homeownership development and more, we will need to generate an additional $13,000,000 with $12,000,000 of that representing an investment in housing solutions across Livingston, Bozeman, Belgrade, West Yellowstone and Big Sky. Below are some of the challenges we face in the coming year.

- Acquire additional space by November 2018 to successfully keep up with the growing need for Temporary Shelter in Bozeman
- Respond to the need for Emergency Shelter services in Livingston
- Secure land and funding for our Housing First Village Initiative
- Launch a capital campaign to address new facilities needed for both our Gallatin Valley Food Bank and Warming Center and complete the new facility for our Headwaters Area Food Bank
- Develop new funding sources for Land Acquisition for workforce housing development
- Pilot new models for meeting child care and education needs for children ages 0-3
- Respond to the impact of a reduction in services available for our customers
- Reduction of Behavior Health Services, Office of Public Assistance Closures across region, Job Services
- Increase access to Behavioral Health Care Services
- Formation of an Urban Transportation District to expand our service capacity through increased funding
- Secure funding for capital to increase our fleet to meet current and prepare for expanded service demands
- Address challenges of an aging populations – increasing number of seniors needing assistance
- From 2016 to 2017, the median sales price of homes in Gallatin County increased by 8.6%
- Affordable and subsidized rentals have waiting lists paired with 0% vacancy rates
- Address challenges in implementing our weatherization goals due to shortage of available contractors and price of materials
- Establish financial sustainability for our Fork and Spoon Homestyle Kitchen
- As we look to 2018, our focus will be to generate enough resources to implement our strategic plan goals for year one and be able to continue to provide our essential services.
Join us for a moment to take a look at 2017 and celebrate the goals achieved and the impact they have in Building a Better Community. Take a look at some highlights below:

- HRDC’s Community Needs Assessment and three year strategic plan was completed, with record-setting engagement from our rural communities and partners, which was significant in developing a comprehensive asset-based and effective plan.
- Our Head Start Program completed a new center in Belgrade, which doubled our classroom capacity from 40 to 80 students and expanded our programming to full days.
- Community volunteers came together to construct the first home for our Housing First Village.
- 75 new manufactured homes were purchased to bring affordable rental and homeownership opportunities to the communities we serve in Belgrade, Livingston and Gardiner.
- Our Community Cafe was rebranded and renovated to become our Fork and Spoon Kitchen. Still owned and operated by HRDC, Fork and Spoon now serves more local individuals and families seeking an affordable meal while creating the unique opportunity for community members to dine and pay it forward.
- Statewide partnerships were created to streamline efforts to connect vulnerable seniors with assistance needed to meet basic needs, 656 seniors accessed supplemental grocery assistance.
- Our Warming Center sheltered 287 guests, a 10% increase from the prior year. 32% of our Warming Guest Center units were able to secure permanent housing with the assistance of our Housing Staff.
- Our Galavan staff partnered with the community to establish transportation voucher program to make sure all our seniors have transportation they need to remain healthy and active.
- Huffing for Stuffing continues to be the largest fundraiser for our Gallatin Valley Food Bank bringing in over $70,000 in 2017.
- HRDC’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (VITA) filed 640 free tax returns, helping community members receive $125,647 in returns.
- The Summer Lunch program provided over 25,000 lunches to children throughout our community and added breakfast to their MSU location.
- 119,649 Volunteer Hours were provided to HRDC – the equivalent of 58 full time employees.
- 24 units of affordable rental housing were preserved for low-income households in Belgrade. Development plans were submitted for 46 units of affordable rental and ownership housing throughout our service area.

Roberta first came to HRDC seeking affordable housing. On a fixed income, finding an affordable place to live was challenging. HRDC helped her secure an apartment located just across from her main office. Roberta paid the majority of the rent, but what she could not afford was covered by the Section 8 Rental Assistance Program.

Roberta did not own a car and walked each morning to have coffee with friends at McDonalds and on the weekend she would head to the GranTree to have breakfast with her grandson. On occasion, she would call upon Galavan but was always worried about taking a ride away from a senior who needed it more than her.

She often used our Gallatin Valley Food Bank to help her make ends meet. Roberta was a happy, healthy and thriving member of our community.

After a slip on the ice one winter which resulted in a broken hip, Roberta’s world changed quickly. She spent most of her time in her small 2nd floor apartment. With no elevator access leaving was not easy. Roberta’s health and happiness started to decline. She lost her spirit and was no longer thriving.

She read in the paper that HRDC was beginning a transportation program called Streamline. She found out there was a bus stop in front of her building and quickly became a Streamline regular!

With her spirit back, Roberta got to know the drivers and made friends with the other passengers. She made connections with people from all over our town and had a brand new sense of independence and a new group of people to get to knew. HRDC cared for Roberta’s basic needs, but in her eyes, we offered a lot more. Over the past year, Roberta faced serious health challenges and moved into nursing home care. Although hopeful she would regain her strength and get back on Streamline, it was not to be the case.

Huffing for Stuffing continues to be the largest fundraiser for our Gallatin Valley Food Bank bringing in over $70,000 in 2017.

Statewide partnerships were created to streamline efforts to connect vulnerable seniors with assistance needed to meet basic needs, 656 seniors accessed supplemental grocery assistance.
Join us in celebrating this year’s HRDC Commitment to Community Award Winners! HRDC cannot make the impact our customers need without the help of the over 600 partner agencies representing non-profits, local businesses, civic groups, congregations and local government. Together we build a better community.

HRDC Commitment to Community Award
Montana State University

Montana State University’s commitment to HRDC can be felt across all departments. For many years, MSU has been integrating students, faculty and funding into creating real solutions to community challenges. As a result of collaborations, partnership, student internships, student projects and volunteerism, MSU has been instrumental in assisting our organization in bettering our community. HRDC is proud to recognize MSU faculty and staff with our organization’s Commitment to Community Award.

Laura Stonecipher
Food Bank Program Manager

A little bit about Laura
Our Gallatin Valley Food Bank is without a doubt one of the busiest places in our community serving over 1,000 individuals each month. Laura plays an integral part in keeping this important community resource thriving. She coordinates the monthly delivery of supplemental food to 372 senior citizens across the county.

Future Generations Award

Museum of the Rockies

HRDC is proud to present the Museum of the Rockies with the Future Generations Award. Partnering in bringing educational opportunities to our families through Head Start Night at the Museum and providing Family memberships each year to nearly 200 families in our Head Start early childhood care and education program. By connecting our families to science, the arts and world culture, we can build a love of learning.

Mike Peters
Weatherization Field Supervisor

A little bit about Mike
When you make someone’s home safer, healthier and more affordable to heat, you really are changing someone’s life. Part with that in mind, our team trains our people to serve our customers with our dedication to improving the homes of our customers for today and the future of that said. The first one in the office every morning and often returning late in the day, his strong work ethic and professionalism make him an asset to the households that with installing lifesaving items like smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors and the impact is even greater. Mike skillfully leads that effort at HRDC and is dedicated to improving the homes of our customers for today and the future of that said. The first one in the office every morning and often returning late in the day, his strong work ethic and professionalism make him an asset to the households that receive weatherization services last year. Life is a quick, humble, and kind and an asset to HRDC.

Marissa Hackett
Office Administrator – Livingston Office

A little bit about Marissa
Marissa joined HRDC in 2015 and brought years of experience with case management, advocacy and service coordination to our Livingston office. Every day Marissa brings her love of learning.

Sara Savage
HRDC Early Child Care and Education Director

A little bit about Sara
Sara began her career at HRDC as the Director of Housing. After leading efforts to care for our communities’ homeless and bring housing resources and opportunities to our families. Sara made the decision to take on a new challenge within the HRDC. Sara accepted the role as Early Child Care and Education Director in May of 2017, and immediately jumped into the competing our new Early Childhood Education Center in Bozeman. We are excited to have her leading our efforts to improve access and opportunities for exceptional early childhood education across the valley.

Meet Some Team Members

Full Throttle Award
Montana Independent Living Project

The number of Galion riders has steadily been on the increase despite the challenges presented due to a limited number of vehicles and drivers. To help meet demand and a desire to remain an inclusive community, we partnered with Cindy Smith, an Independent Living Specialist with the Montana Independent Living Project, has resulted in the creation of a voucher system with the local taxi companies to fill gaps and get local. With that in mind, our team trains our people to serve our customers with our dedication to improving the homes of our customers for today and the future of that said. The first one in the office every morning and often returning late in the day, his strong work ethic and professionalism make him an asset to the households that receive weatherization services last year. Life is a quick, humble, and kind and an asset to HRDC.

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A little bit about Adam
Adam Poeschl
Warming Center Outreach and Operations Manager

Adam first came within HRDC was in 2015/16 as an AmeriCorps Vista. Adam worked in our housing department facility learning our efforts to guide customers along the path to housing anywhere from homelessness to homeownership. Adam continued his commitment to service within the Peace Corps which took him to Albania teaching English to children. Determined to come back to Montana, Adam found the role of Warming Center Manager waiting for him. This past year he led the busiest season on record. Adam’s first role within HRDC was in Operations Manager

A little bit about Jennie
Jennie Pappas
Transportation Operations Coordinator

Jennie became a part of the our Transportation Team in 2013. Her first role was as a sidewalk dispatcher arranging rides for our senior and disabled customers. Jennie became a familiar and friendly voice for our riders, going well beyond scheduling about 400 rides per day by connecting with our riders, hearing their good news, bad news and when needed just being a good listener. Jennie was offered this job after being encouraged by the HRDC staff to advance in the community development field and his ability to make an impact. Brian is a native of rural Montana. He is a part of our operations team participating in this process and will be helping HRDC efforts to use tiny homes to address affordable housing issues from homelessness to homeownership. Congratulations to Brian.

A little bit about Jeremy
Jeremy Alcoke
Youth Advisor

Jeremy guides them along their journey from a place they are today to a place they desire to be. Jeremy believes strongly that strong relationships are the most important tool to assist our youth. He is a calm, caring and supportive presence in their lives who leads by example and is a source of inspiration for so many of our youth and our staff. Jeremy is working on his Masters in Social Work and will continue to make an impact in the lives of so many.

MEET SOME TEAM MEMBERS

Pat Donehoo Legacy Award
John & Karen Steady

The Pat Donehoo Legacy Award is given each year to those who, through volunteering, make a tremendous impact on HRDC and the customers we serve. We are proud to honor John and Karen, who leads by example and is an integral part of our Can The Griz Food Drive success.

C2C AWARD WINNERS

Launching Futures Award
Priscilla Wisner

Our Youth Development Team is proud to present the first ever Launching Futures Award to Priscilla Wisner. Priscilla is better known as Wiss by the kids in our Blueprint Youth Home and was selected because of her dedication to our program and commitment to the youth. Over the past two years, she has become a regular in the house cooking meals, going for hikes or sometimes just hanging out and talking. Not only dedicating her supplies, time and talent, she’s invested in the kids’ lives. She has celebrated countless birthdays, holidays and celebrations with our kids in our Blueprint Youth Home and has become an important adult mentor in their lives.

Nourishing Communities Award
XL Country

The Food and Nutrition department is pleased to honor Dave, Ally, and Amy from T007 XL Country with our 2018 Nourishing Community Award. This team has become a key partner in our fight against food insecurity in the valley. Thanks to their efforts, over 65,000 pounds of food has been donated to our Gallatin Valley Food Bank since 2014. Their support has introduced many new donors to our food bank and is an integral part of our Can The Griz Food Drive success.

Warming Hearts Award
Christ the King Lutheran Church

Christ the King Lutheran Church made it possible for HRDC to successfully shelter the 287 unique individuals seeking emergency shelter this winter. The limits of the staff and current facility would have meant that for over 80% of the season, we would have had to turn guests away. Christ the King’s generous invitation to provide a gracious and accommodating space to host 41 women and 5 families with a warm, safe place, ensuring no one was turned away. Their testimony to relationship, respect and invitation has been inspirational and helped save lives this winter. For that, the 2017 Warming Center was forever grateful for Christ the King’s Commitment to Community.

Launching Futures Award
Priscilla Wisner

Our Youth Development Team is proud to present the first ever Launching Futures Award to Priscilla Wisner. Priscilla is better known as Wiss by the kids in our Blueprint Youth Home and was selected because of her dedication to our program and commitment to the youth. Over the past two years, she has become a regular in the house cooking meals, going for hikes or sometimes just hanging out and talking. Not only dedicating her supplies, time and talent, she’s invested in the kids’ lives. She has celebrated countless birthdays, holidays and celebrations with our kids in our Blueprint Youth Home and has become an important adult mentor in their lives.
For 21 year old Jared Blair, Galavan is so much more than just one of the many services offered by HRDC - the office staff and drivers are his extended family. Mention his name to anyone in their office and they can’t help but smile. A loyal rider for the past six years, he is a self-proclaimed “Galavan Expert” and has created a very informative presentation on the history of Galavan, which he has shared with many community groups.

Jarod works closely with one of our partners, the Montana Achievement Project (MAP)’s Barrett Metza. Jared’s Employment Specialist, helps him develop job skills and work placement opportunities helping him build the long term employment skills needed to foster his independence. Jared currently works in the Medical Arts Building watering plants and helping maintenance staff. Barrett is grateful for Galavan. “I love how it keeps people in the community so active and without it Jared would be less independent and would have to depend upon family and friends. Much of his independence is because of Galavan,” says Barrett.

When not working, Jared can be found learning hands-on experience studying horticulture at Eagle Mount and studying for the Master Level One Gardening Certification. Jared is also training for competition in the Special Olympics and preparing for summer employment at the Museum of the Rockies Living History Museum. Jared uses Galavan six times a week and stays connected to the Galavan Team to ensure his history of Galavan presentation is up-to-date!

Jared is especially proud of the joke he closes his presentation with:

Who do you call if you need to get across the Madison River? ---- Galaboat!!!
Local tech firm feeds Bozeman's communal fountain one gift at a time

Abby Schlatter and Matt Fulton came to the area to launch commonFont, a Bozeman-based professional services company that works to bolster its clients’ customer experience through software customization and implementation. The tech startup serves various international corporations from its Downtown Bozeman offices. But back in commonFont’s infancy, the partners weren’t just looking for a scenic, buzzy locale to call home.

commonFont brought its expertise to Bozeman with the intention of starting a business that, as it grew, would benefit the community. “It is up to us, collectively, as members of the community, and also entrepreneurs and business leaders, to define the ethos of what it means to do business in this place,” Fulton says. “Just being here isn’t enough. We have to have a positive impact.”

Borrowing its name from a “communal fountain” found in an Italian piazza, the firm infuses similar principles into its business practices and philanthropic work. The fountain represents, as Schlatter says, “shared benefits, constant learning, and growth and renewal!”

Schlatter and Fulton were introduced to HRDC while assembling meal bags alongside their employees for Healthy Kids Pack, a program to ensure children have access to nutrient-rich food over the weekend. “The breadth of the organization and the way HRDC cares for the community is very inspirational,” Schlatter explains. “They’re creating that space where people can be safe and have their basic needs met.”

By late 2016, after commonFont’s employees had contributed a number of volunteer hours to HRDC, Schlatter called HRDC to learn more and walked over a $50,000 check, therefore cementing the partnership. “HRDC is among the best stewards of community resources in terms of making thoughtful, efficient decisions about how to turn funds into impact,” Fulton says.

commonFont tripled its investment the next year; a generous and significant gift to HRDC. “Our philosophy on giving is that if we have the ability to give, we should put it to use in the moment and make sure those returns are going into the community,” Schlatter noted. “If we want Bozeman to continue to be a great place for our company to grow and to recruit, hire, and retain people, we need to give back.”

Moreover, the second-year donation marked the beginning of a pattern, “a pay as you go” contribution model to which their young company plans to adhere to. These investments serve to benefit the entire community, bringing back mind to that free-flowing fountain accessible to all. “As Bozeman grows, it is incredibly important to us that there’s a rising tide that lifts all boats,” Fulton adds. “If we come here and build a successful company, but those forces are not benefiting everybody at all levels of the community, then we need to be doing something to counteract that and make sure those forces are boosting others as well, including and especially the most disadvantaged.”

For more information and weekly menus visit forkandspoonkitchen.org.

Don’t be a chicken – come on in!
Warming Center volunteers are key to a successful Warming Center season and our army of volunteers were even more impactful this year. Within the first weeks, it was clear our primary location would not be able to accommodate the increase in guests seeking shelter. A second location was established to accommodate women and families creating a need for additional volunteers. Nearly 2,400 hours of volunteer time were provided by 264 volunteers, the equivalent of nearly three full-time employees. These dedicated individuals often gave up sleep to welcome our guests, hand out bedding, shuttle guests to the second location, do laundry, visit with guests and clean up and prepare for the next day. HRDC is grateful for each and every volunteer and the 287 guests who sought a safe, warm and welcoming place to sleep.

Heather Bellamy
Making an impact together
Heather, the Community Relations Manager at NorthWestern Energy and her co-workers support Fork & Spoon (previously Community Café) through their Community Works Fund. Heather has served alongside more than 50 NorthWestern Energy employee volunteers, donating their time and holiday gifts to Warming Center families. The group also recently donated reflective belts to keep the residents of the Warming Center safe as they walk along the roadways. Heather also served on the local Energy Share board from 2013 until 2017. “I derive a great deal of joy from serving others, and I volunteer because I’ve been given so much. Helping each other is what community is all about.”

Reverend Roxanne Klingensmith
Making an impact in our Energy Programs
Roxanne has served on the local Energy Share Board since 1995 and has served on the state board since 2003. The amount of time committed to helping make sure families have the resources needed to heat their homes during the cold Montana winters show her level of dedication. “What I like best about serving on these Energy Share boards is knowing that, because of our thoughtful, committed efforts, we are able to assist people who are struggling to keep lights on, homes warm and cooked food on the table. I am proud to be serving with members of these Boards who do!”

Head Start Volunteer Lucas Ustch
Making an impact in Head Start
Summer was just beginning, but back in June of 2017, 13 year old Lucas still had school on his mind. Lucas decided to donate eggs from his family’s chickens to support our Head Start Program. He set up a stand and, with help from friends and family, raised $1,000 for the extra items outside of the classroom’s budget. Lucas said he chose Head Start because preschool and kindergarten are an important time for little kids and he remembers preschool as being a lot of fun. “No one should miss an opportunity to go to school and parents shouldn’t have to worry how to pay for it.”

Deb Downs
Making an Impact in our Livingston Community
As the HRDC’s RSVP Program Coordinator, Deb Downs quick work in the Livingston community connected 135 volunteers with 34 nonprofits that resulted in 21,306 hours of service. Deb’s passion for volunteering is not limited to work, she truly believes in giving back and demonstrates that passion in her personal life. Deb’s “volunteer life” includes driving patients to medical appointments, working as a trained hospice volunteer and as a certified Red Cross Disaster Response member. She’s involved with the American Cancer Society, American Legion, Big Brothers and Sisters, Community Health Partners and Livingston Food Resource and Community Center, personally contributing 500 hours of volunteer service within her community!

Thank you to our AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) and our AmeriCorps VISTA. HRDC is fortunate to have these dedicated service members working in our programs. VISTAs commit to one year of service and contribute their time and talent, help organize volunteers for our Warming Center, work in our local food banks, and assist HRDC with strategic planning and more. A NCCC team of ten spent 12 weeks in Bozeman building tiny homes for the Housing First Village and volunteering their time at our Gallatin Valley Food Bank, Fork & Spoon, and our Warming Center. The impact of their service will be felt for years to come.