Room One is a community voice powerfully advocating for the health and well-being of all people living in the Methow Valley
Each year, we recognize, listen to and accompany our neighbors who have experienced both joy and hardship. 2021 was defined by changing social and physical environments and growing disparities in the Valley that affected us all in different ways.

Like so many of the people we serve, we adapted and transitioned; we were resilient and grateful. As you will read in this report, our programming nimbly responded to the changes happening around us and in Okanogan County.

Through it all, we found our way together led by our strong set of guiding values and collective perseverance. At Room One, we believe this is a journey that we can only make together.

With gratitude,
-Kat Goering

2021 Staff: Kelly Edwards, Maureen Collins, Lisa McCormack, Caitlin Cordell, Keri Moore, Sarah Washam, Erin Flahive, Casey Peplow, Carrie Port, Ronda Smeltzer, Stephanie Foster

2021 Board: Robert Grim, Therese Grant, Midge Cross, Kathy Borgersen, Laurie Meyers, Ellie Thrasher, Andy McConkey, David Ebenger, Ina Clark, Megan Frasier
Throughout the pandemic, Room One has never closed its doors and, thanks to ongoing adaptation, has had no real disruption in services and programs. Entering into the 2nd year of the pandemic, we found silver linings where we could. Parent Support Groups were able to meet through video calls, allowing participants from across the County to join. Our Health Educator adapted the sexual health curriculum to be accessible online and in-person. Our Independent Learning Center empowerment program met in two small groups across the week, instead of one large group, which allowed for deeper connections. Virtual access to trainings and experts strengthened our programs and saved staff time and travel. As vaccinations came to our county, we were able to support many of our elders with online appointments.

"'Joy' is an understatement of what I feel after each mothering group meeting. There really isn’t any other space like this that I know of that exists in this world." - Mothering Group Participant
Spring: transitions

Spring is the time for new beginnings and we all felt that at Room One. To better serve our community, we brought on a new part-time Bilingual Advocate and a part-time Host Home Coordinator. We partnered with the Independent Learning Center to support its first boys program. We supported young adults without stable housing find long term housing for the first time. We piloted a Legal Clinic with three incredible volunteer attorneys. And we started a Host Home Advisory group made up of young people with housing instability experience. We can’t do any this work without the passionate people and organizations who partner with us to make these programs happen.

"I truly believe I wouldn’t be in the same place I am now without your help and guidance in this new chapter of my life. I am a better and more grounded person for it”. - Client quote to our Youth Counselor
As with most summers we braced for fires, and sadly they came. Community members and staff evacuated throughout the season, but fortunately the damage to property was minimal. **This is a huge testament to the local organizations that help us prepare** for fires and the disaster teams and fire crews that respond and communicate so quickly. When conditions led to business closures and temporary layoffs, Room One was able to provide grocery cards and resource navigation, along with hundreds of air filters for community members in need. And though the heat was incredibly intense for local growers, we were amazed at the produce they provided for our free fresh produce program for community members in our valley.

"We are so thankful for this food! Please thank the farmers for us!" - Room One Client

"You guys always make things ok. There aren’t words for what it means to me because without you here, I wouldn’t be here. You’ve talked me down, talked me through, just talked to me, and still loved me anyway. 'Thank you' isn’t enough, there’s not enough words to express my gratitude." - Room One Client
Autumn: gratitude

Autumn colors in the Methow and clean air brought us energy and gratitude for our community. We are grateful to all of you who make donations of financial support allowing Room One to share meals and gifts with clients during the holidays. We are inspired by the youth in our programs who show up with perseverance, dedication and humor. We deeply appreciate the partnerships we have, including: the Housing Solutions Network, the Senior Housing Group (SASH), Twisp Police Department, the Domestic Violence Court Coordination Council, the Foundation for Youth Resiliency and Engagement (FYRE), the Methow Valley School District, the Mental Health Provider Network, the Okanogan County Coalition for Health Improvement, among others.

And we want to offer great thanks to the many people who walk through our doors in their darkest moments, who show dignity and determination to better their situations, creating in turn a better community for all of us to live in.
This year over 750 people were engaged through our programs. Our One Stop Support Center serves people of all ages in navigating complex systems or getting the right referral. Our Okanogan Healthy Youth team trains teachers in sexual health education and sexual violence prevention, teaches classes in the schools and runs empowerment and leadership programming. Our Youth Housing Program provides one-on-one case management and counseling as well as coordinating our Host Home program. We facilitate groups for parents and families. We partner with local and regional organizations around youth development, housing advocacy, senior supports, mental health, and more.

2021 Highlights of People Served

- **198** Sexual Health Students
- **23** Language Access Clients
- **30** Trained in Suicide Prevention
- **346** One Stop Clients
- **24** Parenting Support Group Members
- **21** Youth Housing Support Clients
- **14** Legal Clinic Participants
- **26** Youth Leaders & Advisors
- **25** Empowerment Group Participants
Finances

Our work is community-driven and community-supported. Many, many individuals and small local businesses share what they can throughout the year and make our work possible. We also have received support from some wonderful foundations and funders.