



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **BLUE MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION HIRES NEW CEO**

Walla Walla, WA - The Board of Trustees of Blue Mountain Community Foundation announces, with great pleasure, that Kol Medina has been hired as President/CEO. Medina comes from Bainbridge Island, WA where he has been the CEO of Kitsap Community Foundation since 2012. He was previously the Executive Director of the West Sound Wildlife Shelter. Medina has also served as a city council member for the City of Bainbridge Island and was mayor in 2018 and 2019. He earned his undergraduate degree from Carleton College in Northfield, MN and his law degree from Stanford Law School in California.

The Board of Trustees President, Gary Ponti, shared “the foundation is excited to welcome Kol! His vision, experience and wealth of knowledge will strengthen our ability to connect our community with charitable causes, in perpetuity.”

For a portion of his youth Medina lived in Walla Walla and it has long been his goal to return to the valley for which he has fond memories and a strong attachment. Moving with him are his wife and son.

Kari Isaacson retired from her executive directorship on September 30 after seven years as the head of the foundation. Medina begins his tenure as President/CEO on December 1. For more information, contact Joan Consani, Interim Executive Director, 509-529-4371.

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For over 35 years, the Blue Mountain Community Foundation has worked to strengthen the well-being of communities in the Walla Walla Valley. It has grown to over \$50 million in assets and has over 340 charitable funds directed to benefit the people of Garfield,



Columbia and Walla Walla counties in Washington and Umatilla County Oregon. The Foundation distributed over \$2.5 million in grants and scholarships in 2019.