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CONTACT: Nina Sharma
646.706.1224
nsharma@greaterwashingtonpartnership.com

Greater Washington Partnership Releases Preface Report Outlining the Moral and Economic Imperative for Inclusive Growth

The preface report outlines challenges facing the Capital Region and highlights initial solutions that focus on opportunities for the business community and cross-sector partnerships to drive change.

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Greater Washington Partnership released a [Preface Report](#) – a precursor to a Regional Inclusive Growth Blueprint which will be published in mid-2022. Developed with guidance and leadership from the Partnership’s [Inclusive Growth Strategy Council](#), in collaboration with Deloitte, and informed by racial disparities research conducted by McKinsey & Company, the preliminary report outlines the moral and economic imperative for inclusive growth across the Capital Region, defines the region’s challenges and barriers, and highlights opportunities for cross-sector solutions to help close the racial wealth gap and shape our future ability to prosper equitably and inclusively.

As the third largest economy in the U.S. and the seventh largest in the world, the region from Baltimore to Richmond has the talent, jobs, transportation, and innovation ecosystem foundations to prosper. However, the Capital Region lags other large regions nationwide in average growth rates and racial inclusion in areas such as educational attainment, employment, business ownership, financial wealth creation, and health outcomes, among others.

The Preface Report acknowledges these structural challenges and outlines six inter-connected priority pillars for inclusive growth. The report also specifies initial solutions that focus on areas where the private sector is best positioned to effect change and to establish cross-sector partnerships. The six pillars are:

1. Accessible and High-Quality Education Pathways
2. Family-Sustaining and Inclusive Employment Opportunities
3. Thriving Entrepreneurship Ecosystem and Sufficient Access to Personal & Business Capital
4. Affordable, Sustainable Housing in Safe Communities
5. High-Performing and Accessible Transportation & Digital Infrastructure
6. Accessible and Effective Healthcare Ecosystems

“The private sector has an important role to play in building cross-sector collaborations that create an inclusive and resilient society for people of all backgrounds and incomes,” says **Sheila Johnson, Founder**

and CEO of Salamander Hotels & Resorts and Co-Chair of the Partnership's Inclusive Growth Strategy Council. "Our region has incredible diversity – and our economic future is dependent on breaking down barriers to create shared prosperity."

The Preface Report and forthcoming Blueprint for Inclusive Growth (to be published in mid-2022) will provide a roadmap to make the Capital Region the most inclusive economy in the nation within 10 years by identifying and catalyzing solutions, amplifying existing regional efforts, and highlighting areas for cross-sector collaboration.

"Inclusive Growth matters to all of us – it means we all win. With a shared vision and commitment to meaningful change, business leaders have the opportunity to help make the Capital Region the nation's leading economic engine and close the racial wealth gap," says **Jason Wright, President, Washington Football Team and Co-Chair of the Partnership's Inclusive Growth Strategy Council**. "Today's release of the Preface Report is a first step toward the creation of an actionable roadmap to guide our inclusive growth efforts."

Over the coming months, the Partnership will continue to refine these solutions via interviews, focus groups, and cross-sector working groups to inform the Inclusive Growth Blueprint. "The Partnership has convened a great set of cross-sector leaders spanning the region to collaborate and define a roadmap toward inclusivity and equity," says **Tony Pierce, Partner in Charge, Washington, D.C. Office, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP and Partnership Inclusive Growth Board Committee Chair**. "I look forward to continuing to work with our partners to identify opportunities for businesses to accelerate their efforts and catalyze solutions that create meaningful change for all."

"The data shows that more inclusive economies create a better economic future for everyone, helping to harness potential, build resiliency, and attract talent and investment," says **Peter Scher, Vice Chair, JPMorgan Chase & Co. and Partnership Board Chair**. "With the guidance and leadership of our Board and Strategy Council, we are taking our findings and translating them into a coherent and meaningful action plan to power inclusive growth across the Greater Washington Region for the long term."

"Deloitte is incredibly proud of the opportunity to collaborate with the Greater Washington Partnership to help shape the Capital Region's inclusive future," says **Joe Ucuzoglu, CEO of Deloitte US and Partnership Board Member**. "The Inclusive Growth Blueprint reflects insights from a diverse range of industries, and reflects exactly the type of coordinated effort across the business community that is essential for driving more equitable outcomes across the Greater Washington economy."

Organizations directly supporting the Partnership's Inclusive Growth work include: Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, Amazon, AstraZeneca, the Baltimore Ravens, Bank of America, Capital One, Clark

Construction, Comcast NBCUniversal, Deloitte, Dominion Energy, Emerson Collective, EY, Exelon, General Dynamics, Gensler, Georgetown University, The Harbor Bank of Maryland, Howard University, Industrial Bank, Inova Health Systems, JBG SMITH, Johns Hopkins University, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Kaiser Permanente, McKinsey & Company, MedStar Health, Microsoft, Monumental Sports & Entertainment, Northrop Grumman Corporation, Rally Health, Salamander Hotels & Resorts, Science Applications International Corp. (SAIC), T. Rowe Price, Thompson Hospitality, Truist, Washington Football Team, Washington Gas, and Wells Fargo.

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About the Greater Washington Partnership

The Greater Washington Partnership is a first-of-its-kind civic alliance of CEOs in the Region, drawing from the leading employers and entrepreneurs committed to making the Capital Region – from Baltimore to Richmond – one of the world’s best places to live, work and thrive. Working in collaboration with leaders across our communities, the Partnership connects and leverages the region’s extraordinary assets to advance inclusive, actionable solutions that strengthen the Capital Region as a leading global region and center for commerce and innovations.