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***Inaugural Sun Valley Forum on Resilience will be held in Ketchum
July 12-13, 2015 with keynote address by U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker***

KETCHUM, IDAHO, July 8, 2015—The Sun Valley Institute for Resilience announced today that the inaugural **Sun Valley Forum on Resilience** will take place July 12-13, 2015 in Ketchum Idaho. **U.S. Senator Cory A. Booker** will open the Forum with a keynote address at 9 a.m. on July 12, followed by panel discussions and lunch, afternoon presentations and discussions and a closing reception. **The public is welcome and the event is free of charge.** Senator Booker will share his insights on resilience from his experience as U.S. Senator and as Mayor of Newark, New Jersey, including rebuilding after Hurricane Sandy and catalyzing an economic resurgence in Newark. Senator Booker attended Yale Law School and Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, played football as a tight end for Stanford University. He's also known for his use of technology to directly engage constituents and improve government responsiveness to its citizens.

Senator Booker said, ““Across America, communities are increasingly facing challenges that are global in nature, from climate change to competition with an ever more interconnected world economy. Expanding the capacity of communities to be resilient in the face of these challenges is an urgent priority. Solving these problems should be about finding and implementing what works, and the expansion and democratization of technology is increasingly enabling communities to make more decisions based on hard data, not hunches. I'm looking forward to discussing how to turn these challenges into economic opportunities that can strengthen our communities and our country.”

Leaders in Idaho's Wood River Valley founded the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience in the Spring of 2015 to ensure the prosperity and quality of life of this special place for future generations of residents and visitors alike, and to serve as a resource for communities everywhere. “The very aspects that make the Sun Valley area so special—its relative isolation, its high-desert climate and its major economic driver being recreation and tourism—also leave the region vulnerable from an economic, energy and

environmental standpoint,” said Aimée Christensen, Founder and Executive Director of the Institute. “In partnership with leading foundations, academic institutions, corporations and nonprofits, the Institute brings together local and global resources and expertise to strengthen our area’s ability to bounce back from harm to the local economy, whether from wildfires, poor snowfall or global economic conditions, and to serve as a global resource to increase resilience far beyond.”

In addition to Senator Booker, confirmed speakers include Nancy Kete of the **Rockefeller Foundation**, Raul Pomares, Founder of **Sonen Capital**, Steve McBee, CEO of **NRG Home**, Collin O’Mara, CEO, **National Wildlife Federation**, Marco Krapels of **SolarCity**, Jeffery Sayer, Director of the **Idaho Department of Commerce**, Brooks Preston of the **Overseas Private Investment Corporation**, Brent Stacey of the **Idaho National Laboratory**, Gary Dirks, Director of the **Global Institute of Sustainability at Arizona State University**, Rosalie Sheehy Cates of **Philanthropy Northwest**, Jeff Goodell of **Rolling Stone Magazine** and Michael Shuman, author of **Local Dollars, Local Sense**.

After the all-day public Forum on July 12, **on July 13 the Institute will host a private session on “Impact Investing for Resilience” co-hosted by Philanthropy Northwest** with leading investment professionals and foundations and individual investors to hear about investments that benefit resilience, including local investment opportunities. **On the afternoon of July 13, the Institute is inviting its partners to a collaborative working session**, including Arizona State University, Boise State University, Environmental Resource Center, Idaho Conservation League, Idaho National Laboratory, Julie Ann Wrigley Foundation, Ketchum Innovation Center, Local Food Alliance, NRG, Rockefeller Foundation, Rocky Mountain Institute, Sun Valley Band of Angels and Mentors, Sun Valley Economic Development, SVIR, Hemingway Chapter, Trout Unlimited, Wild Gift, Wood River Land Trust, Wood River YMCA and local schools: Community School, Sage School, Syringa Mountain School. Those interested in attending the investment or partners session should email info@sunvalleyinstitute.org.

To learn more about the Forum and to register, please go to <http://www.sunvalleyinstitute.org>. The Forum is free and open to the public, but it is first-come, first-served, so arrive early!

ABOUT THE SUN VALLEY INSTITUTE FOR RESILIENCE **The Sun Valley Institute for Resilience is a center for public education, policy leadership and investment to ensure economic prosperity, environmental protection and human wellbeing in its home community of Idaho’s Wood River Valley and in vulnerable communities everywhere.** Leaders in the Wood River Valley founded the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience in the Spring of 2015 in world famous Sun Valley to strengthen the area’s ability to bounce back from harm to the local economy, whether from wildfires, poor snowfall, or global economic conditions. The Institute is doing so by mobilizing investments to build more robust energy, food, transportation and water systems and diversify the economy in collaboration with and support of local governments, businesses, citizens and non-profits. The Institute provides thought leadership through research, data and tools development and dissemination with its academic partners, and hosts marquee events to further research, knowledge and deployment of community resilience. For more information, visit sunvalleyinstitute.org and follow us on Twitter [@SVResilience](https://twitter.com/SVResilience) and [@AimeeGlobal](https://twitter.com/AimeeGlobal) and Facebook at facebook.com/sunvalleyinstitute