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## **Meritage Homes and Building Talent Foundation Extend Partnership to Advance the Diversity of Skilled Trades Talent in Residential Construction Industry**

Meritage Homes Renews Commitment to Building Talent Foundation with a \$125,000 Donation

**(Washington, DC) February 1, 2022** — Non-profit organization [Building Talent Foundation](#) (BTF) announces a renewed partnership with [Meritage Homes](#), the sixth-largest homebuilder in the U.S. to focus on the organizations' shared goal of driving forward a culture of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in the residential construction industry.

As part of Meritage's DEI strategy, its charitable foundation, [Meritage Cares](#), invested \$125,000 to support BTF's mission to advance the education, training, and career progression of young people and those from underrepresented demographics.

"At Meritage, we seek partners dedicated to empowering underrepresented groups in the homebuilding industry," said Phillippe Lord, CEO of Meritage Homes. "BTF's initiatives closely align with Meritage's efforts to enhance diversity within the company and across the industry."

Meritage is a founding partner of BTF, which was established in 2019 by the Leading Builders of America (LBA), a coalition of the 20 largest residential construction companies in the U.S. BTF is tasked with addressing the severe and persistent labor shortage across skilled trades by growing the talent pipeline as well as improving training and retention.

"We're delighted to continue this partnership with Meritage because of their commitment to building a culture of DEI," said Branka Minic, CEO of BTF. "Meritage has now extended their sponsorship of BTF, and this vote of confidence helps us progress toward our goal to create a sustainable residential construction workforce by 2030."

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## **ABOUT MERITAGE HOMES CORPORATION**

Meritage Homes is the sixth-largest public homebuilder in the United States, based on homes closed in 2020. The Company offers a variety of homes that are designed with a focus on entry-level and first move-up buyers in Arizona, California, Colorado, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Meritage Homes has delivered over 150,000 homes in its 36-year history, and has a reputation for its distinctive style, quality construction, and award-winning customer experience. The Company is the industry leader in energy-efficient homebuilding, an eight-time recipient of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) ENERGY STAR® Partner of the Year for Sustained Excellence Award since 2013 for innovation and industry leadership in energy efficient homebuilding, and the recipient of the EPA Indoor airPLUS Leader Award. For more information, visit [www.meritagehomes.com](http://www.meritagehomes.com).

## **ABOUT BUILDING TALENT FOUNDATION**

[Building Talent Foundation](#) (BTF) is a non-profit organization founded by the Leading Builders of America, 20 of the largest residential construction companies in the United States. BTF's mission is to advance the education, training, and career progression of young people and people from underrepresented groups, helping them develop into skilled technical workers and business owners in residential construction.