



Upcoming Virtual Community Update

Información en español más abajo

A flyer for the Uplift Central Coast Community Update. The title is "UPLIFT CENTRAL COAST COMMUNITY UPDATE". Below the title, it says "June 28, 2023 | 12 - 1:30 pm" and "Virtual on Zoom". There is a teal button that says "RSVP Here". Below that, it says "Please RSVP in advance to receive your Zoom link". At the bottom, there are logos for Monterey Bay Economic Partnership, REACH, and EDC, along with a small map of the Central Coast.

Join the Uplift Central Coast Coalition on **June 28th from 12-1:30pm** for a virtual community update. We will provide an overview and updates on the project, share information about upcoming community convenings happening near you, and spend time gathering your feedback about our communities challenges and opportunities. Be sure to register in advance to receive the Zoom link.

Register Here

[Register Here](#)

Introducing Uplift's Steering Committee

The Uplift Central Coast Coalition has officially appointed the Uplift Sub-Regional Steering Committees which together form the overall Regional Uplift Steering Committee. The Regional Steering Committee and Subregional groups will be responsible for guiding the overall CERF planning process, including an array of responsibilities such as: approval of processes; criteria and metrics; setting priorities,

work streams and issue roundtables; stakeholder engagement strategies; implementation projects for funding recommendations and/or inclusion in the final Regional Plan. They will also be responsible for all final decision making, including the final approval and adoption of the final Regional Plan and recommendations for support for implementation funding.

The Subregional Steering Committees have balanced geographic representation from each of the tri-counties represented and the diverse constituencies defined by CERF. Steering Committee members were nominated through an open nomination process and reviewed, selected and approved by the Uplift Vision Committee.

The Northern Steering Committee

Francisco Rodriguez

Labor Organizations

Francisco is the Secretary-Treasurer of the Monterey Bay Central Labor Council. Francisco was also a teacher as well as a union president for over 20 years.

Location: Santa Cruz, Monterey

Kristina Chavez Wyatt

Employer, Businesses, Business Associations

Kristina serves as a Client Advisor- Strategic Growth, Northern California for California Manufacturing Technology Consulting (CMTC, NIST MEP Center), as the Executive Director of the San Benito County Business Council and Owner/President of Farmhouse Communications. She has nearly two decades of community engagement, business and economic development, workforce, advocacy and public affairs experience. Her focus is to develop and execute strategies, tactics and building networks in manufacturing, land use, community development, agriculture and government.

Location: San Benito

Gabriela Lopez Chavez

Grassroots and Community-Based Organization, Community Organizer, and Community Members

Gabriela is the executive director at Loaves, Fishes & Computers, Inc. (LFC), whose mission is to help overcome the digital and economic divides by providing low-cost or no-cost computer systems, technology assistance and computer repair to low-income families, seniors, veterans, people with disabilities, and non-profit organizations. Gabriela has nearly 20 years of experience in the non-profit sector and has served as Director for the Taylor Farms Center for Learning with the First Tee in Monterey County.

Location: Santa Cruz County, Monterey County, San Benito County

Enrique Arreola

Government Agencies

Enrique is the Deputy Director at San Benito County Health and Human Service Agency. He is a Board Member for the California Workforce Association Board of Directors and has long-term experience in the community, directing workforce development as well as community Services.

Location: San Benito

Richard Vaughn

Economic Development Agencies

Richard is the Economic Development Manager for the County of Monterey. Richard has been involved in various community events and was formerly San Bernardino County's economic development manager.

Location: Monterey

Michael Castro

Philanthropic Organizations

Michael is the Director of Community Initiatives and Partnerships at the Community Foundation for Monterey County. Michael directly administers the Salinas Inclusive Development Initiative (SIEDI), the VIDA (community health worker) program and the Community Wellness Collaborative (formerly the COVID 19 Collaborative).

Location: Monterey

Jackie Cruz

Education and Training Providers

Jackie Cruz is the Vice President of Advancement & Development at Hartnell Community College. She began her career in the non-profit sector 19 years ago at the United Way Monterey County and joined Hartnell College in January 2009. She launched the Salinas Valley Health Professions Pathways Partnership, along with four capital campaigns, one for the arts, one for athletics, one for agriculture, and one for STEM.

Location: Monterey

Alma Cervantes

Workforce Entities

Alma has led the Education Equity Justice Action Team for Building Healthy Communities-Monterey County for the last 8 years at a local, county and state level. She has more than 10 years of expertise in community engagement, grassroots organizing, policy advocacy and culturally rooted healing informed practices.

Location: Monterey

Elroy Ortiz

Environmental Justice Organizations

Eloy is the Special Projects Manager at Regeneración-Pajaro Valley Climate Action. He aims to help farmworkers and others in Pajaro recover after disastrous flooding forced thousands to evacuate and families homeless. Eloy is also the Board President for the Center for Farmworker Families.

Location: Santa Cruz, Monterey

Diane Ortiz

Work Center

Diane is the CEO and co-founder of the Youth Alliance. Diane has worked with historically marginalized communities to establish culturally relevant services and social justice leadership development to support generational healing, educational success, and restorative systems transformation.

Location: San Benito

Maria Elena Manzo

Disinvested Communities

Maria is the Program Director for Mujeres en Acción, a women's economic self-sufficiency and leadership development program. Maria Elena was co-chair of COPA's founding assembly in 2003 and continues to be a key leader in this regional non-profit organization she also led the organizing strategy for Monterey County's Esperanza Care.

Location: Monterey

Valentin Lopez

California Native American Tribes

Valentin has served as Chair of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band since 2003 and is the President of the Amah Mutsun Land Trust. Valentin is a Native American Advisor to the University of California, Office of the President on issues related to repatriation. He is also a Native American Advisor to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the Phoebe Hearst Museum of Anthropology.

Location: Santa Cruz, Monterey, San Benito

The Southern Steering Committee

Jeremy Goldberg

Labor Organizations

Jeremy is the Executive Director of the Central Coast Labor Council. Jeremy worked for the first Obama presidential campaign and has worked at the National Association of Letter Carriers as the National Field Director helping to stave off congressional efforts to cut jobs and reduce mail service to the American people.

Location: San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura

Michael Boyer

Employer, Business, Business Associations

Michael is the CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Mid Central Coast serving over 3,000 local children. Michael is a founding Director of the Diversity Coalition San Luis Obispo County, he also serves as the Chair of the Economic Development Committee for the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce and serves on several Boards of Directors

Location: San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara

Cameron Gray

Grassroots and Community-Based Organization, Community Organizer, and Community Members

Cameron is the Director of Climate Mitigation for the Community Environmental Council (CEC). He is also the co-chair of the Network Health and Learning committee.

Location: San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura

Joyce Howerton

Government Agencies

Joyce is the former Mayor of Lompoc. She was formerly the North County Executive Director of The Fund For Santa Barbara and before retiring was the District Representative for State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson.

Location: Santa Barbara

Nicki Parr

Economic Development Agencies

Nicki is the Chief Operating Officer of Women's Economic Ventures (WEV). Nicki has been instrumental in creating a number of WEV's innovative training programs, such as its financial education program, and its business recovery and resilience program.

Location: Santa Barbara, Ventura

Vanessa Bechtel

Philanthropic Organizations

Vanessa is the President and CEO at Ventura County Community Foundation. Bechtel served as executive director of the Santa Barbara City College Foundation and was

recognized as Nonprofit Leader of the Year by the Ventura County Leadership Academy in 2019.

Location: Ventura

Wendy Sims-Moten

Education and Training Providers

Wendy is a 30-year resident of Santa Barbara County, who has a deep-rooted interest in the progress, development, and well-being of this community and its residents. Wendy is the Executive Director of First 5 Santa Barbara County. Her civic and community involvement include Organizer and Chair, African American Women of Santa Barbara County, Board Member, CAUSE Action Fund, Board Chair, Gateway Educational Services, Board Member, McCune Foundation, Board Member, Proud alum of Emerging Leaders and member of St. Paul AME Church.

Location: Santa Barbara

Corlei Prieto

Workforce Entities

Corlei is the Director of the Santa Barbara Adult Education Consortium. She leads a diverse group of constituents ranging from students, faculty, staff and local public entities such as the local libraries, Santa Barbara County's educational programs, and the local Workforce Board.

Location: San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura

Rita Casaverde

Environmental Justice Organizations

Rita is the Executive Director of Diversity Coalition San Luis Obispo County. Rita also serves as the Chair of SLO County UndocuSupport Executive Committee and is part of the newly formed SLO County Climate Justice Alliance.

Location: San Luis Obispo

Rebecca Evans

Work Center

Rebecca is the Executive Director of the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDBVC.) Her role is to ensure that the WDBVC focuses on supporting workers and job seekers, especially those with barriers to employment.

Location: Ventura

Denise El Amin

Disinvested Communities

Denise El Amin is an NAACP Executive Committee Member. She holds various leadership posts and works across organizations to improve the Solvang community.

Location: Santa Barbara

Scott Lathrop

California Native American Tribes

Scott Lathrop is the CEO of ytt Northern Chumash Nonprofit. Scott is also a member of the President's Council of Advisors at California Polytechnic State University-San Luis Obispo.

Location: San Luis Obispo

Welcome to our Newest Team Member



We are thrilled to welcome the newest addition to the Uplift Central Coast team, Angelic Dirden, as Administrative Coordinator. Angelic has a background in healthcare and business operations and brings a unique blend of expertise to the table. She is originally from Georgia and has been in San Luis Obispo County for 7 years. She is passionate about the Central Coast where she is actively engaged in the local community. She is driven by a deep passion for supporting small businesses and fostering their growth through effective networking. She is excited to work with Uplift to make a difference in our vibrant community.

Información e inscripción del evento zoom de junio



**UPLIFT COSTA CENTRAL
ACTUALIZACIÓN PARA LA COMUNIDAD**

28 de junio | 12 a 1:30 pm
Virtual en Zoom

[Regístrese aquí](#)

Por favor regístrese con anticipación para recibir su link de Zoom.





Únase a Uplift Central Coast Coalition el **28 de junio de 12:00 p.m. a 1:30 p.m.** para obtener una actualización de la comunidad virtual. Brindaremos una descripción general y actualizaciones sobre el proyecto, compartiremos información sobre las próximas reuniones comunitarias que se realizarán cerca de usted y dedicaremos tiempo a escuchar sus comentarios sobre los desafíos y oportunidades de nuestras comunidades. Asegúrese de registrarse con anticipación para recibir el enlace de Zoom.

Registrar aquí

Registrar aquí

¡Damos la bienvenida a nuestra nueva miembro del equipo, Angelic Dirden!



Angelic tiene experiencia en la industria de la salud y negocios y trae una combinación única de experiencia a la mesa. Ella es originaria de Georgia, pero ha estado en el condado de San Luis Obispo, California durante 7 años por que le apasiona la Costa Central, donde participa activamente en la comunidad local. La impulsa una profunda pasión por apoyar a las pequeñas empresas y fomentar su crecimiento a través de redes efectivas. Está emocionada de trabajar con Uplift para marcar la diferencia en nuestra vibrante comunidad.

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Our mailing address is:
893 Marsh Street #13201, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

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