

Colusa County

- Population: 22,037
- Hispanic or Latino: 61.7%
- Unemployment: 19.2%
- Building permits (2022): 61
- Per capita income: \$31,915
(lowest in Capital Region)
- Population per square mile: 19



Who We Are



The North Valley Community Foundation is the region's philanthropic hub serving four counties, including Colusa County. It has distributed more than \$130 million for charitable projects in the past 20 years.



Our Team

**Lauren Wong,
Executive Director,
TCCAP**

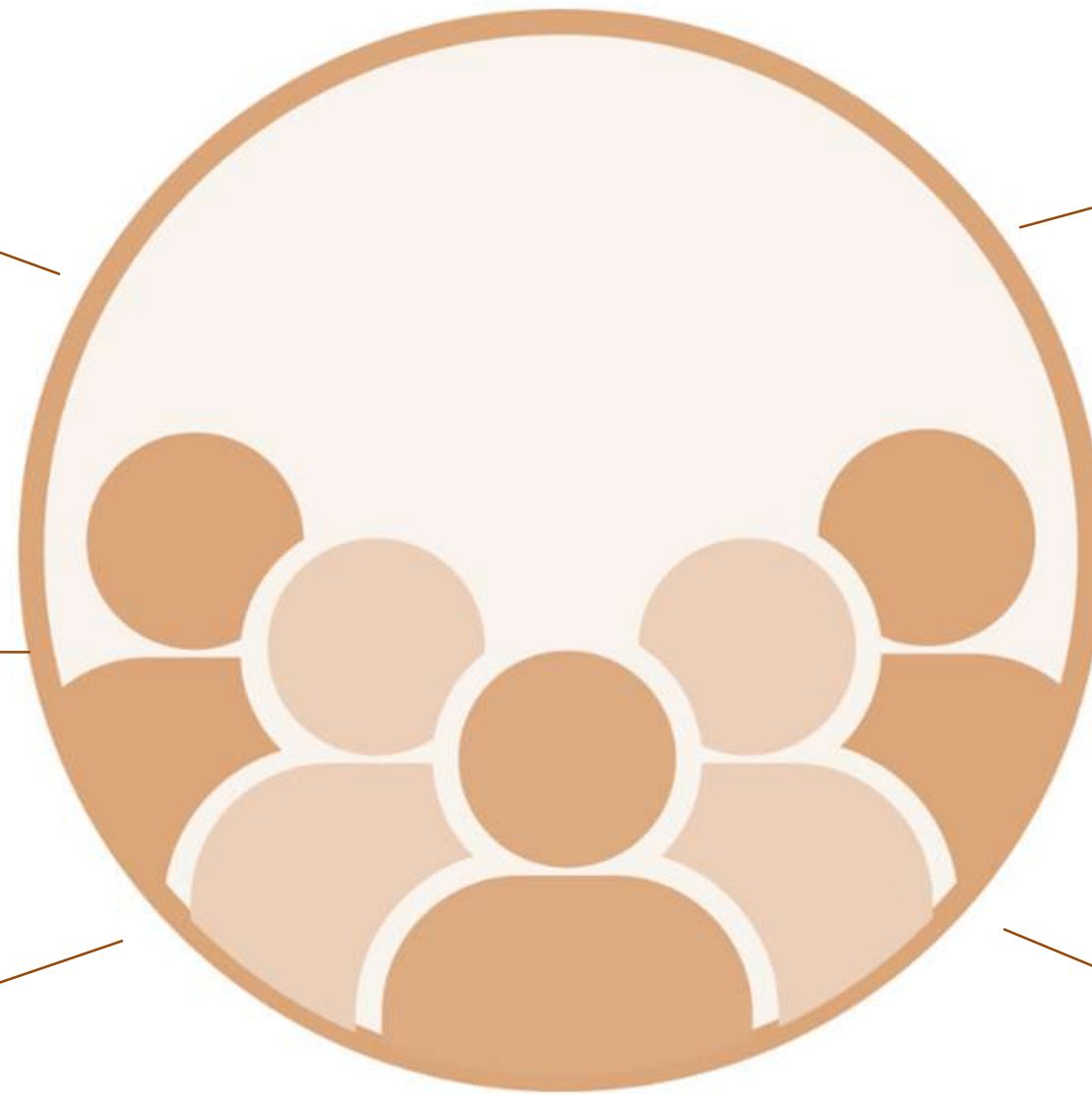
**Jody Samons,
EB3 Development**

**David Spaur,
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**David Little,
Executive VP,
North Valley CF**

**Karsen Bradley,
CFO,
North Valley CF**

**Dagoberto
Bobadilla,
TCCAP**



Our Community Engagement

- Piggybacking on efforts from TCCAP's Community Health Assessment
- Capital Region Community Survey
- 6 community meetings in all corners of the county, from Colusa (population 6,368) to Stonyford (population 80)
- 3 meetings of diverse Steering Committee
- Dozens of 1-on-1 meetings across all sectors
- Site tours with existing and potential employers



Community Partners

Cachil DeHe Band of Wintun
Kletsel DeHe Wintun Nation
County of Colusa
Cities of Colusa, Williams
Colusa One-Stop
Arbuckle Family Action Center
Pierce Joint Union School District

River Vista Farms
Northern Valley Indian Health
Colusa County Farm Bureau
Colusa Produce Corp.
Sun Valley Rice
Maxwell School District
Colusa Medical Center



Our Learnings

Local-serving Job Opportunities

Aside from just growing food, Colusa is ripe for investment in food manufacturing, value-added ag and ag tech innovation



Potential Industry- aligned Projects

Agriculture and natural resources are abundant assets with many related business opportunities, but job training and apprentice programs are needed.

Discovery of Barriers/ Challenges

Disinvested areas struggle to attract businesses and secure funding for essential services. The result is a spiral of economic decline.

Discovery of Barriers/Challenges

- Lack of year-round employment
- Drastic needs for all types of housing
- Infrastructure deficiencies
- Lack of investment
- Workforce development
- Health care and social services
- Cost of living
- Child care
- Transportation
- Internet connectivity



Photo by Arbuckle Revitalization Committee



Local-Serving and/or Tradable Job Opportunities

- Value-added agriculture
- Ag technology, including AI
- Farm equipment and agriculture-allied industry
- Natural resources (e.g., gravel, natural gas)
- Food manufacturing and processing
- Tourism and recreation
- Sites Reservoir construction impacts
- Entrepreneurial opportunities



Photo by Ricardo Carmona for Colusa County



Potential Industry-Aligned Projects

- Ag tech and biomedical innovation
- Trade training programs through local schools
- Apprenticeship programs
- Comprehensive Community Center
- Meat processing facility
- Cold storage facility



Photo by Ricardo Carmona for Colusa County



Inclusionary Pathway Strategies



Photo by Ricardo Carmona for Colusa County

Improve access to housing

Subdivisions are scarce, but single-lot infill and ADU possibilities are abundant. A preapproved floor plan library would save money on fees and speed up the building process.

Develop a community center

The south county has a dearth of social services for residents. An Arbuckle community center could provide employment services, job training, a family center, health care and more.



Inclusionary Pathway Strategies

Increase job training programs

Residents want more than just ag jobs. There's an extreme need for local job training programs, particularly in trades and vocational skills, to empower residents and address unemployment.

Help connect residents with resources

Even when resources are available, many residents don't know about them. Expanding 211 service from Butte County will provide bilingual information to expand awareness of what's available.



Inclusionary Pathway Strategies

Narrow the digital divide

Internet connectivity in most parts of the county is inadequate and expensive. This affects at-risk communities the most, when internet is needed to apply for jobs, fill out forms for government assistance or get access to telehealth services.

Invest in Infrastructure

Some areas of the county, such as Arbuckle and Maxwell, have limitations on growth because there's no capacity in the aging water and sewer systems. Further, there are needs for public transportation or a rideshare service to get workers to jobs.



Photo by Arbuckle Revitalization Committee



In Summary

- Colusa County lags behind California on most socioeconomic metrics.
- Challenges include an extreme lack of housing, very high unemployment and holes in the social safety net.
- To create equity, investments in infrastructure are needed.
- Our inclusionary pathway strategies can help increase housing stock, connect disadvantaged communities with social services and job training, narrow the digital divide and build a strong foundation for growth.



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