



MEDIA RELEASE

LEADERSHIP MONTEREY COUNTY ANNOUNCES 2026 COHORT

Monterey County Business Council is excited to launch the **2026 Leadership Monterey County** program on February 27, 2026. This dynamic 10-month initiative brings together a diverse cohort of participants, offering in-depth exposure to the businesses, institutions, and systems that shape Monterey County's economy and communities. Designed to educate and empower current and emerging leaders across sectors, Leadership Monterey County fosters awareness, collaboration, and informed advocacy around the county's most critical economic drivers. The program creates an understanding of regional challenges and opportunities while strengthening relationships among leaders committed to our region's future.

We are proud to introduce the distinguished participants of the 2026 Leadership Monterey County cohort:

- Aaron Hernandez
Transportation Agency for Monterey County, *Transportation Planner*
- Adriana Gonzalez
Soledad Community Health District, *Director of Communications*
- Alison Imamura
Monterey One Water, *Principal Engineer*
- Blair Limon
Natividad Medical Center, *Director of Therapy Services*
- Brandon Sharpe
Rayne Technology Solutions, *Business Development Executive*
- Brenda Rivas
Meals on Wheels Salinas Valley, *Senior Program Coordinator*
- Brian Constable
Monterey County Bank, *EVP & Chief Credit Officer*
- Carlos Acosta
Salinas Police Department, *Police Chief*
- Christopher Dwight
City of Monterey, *General Services Superintendent*
- Christopher Tomlinson
Stanford Hopkins Marine Station, *Operations Manager*
- David Ramirez
ReGen Monterey, *Director of Engineering and Compliance*
- Denise Gomez
Bay Federal Credit Union, *AVP Branch Manager*
- Emily Freed
UC Agriculture and Natural Resources, *Area Director*
- Faith Balaban
Montage Health, *Human Experience Manager*
- Greg McDanel
City of Seaside, *City Manager*
- Jake Stroud
County of Monterey, *Treasurer-Tax Collector*
- Jason Wilfong
DeVeera Inc, *CEO*
- Jennifer Rivas
County of Monterey Health Department, *Management Analyst II*
- Jessica Macias
YWCA Monterey County, *CEO*
- Jessica Ruiz
Cal State University Monterey Bay, *Director of Development*
- John Gaglioti
Piazza Portola Capital, *Owner*
- Kelly Donlon
County Counsel, *Chief Assistant*
- Kirk Edwards
Alvarez Technology Group, *Sales Manager*
- Leah Hudkins
Montage Health, *Assistant Director of Radiology*
- Leonie Gray
Office of Supervisor Glenn Church, *Policy Analyst*
- Monica Hale
Office of Supervisor Chris Lopez, *Policy Analyst*
- Nathan Kieu
City of Salinas, *Deputy Director of Economic Development*
- Omar Perez-Sandoval
Joby Aviation, *Workforce Development Associate*
- Richard Morales
Hartnell College, *Director of Communications & Marketing*
- Suzanne Zivnuska
Cal State University Monterey Bay, *Dean College of Business*
- Tara Clemens
Fenton & Keller, *Associate Attorney*
- Zandra Jo Galvan
Salinas Union High School District, *Superintendent*