



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