Rural County Representatives of California

Patrick Blacklock

President & CEO





RCRC Organization



Divisions

- **Government Affairs**
- **Economic Development**
- **Business Development**
- Administration and Finance

Affiliate Entities







Rural Counties ▼ Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority

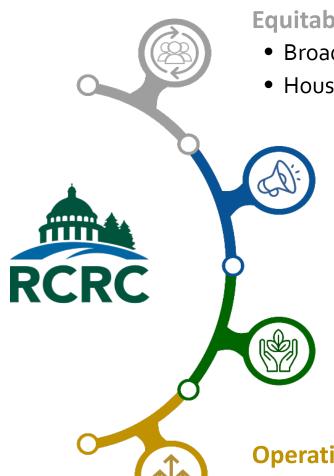


Rural





RCRC 2025-27 STRATEGIC PLAN



Equitable Access

- Broadband Health Services
- Housing
- Insurance

Impactful Policy Advancement

- Rural Education and Research
- Innovative Approaches
- Local Control

Healthy Communities

- Forest Resiliency & Wildfire
- Resource Management
- Infrastructure

Vision

RCRC is the premier advocate and innovative service provider for rural counties in California

- Economic Development
- Tribal Collaboration

Operational Excellence

- Fiscal Health
- Technology
- Communication

Member Engagement

Human Resources

State & Federal Advocacy



State Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/drought
- Broadband
- Housing
- Energy
- Health Access
- CPUC
- Agriculture
- Williamson Act
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare



Federal Policy Areas

- Forest Health/Wildfire
- Water/Drought
- Wildlife
- Rural Healthcare

Key Topics

- Recruitment & Retention of Employees Ad Hoc
- Predator Management Ad Hoc
- State Mandate Reimbursement
- Jail Medical Services Study
- Indigent Health Planning / CMSP

Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) & National Homebuyers Fund, Inc (NHF)



Golden State Finance Authority

- Provide affordable housing solutions
- Offer financing options for energy efficiency
- Secure infrastructure financing
 - Grant Advanced Line of Credit Program
 - Rural Broadband
 - Forest Resiliency



National Homebuyers Fund, Inc

- Expand Homeownership
- Strengthen Communities



SINCE 1993 IN LASSEN COUNTY



Helped **566** individuals/ families purchase homes



Provided over \$ 3.12 M in down payment assistance

Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA)



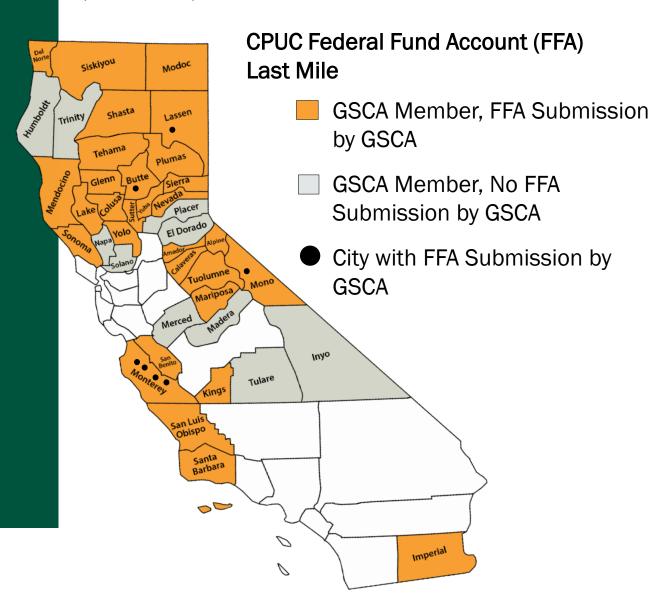
Assist-to-Own Program

- Provides up to 5.5% assistance for down payment and closing costs on primary residence purchases or refinances for GSFA Member County employees.
 - Enhances employee retention and recruitment
- Flexible qualifying criteria:
 - Accepts less-than-perfect credit (FICOs as low as 640)
 - Debt-to-income ratios up to 50%
 - No first-time homebuyer requirement
 - Not limited to low-income borrowers



Golden State Connect Authority (GSCA)





GSCA FFA Last Mile Awards

Total	\$185,384,131
Glenn County	<u>\$22,351,876</u>
Tehama County	\$74 , 798 , 880
Amador County	\$57,180,300
Mono County	\$ 6,074,134
Mammoth Lakes	\$ 4,158,014
Alpine County	\$ 6,985,978
Imperial County	\$13,834,949

* Funding for Round Two of the FFA Last Mile Program for Calaveras, Inyo, Monterey, and Trinity counties is still pending.



Golden State Natural Resources (GSNR)





Overgrown forests increasing risk of catastrophic wildfires



Forest treatment targets established by State and Federal government



Limited outlets for the removed biomass



GSNR established to create a sustainable and economically viable use from this woody biomass

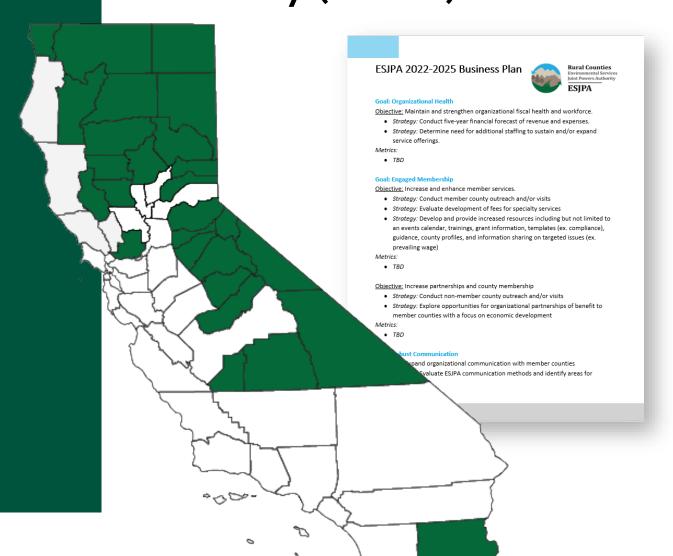






Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority (ESJPA)





- Represents 26 rural California counties on solid waste regulatory and legislative policies.
- Advocates on the state and federal level
- Offers policy leadership, technical expertise and direct assistance to member counties



Rural Advancement Institute (RAI)



RAI facilitates academic research and educational opportunities that advance understanding of rural California amongst policymakers and the public.

Educational Tours:

- Behind the Scenes of the Recreation Economy
- Beyond the Lettuce Curtain: Innovations and Challenges

Research and Projects:

- Fire / EMS Capacity in rural counties UCSB
- Housing Study Sacramento State
- Healthcare workforce landscape in rural counties
 UCSF

Fire and Emergency Medical Services Response Capacity in Rural Communities of California

Alan Murray Yuyang Zhang Theo Funk Danica Marter

Wildfire Resilience Initiative University of California at Santa Barbara wri ucsb edu

Report Commissioned by Rural Advancement Institute

September 2, 2025

UC **SANTA BARBARA**Wildfire Resilience Initiative





RCRC 1215 K St., Suite 1650 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 447-4806

QUESTIONS?

Keep Up with RCRC:

- Website: <u>www.rcrcnet.org</u>
- Sign up for the Barbed Wire newsletter
- Follow us on social media:





