

**Press Contact:**

Amy Hanley,  
Marketing & Communications Manager  
831-688-8840 x285 |  
amyh@cbridges.org



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 30, 2019

**Community Bridges will be Honored by State Assemblyman Robert Rivas on California Non Profits Day as Nonprofit of the Year**

**Santa Cruz County, CA** — Community Bridges is proud to announce it has been selected as a 2019 California Nonprofit of the Year by State Assemblyman Robert Rivas representing the 30th California Assembly District.

Raymon “Ray” Cancino, Community Bridges’ Chief Executive Officer, will travel to Sacramento next week to join with one hundred other nonprofit leaders to be honored by their state senators and assembly members during a celebration luncheon as part of California Nonprofits Day on June 5, 2019. Some of Community Bridges’ accomplishments that contributed to this award include being the first public transport agency to use electric vehicles, its offering of public charging stations, successfully advocating for increased Medi-Cal reimbursement for Elderday, support of immigration safety and advocacy, and development of a Childcare Safety Plan for families of mixed immigration status.

Since 1977, Community Bridges has been a catalyst for a brighter future by providing essential services to the most vulnerable in Santa Cruz County. Our network of 10 programs give community members access to transportation, healthy food, health care, and senior health daycare. We offer early education, after school tutoring, and classes in breastfeeding, parenting, and literacy classes.

“Community Bridges programs empower change. They increase inclusive access to care and support the advancement of healthy children, families, and seniors. Community Bridges is honored to be recognized by Robert Rivas as a Non Profit of the Year,” comments Shannon Brady, Community Bridges Board of Directors Chair.

“Nonprofits are often hidden in plain sight,” explains Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits). “California Nonprofits Day is an opportunity for our elected officials to celebrate the good work they see nonprofits doing in their districts, and for everyone to appreciate the collective impact of nonprofits in our communities.”

**Additional Background**

California Nonprofits Day, now in its fourth year, was formally recognized by Assembly Concurrent Resolution 62, authored by the chair of the Assembly Select Committee on the

Nonprofit Sector, Assemblywoman Monique Limón (Santa Barbara), who will speak at the celebration luncheon. Senator Holly Mitchell will keynote the luncheon. The day is organized by Assemblymember Limón and CalNonprofits.

According to “Causes Count,” a 2016 report commissioned by CalNonprofits, the nonprofit sector is the 4th largest industry in the state, employing nearly one million people. Each year, California nonprofits generate over \$200 billion in revenue and bring in \$40 billion in revenue from outside of California. The unpaid labor contributed by volunteers at nonprofits is equivalent to 450,000 full-time jobs every year.

#### ABOUT COMMUNITY BRIDGES

Community Bridges envisions a thriving community where every person has the opportunity to unleash their full potential. Together, our family of programs delivers essential services, provides equitable access to resources, and advocates for health and dignity across every stage of life. To learn more, please visit [www.communitybridges.org](http://www.communitybridges.org).

The Community Bridges family of programs includes the Child & Adult Care Food Program, Child Development Division, Women, Infants and Children (WIC), La Manzana Community Resources, Live Oak Community Resources, Mountain Community Resources, Nueva Vista Community Resources, Elderday Adult Day Health Care, Lift Line and Meals on Wheels for Santa Cruz County.