

PRESS RELEASE

December 8, 2020

Contact: Amy Hanley

(831) 688-8840 ext 285

amyh@cbridges.org



COMMUNITY BRIDGES
PUENTES DE LA COMUNIDAD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Bridges welcomes two new members to Board of Directors

Santa Cruz County, CA — Community Bridges is pleased to announce the appointment of two new board members, Brenda Griffin, President of the Santa Cruz Chapter of the NAACP and Silvia Morales, Executive Director for the Resource Center for Nonviolence.

“Our Board of Directors is comprised of a dedicated team of community leaders that believe in the power of civic engagement to ensure all of our neighbors have equitable access to resources. With the addition of these highly respected new members of our Board, we will continue to build on our work of advancing equity and social justice in our community,” said Raymon Cancino, CEO of Community Bridges. “We are excited to channel Brenda and Silvia’s talent, expertise and energy into furthering our mission.”

Brenda Griffin is the president of the NAACP Santa Cruz County Branch. She has been on the steering committee of the Economic Justice Alliance and on the Santa Cruz Police Chief’s advisory committee to address issues around policies and accountability. She is a co-founder of the Racial Equity Trainers Network and the Santa Cruz County Black Coalition for Justice and Racial Equity. Brenda works in the medical industry locally. Prior to moving to Santa Cruz in 2004, Brenda worked for a civil rights law firm in New England.

Silvia Morales is the Executive Director of the Resource Center for Nonviolence in Santa Cruz. She has demonstrated expertise in leading nonprofit and civic organizations in Santa Cruz County promoting diversity, advancing equity and advocating for justice. Silvia has a Juris Doctorate degree and managed Morales Law Firm for over 15 years, playing a key role in furthering voting rights in our county.

Additionally, Nicolette Lee has been appointed as the new Board Chair effective January 2021. Nicolette has been a member of the Community Bridge Board since 2017 and brings a wealth of expertise in advancing policies that benefit and serve our entire community. Nicolette is a Clinical Therapist with Palo Alto Therapy.

Community Bridges thanks departing Board Chair, Shannon Brady, for her years of commitment and service to the agency. We also appreciate the contribution of outgoing

Board members including Katy King, Pam Fields and Martin Bernal. Their contributions included helping lead efforts to secure our Community Bridges Administrative Offices in Watsonville and helping champion efforts that strengthen our agency fiscal position.

Additional 2021 Community Bridges Board members are Sara Siegel, Deputy Probation Officer, Santa Cruz County Probation Department; Lee Slaff, Real Estate Broker; Jack Jacobsen, Retired Attorney; Steven McKay, Associate Professor in Sociology UCSC/ Director, UCSC Center for Labor Studies; Stephanie Connor Kent Chief Nursing Executive, Sutter Maternity & Surgery Center; Amy McEntee, Chief Medical Officer, Salud Para La Gente; and Michael Babich, Retired Business Owner.

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.

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.