



With the world reeling from COVID-19, the deepening economic recession, and the recognition that we need to address systemic racism and climate change with real urgency, our work helping communities navigate complex crises and disasters is more relevant and important than ever. To these ends, we lead deep, whole-hearted collaborations that welcome all voices, invite a diversity of wisdom and perspectives, and inspire everyone to contribute what they have to offer.

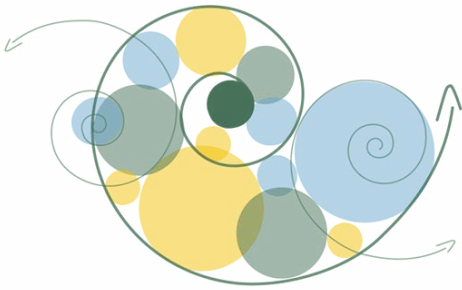
Over the past six years we have learned how to enable leaders to bring their best selves, build new capacity and rise to the occasion to achieve something extraordinary together. Inevitably initial successes breed further collaboration on increasingly complex challenges and opportunities. What began with conservation-focused work has grown to include community resilience, disaster relief and climate action. We take a whole-system and whole-self approach to every community collaboration we facilitate and every project we manage and support. Together we are building pathways to achieving far greater impact than was possible before.

Below are brief updates on some of our work in Santa Barbara County this year. These projects require ongoing stewardship and investment, and your support for our work is more important than ever.

Carl Palmer, Executive Director



Our Collaborative Impact Model



Legacy Works Santa Barbara helps community leaders, agencies, nonprofits and funders come together to collaborate on critical challenges that no single organization can take on themselves. Success in these collaborations builds momentum, courage and the drive to take on increasingly complex opportunities. We illustrate how this process unfolds as a continuously expanding spiral of activity that strengthens collaboration, empowers community leadership and builds the capacity needed to address our most pressing challenges. The spiral represents an actionable pathway to the BIG change we need. Our unique approach to impact requires a mix of trust-building, convening, facilitation and active project management, roles we play in the following projects and initiatives.

Program Updates

- Community Resilience
- Land, Food and Agriculture
- Climate Action

Climate Resilience Roundtables / Vulnerable Populations

Together with the Community Environmental Council (CEC) and a robust steering committee, LegacyWorks has been co-designing and facilitating a series of multi-stakeholder Resilience Roundtables to bring key community leaders together around the most important impacts of climate change and to elevate high priority needs and opportunities. Given the coronavirus pandemic and its far reaching repercussions, the Resilience Roundtable series has shifted to virtual meetings focused on the impact climate has on our most vulnerable community members. This shift is being implemented in partnership with the Central Coast Climate Justice Network and local nonprofits working with frontline communities.

CRCD Regional Priority Plan for Wildfire

The Cachuma Resource Conservation District (CRCD) is leading a planning, mapping and assessment phase for a Regional Priority Plan (RPP) to reduce wildfire risk and improve forest and habitat health on public and private land where our communities abut wildlands. The RPP will help build climate resilience, buffer communities from wildfires and protect wildlands in Santa Barbara County. LegacyWorks is supporting the Cachuma RCD and its team of partners and contractors on implementation of the RPP. We will be producing systems maps for the regional wildfire prevention ecosystem including conservation and environmental groups, public safety agencies, governing entities and decision makers, homeowners associations, climate and social justice organizations, insurers, and other key players and stakeholders in the overall wildfire prevention system.

Resilient Santa Barbara County

Resilient Santa Barbara County (RSBC) is a countywide network dedicated to preventing and reducing the impacts of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) in Santa Barbara County. It is overseen by the ACEs Steering Committee, a group of volunteers who are shaping the vision, purpose, principles and objectives of this emerging network. Since 2018 LegacyWorks has been facilitating RSBC gatherings and advising the chairs of the steering committee, Barbara Finch and Terri Allison, as they lead the network.



Carbon Farm Plans

In partnership with the Cachuma Resources Conservation District, LegacyWorks helps owners of working lands to plan and implement regenerative agricultural and grazing management practices to increase the rate at which carbon is captured and reduce the rate at which it is lost or emitted. Carbon farming practices increase soil water holding capacity, productivity and overall resilience amidst a changing climate. With a carbon farm plan in place, landowners are able to leverage their ability to access funding that helps sustain their operations. This year we finalized a regional carbon farm plan for the Gaviota Coast, prepared two CDFA Healthy Soils Program grant applications for two local ranches and have two carbon farm plans currently underway for rangelands located in north county.

Countywide Library System Ad Hoc Committee

Since early 2019 LegacyWorks has facilitated a committee created by the Board of Supervisors to address long standing funding and equity issues within the countywide library system. We designed and led the committee through a series of sessions and working groups to identify and prioritize challenges and opportunities, set minimum standards for library service across the county and address short term financial challenges. We are about to begin a third phase of the project, wherein will collaboratively evaluate and recommend improvements and/or alternate models for governance.

New Initiatives



Community Resilience



Land, Food and Agriculture



Climate Action

Community Impact Dashboard

In response to the global pandemic and countywide efforts to contain the virus and mitigate the effects of social and economic disruption, we are convening collaborations around COVID-19 and community impact data collection and communication. Our work is bringing together public and private partnerships of public health officials, data scientists, and other specialists to enhance access to and interpretation of essential coronavirus and community resilience data.

Conservation Loan Fund

In the face of unprecedented threats from climate change, development and land conversion, LegacyWorks is launching the Central Coast Conservation Loan Fund to accelerate the pace and scale of conservation, restoration and regenerative agriculture in the region. Climate models predict our region will be among the hardest hit in the nation. To adapt, we need to protect and restore our natural systems and working lands in order to buffer our vulnerable communities from wildfires, drought, sea level rise and more. We are launching the Fund in partnership with a regional coalition of land trusts to raise and deploy the capital they need to achieve top priority conservation and climate adaptation goals across the region. For land trusts and other conservation players, the Fund will provide critical bridge funding and other forms of financing when most needed. For wealth holders and investment advisors, the Fund enables high impact investment in their communities while receiving a modest yield.

