El Pajaro CDC’s mission is to promote equal access to economic opportunity.

The purpose of this corporation is to create and implement community economic development programs in Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties. The corporation provides entrepreneurial opportunities, financial products and development services to support the creation of small businesses, self-employment and jobs for low income and Latino residents. The corporation shall also promote development and financing of housing for low-income residents.
Funded more than 44 years ago, El Pájaro Community Development Corporation (EPCDC), has helped thousands with success to initiate, maintain and expand their small business.

Latest initiatives

2021

- Received a designation as a Women’s Business Center by US Small Business Administration (SBA)
- Received lender License from State of California, and launched the program of Microloans of El Pajaro
- New satellite office in Soledad – Rural Salinas Valley

2023

- New office in Salinas
Sectors: Retail, restaurants, commercial, professional services, manufacturing, agriculture, and childcare

Industry Specific Programs

Food Business

Childcare
Who we serve

We serve small business owners who are a minority in rural and urban areas in the county of San Benito, Monterey y Santa Cruz.

- 70% Women
- 88% Latino/Hispanic
- 25% Located in Rural Areas
- Bilingual and culturally relevant
### EPCDC Mission and Achievement Strategy

#### Mission

Promote equal access to economic opportunity and to transform people’s lives through entrepreneurship.

#### Strategy

- Capacity Building
- Incubation Space
- Market Access & Network Building
- Capital Access
- Affordable Housing

#### Existing Activities/Services

- Technical Assistance
- Training Programs
- Stand-alone Workshops
- Retail Space
- Commercial Kitchen Space
- Co-Packaging Space
- Produce Cooler Space
- Farmers Markets
- Catering Events
- Trade Shows
- One-to-one Relationship Building
- Networking Events
- New LOAN PROGRAM
- Affordable Housing Development

#### New loan program

- 1.2 Million Dollars in funding

#### Access to relief program

- Start-up seed capital
Kitchen Incubator
2023 California Nonprofit of the Year
Contact us!

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