



Canal Alliance

Our mission is to break the generational cycle of poverty for Latino immigrants and their families by lifting barriers to their success.

Organizational Historical Context



- **1982:** Founded to respond to a major influx of Latino and Southeast Asian immigrants arriving in Marin.
- **2005:** Canal Ministry and Canal Community Alliance merged to become Canal Alliance.
- **2016:** Latino families urged Canal Alliance to expand its work from direct services toward broader community-wide impact.

Our Integrated Business Model



Direct Services

Education, Immigration Legal Services, Economic Mobility, Housing, and Social Services stabilize families and create pathways to opportunity.

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Neighborhood Vitality (Place-Based Strategies)

Building resident leadership and collective power to influence policies, planning, and resource allocation, transforming the built and civic environment.

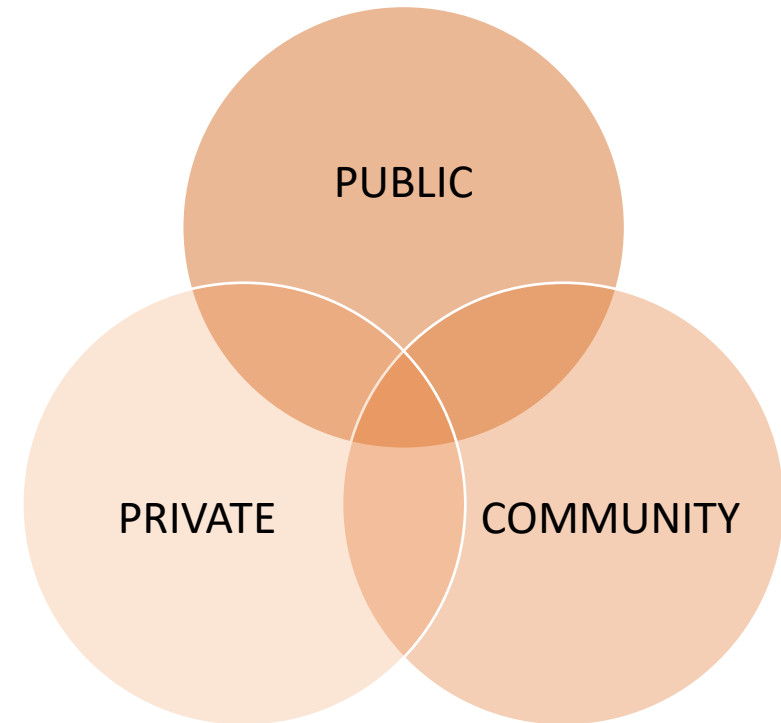
Our Strategic Approach



We recognize that challenges like sea-level rise, affordable housing, poverty, and immigration are complex and constantly evolving—crossing jurisdictional boundaries and impacting every sector.

No single entity can address them alone; they require coordinated action across governments, private institutions, and communities.

PUBLIC-PRIVATE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP



The Immigrant Population in Marin



- **19.9%** of Marin's total population is immigrant (foreign-born).
- **26.2%** of those immigrants are undocumented — one of the highest proportions in the Bay Area.
- Bay Area data show that many undocumented residents have lived here for over a decade; Marin's undocumented community is part of this long-standing regional population.



Latino Community in Marin

- **1 in 5** Marin residents is Latino (Latino population \approx 20.4%)
- Median age: **Latinos \approx 28.5 years** vs. **Non-Hispanic Whites \approx 53.4 years.**
 - (This 25-year age gap highlights Marin's demographic future)
- Latino population is growing faster than the county overall
 - 2010–2020 growth:
Latinos = + 27.3% vs. Total Marin population = + 4%

The Latino population represents the current and future workforce

Why Immigration Matters to Marin and the Bay Area



- Undocumented workers play a vital role in many labor-intensive industries like construction, hospitality, and caregiving.
- They contribute to regional productivity both directly and indirectly, through labor participation, consumption, and support of complementary high-skilled industries.
- The Bay Area economy relies heavily on this workforce, and disruptions could harm economic output.
- Mixed-status families face serious financial challenges if an undocumented earner is lost, impacting local economic stability.

What We Can Do at the Local Level



1. Ensure local resources are not used for ICE enforcement beyond what federal law mandates.
2. Maintain a clear separation between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement.
3. Coordinate county-wide response to ICE activity.
4. Support policies and investments that improve access to services, language access, and legal protection.

Federal Immigration Reform: The Only Long-Term Fix



- Conservative voices emphasize law and order.
- Progressive voices emphasize humanitarian responsibility.
- Business leaders emphasize labor shortages and economic need.

but

Both political parties continue to say, “this isn’t the right time.”

Yet data shows the opposite.



"It's only because we have illegal immigration that the [economic] system works. Why? Because as long as it's illegal, the people who come are not eligible for welfare... yet they provide a subsidy to the American economy through their labor."

Milton Friedman