

Community Water Leaders Network



The Importance of Local Electeds for the Human Right to Water:

Local water boards, including Community Services Districts (CSDs), Public Utilities Districts (PUDs) and nonprofit mutual benefit corporations (Mutual water companies), all of which are governed by volunteer community members, are responsible for providing the drinking water that is relied on by hundreds of thousands of Central Valley residents. Small cities provide drinking water for many more. As a result, these local boards are integral to sustaining healthy, thriving rural communities. Unfortunately, board members sometimes lack the resources, information and support they need to be successful, and small boards are all too often left out of the decision-making processes that are critical to ensuring their communities have access to safe, affordable water.

The Network:

For over 10 years, the Community Water Center (CWC) has worked with San Joaquin Valley water districts to address community water challenges and advance both immediate and sustainable water solutions. To further support the local leadership, CWC is launching the Community Water Leaders Network (CWLN or the Network) to ensure board members have the resources, information, support and opportunities they need to implement water solutions at the local, regional, and state levels.

Mission Statement:

The Community Water Leaders Network is a leadership cohort that unites local board members to increase access to safe, clean and affordable drinking water in the San Joaquin Valley through information sharing and capacity building.

Core Components:

The Network is comprised of four core components designed to support the diverse needs of local water leaders:

1. *The Community Water Leaders Network Newsletter* - A monthly bilingual newsletter available through mail or email with updates, resources and upcoming meetings relevant to water boards in the Central Valley.
2. *Water Leader Briefings* - Monthly conference calls that provide members an opportunity to connect with each other, crowd-source questions and receive updates and information from the comfort of their own homes.
3. *Roundtables and workshops* - Periodic discussions and workshops that bring together diverse decision-makers to facilitate conversations and learning on specific topics of shared interest.
4. *Training and Ongoing Support* - The Network will host and connect members and others to trainings and workshops and be a source of ongoing support for questions and referrals.

Interested in joining the Network?

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