



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Chamber San Mateo County Leadership Program Graduates 56 Participants**

**Redwood City, CA** – Chamber San Mateo County, which represents the cities of Redwood City, San Carlos, Belmont and Menlo Park, graduated its 36<sup>th</sup> class of Leadership program participants on June 7, 2024. Each Leadership program cohort participates in ten diverse and dynamic day-long sessions with experts, decision-makers, practitioners, and funders across all spectrums of the business, government, not-for-profit and education sectors.

“This year’s Leadership class was filled with seasoned and aspiring leaders from all across our community,” said Amy Buckmaster, Chamber San Mateo County president and chief executive officer. “I am thrilled by the level of engagement and care that our participants have in the issues facing our community. It is reassuring to know that our Leadership program is continuing to meet the needs of our community by preparing individuals from all walks of life for service to our region.”

The Chamber’s Leadership program is a premier academy that welcomes leaders at all levels and in all organizations in San Mateo County and equips them with the knowledge, tools and opportunities to evolve their skills to the next level in leadership and service. Through focused sessions each month, spanning from September through June, participants learn about timely and relevant issues of vital concern to our region and explore how they can effectively shape the future of our community, their organization, or their business.

“Being part of the Chamber’s Leadership program has been an eye-opening and fulfilling experience for me,” said Justin Burd, operations supervisor at Recology San Mateo County. “Having an opportunity to network with other leaders in our community and to hear from elected officials and business leaders about real challenges and opportunities we face has been incredible. I can’t image having this opportunity to better understand how I can contribute in a meaningful way than through the Leadership program.”

**-More-**

With the graduation of this year's cohort, the Chamber's Leadership program will have graduated more than 1,500 participants, many have gone on to take very active roles in the business, government, education, labor and non-profit sectors, including as elected officials, city managers and department heads, executive directors, superintendents and college presidents and chancellors.

"As a proud participant and long-time day chair of the Leadership program, I know first-hand the value that every graduate gains by being part of this community-wide network of leaders," said Congressman Kevin Mullin. "Leadership graduates are essential to strengthening the civic fabric of our community. They are now equipped with new skills, shaped by new ideas, exposed to differing points of view, and have an opportunity to put into action what they have learned in service to our community."

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**Chamber San Mateo County** - *Elevating business. Engaging community. Empowering the future. The Chamber is where San Mateo County organizations, businesses, and communities come together to create a brighter future. Through programs, advocacy, and opportunities to connect, we ensure business voices are heard, diverse perspectives are shared, and leadership is fostered.*