

Building Rural Opioid Safety Infrastructure in Calaveras County

Presented By:

Colleen Rodriguez, MSW, MPH, Director of Public Health

Justin Barnes, MPH, Public Health Program Supervisor

Quincy Dyson, MBA, Program Coordinator

Agenda

- Calaveras County Realities
- Building the Opioid Safety Program and Distribution Network
- Training, Partnerships, and Lived Experience
- Key Lessons
- Program Successes



Calaveras County Realities

- Similar to other small, rural counties within California
- Low resourced, high need
- Geographically isolated
- Limited healthcare access
- Population of around 45,000
- Located in the Sierra Foothills
- One incorporated city: Angels Camp



Calaveras County Realities



Community Demographics

- Median Age: 52
- Uninsured: 5.3% (Under 65)
- Median Income: \$78,647

Social Drivers of Health

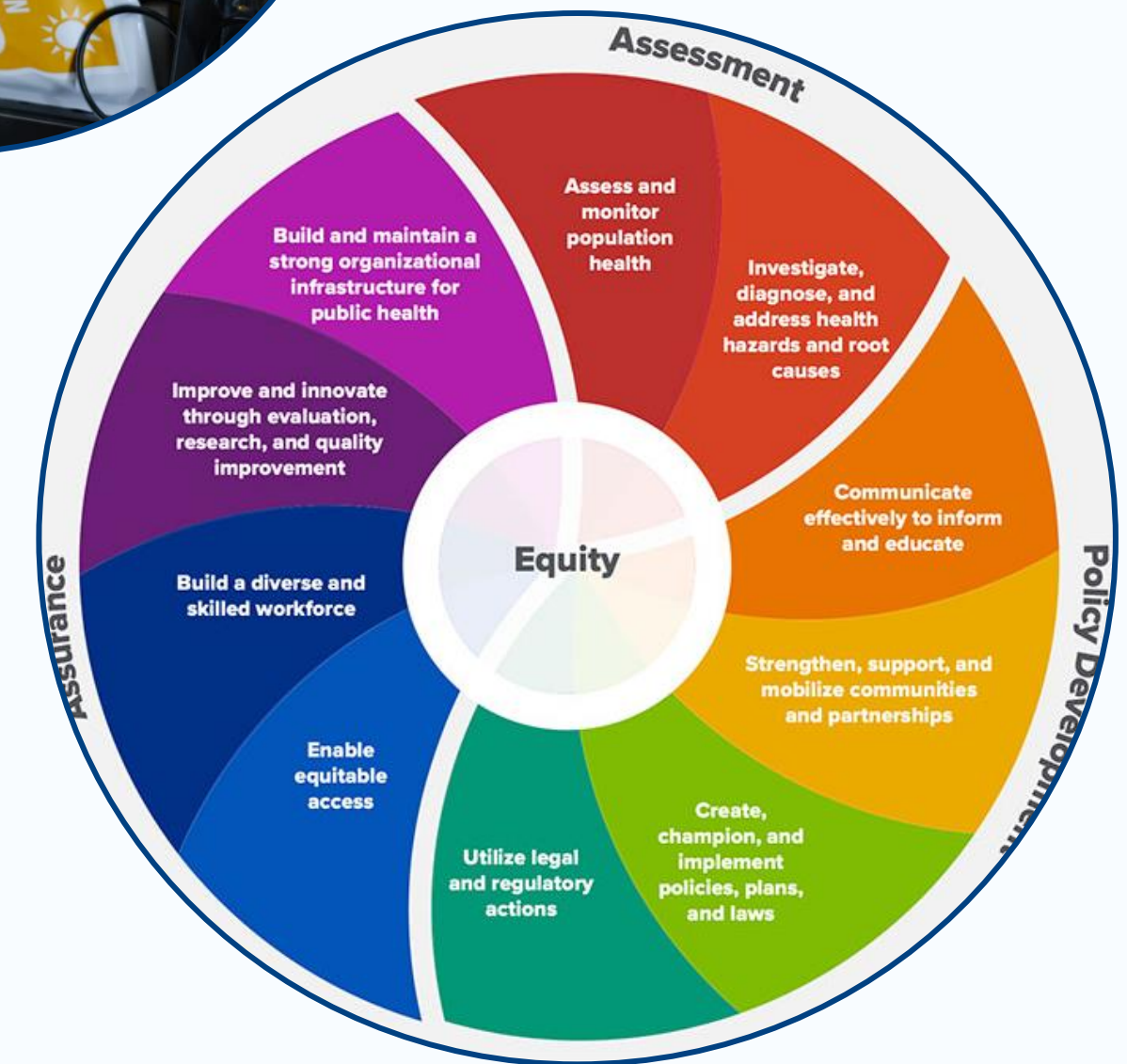
- Food Insecurity: 13.2%
- Housing Cost Burden: 38.9%
- Unemployment: 6.0%
- Poverty: 13.0%

Mental Health

- Depression: 23.2%
- Loneliness: 32.1%
- Mental Distress: 16.7%

Calaveras County Realities

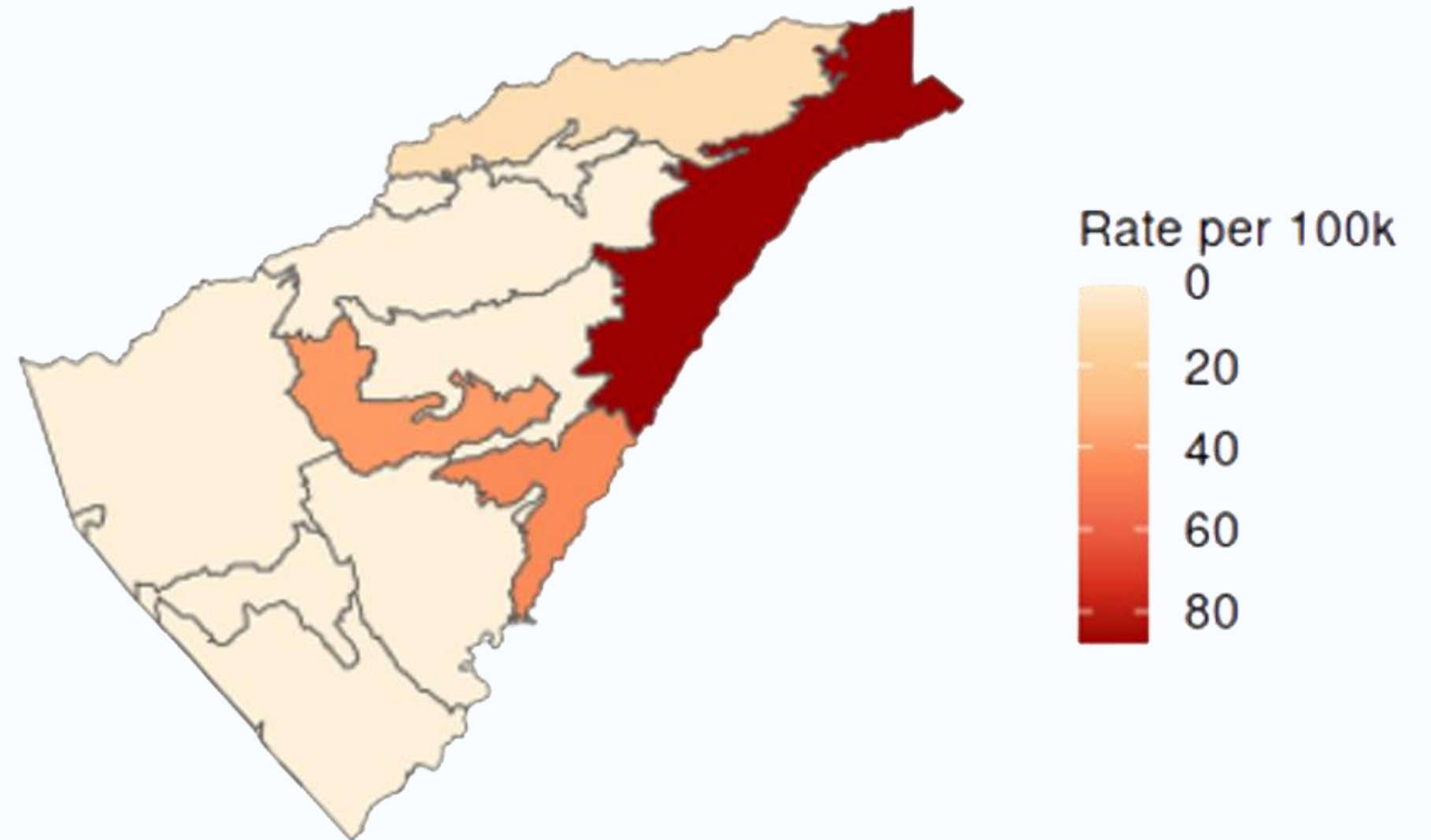
- 2022 baseline of 20 ED visits and 4 deaths
- 62% of residents leaving the county are traveling for primary care
- 63% skipped a test, treatment, prescription, or referral in the past 12 months due to cost
- Limited public transit routes and hours, inconvenient bus stop locations, and gas prices all named as barriers to care
- In response, CCPH founded the Opioid Safety Program — the county's first dedicated opioid response



Calaveras County Realities

- The annual age-adjusted mortality rate for 2024 was 14.82 per 100k residents
- Decrease of 47.4% from 2023

Any Opioid-Related Overdose, 2024
Age-Adjusted Annual Death Rates by Zip Code



Building the Opioid Safety Program and Distribution Network

Initial Funding: California Overdose Prevention Network (COPN)

- CCPH participation since 2022
- Provides funding, networking, and resources for coalitions, organizations and/or individuals
- Not enough funding to sustain full Opioid Safety Program
 - \$15,000 per year

Focus

- Naloxone distribution and training
- Cross-sector collaboration
- Community engagement and stigma reduction

Building the Opioid Safety Program and Distribution Network

COLLABORATION & BRAIDING

Mobile Programs & Services

- Outreach & community engagement
- Naloxone distribution
- Referrals offered

Tobacco Prevention Program

- Collaborated to develop the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) Coalition
- Annual substance use awareness events

Injury Prevention

- Integration into broader Injury Prevention Program
- Outreach to local families

Building the Opioid Safety Program and Distribution Network

Naloxone Distribution & Training

- Decentralized access strategy
- Training open to anyone
- Naloxone/NARCAN Reporting System

Built With Stakeholders

- Public Health Vending Machine
- Community Narcan kiosks
- Online Naloxone kiosk map

Collaboration Benefits

- Expanded reach and access
- Improved service coordination
- Leveraged resources
- Enhanced community engagement
- Data-informed decision making
- Stronger prevention outcomes



Naloxone in Calaveras

Upgrade your first aid kits!

Locations

SIERRA HOPE
1168 BOOSTER WAY, ANGELS CAMP, CA 95222
MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:00AM-5:00PM

WEST POINT OUTSTATION
429 MAIN STREET #3, WEST POINT, CA 95255
TUESDAY AND THURSDAY 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

THE RESOURCE CONNECTION
8085 STATE RTE 26 SUITE G, MOKELUMNE HILL, CA 95245
MONDAY-THURSDAY 8:00AM-4:30PM

DIGNITY HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER
430 SAWMILL CREEK RD. COPPEROPOLIS, CA 95228
MONDAY-THURSDAY 7:00AM-5:30PM

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
509 E ST CHARLES ST, SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-5:00PM

EBBETTS PASS FIRE DISTRICT
1037 BLAGEN RD, ARNOLD, CA 95223
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-5:00PM

PUBLIC HEALTH BUILDING
700 MOUNTAIN RANCH RD SUITE C-2, SAN ANDREAS, CA 95249
MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-4:30PM

VETERANS OFFICE
300 W DAPHNE ST, VALLEY SPRINGS, CA 95252
MONDAY-THURSDAY 9:00AM- 2:00PM



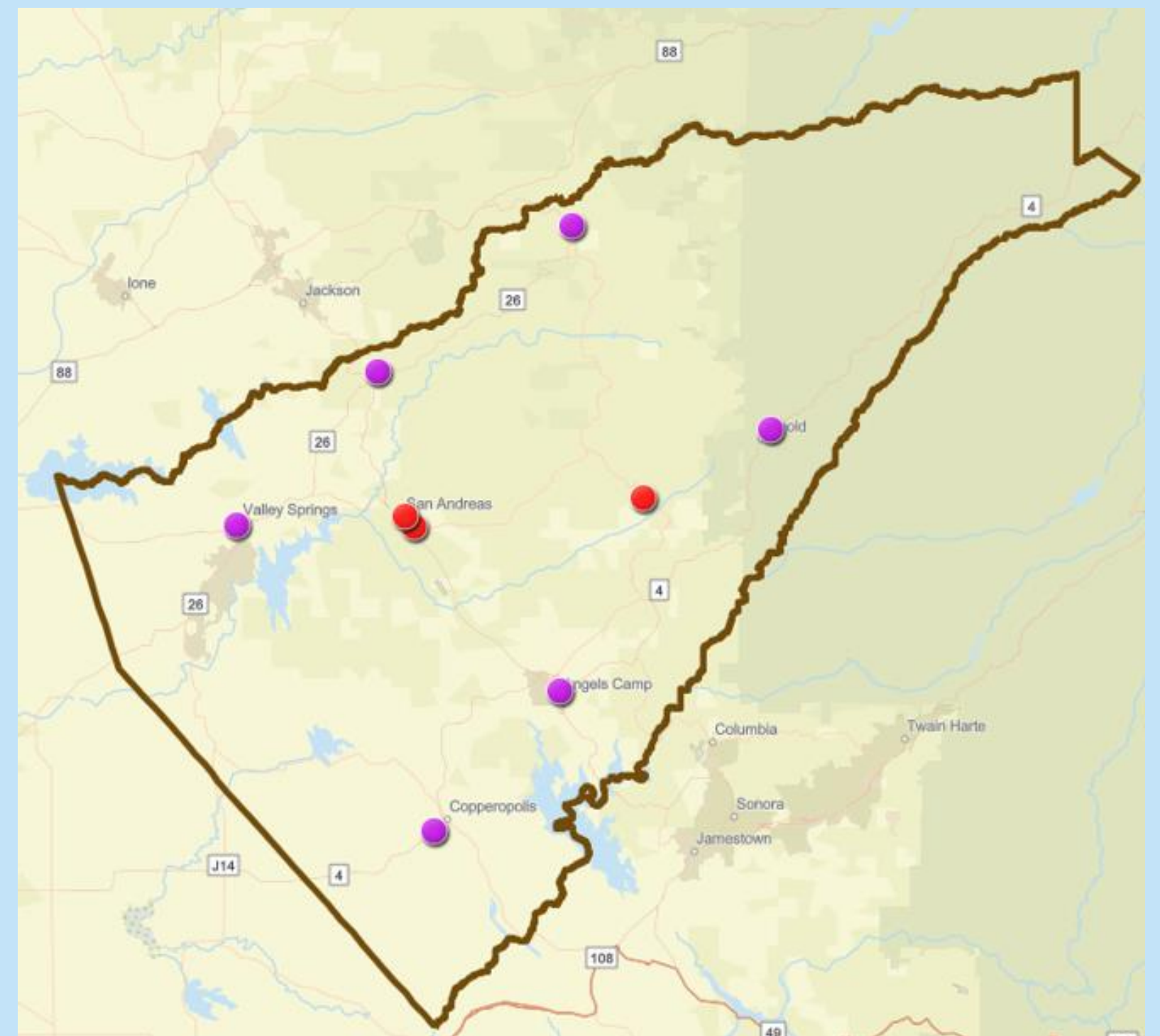
SCAN THE CODE FOR INFORMATION ON NALOXONE.



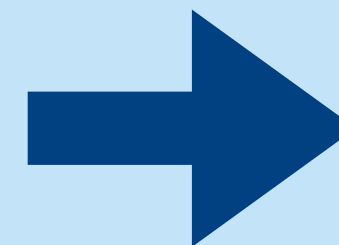
209-754-6460



www.calaveraspublichealth.com



Scan for GIS map of Kiosks





Training, Partnerships, and Lived Experience

Developed partnerships with:

- EMS
- Fire authorities & Law enforcement
- Criminal justice partners
- Veteran organizations
- Homeless programs
- Schools & Libraries
- Faith based organizations
- Community organizations
- Substance use disorder recovery facilities
- Hospital emergency departments
- Tribal Partners
- County departments





Training, Partnerships, and Lived Experience

- Co-host public awareness events
- Strengthen trust with community
 - Collaborate with community members with lived experience
 - Utilize trusted messengers
 - Consistent outreach and messaging



Key Lessons

- Meeting people where they are is essential
- Cross-sector collaboration multiplies impact and is key in a small community
 - The importance of non-traditional partners
- Trusted messengers matter
- Consistency and honoring commitments builds credibility
- Simple, low-barrier access saves lives
- Small programs can create big impact
- Documented outcomes strengthen sustainability



PUBLIC HEALTH VENDING MACHINE NOW OPEN!

The Public Health Vending Machine offers no-cost:
COVID-19 tests
Oral health kits
NARCAN
Hygiene kits
Tobacco quit kits
and much more!

Open during business hours at the Calaveras Health and Human Services Agency building located at 509 E. St. Charles Street, San Andreas in the first floor lobby near Eligibility Services. Available to people who live in Calaveras.

NO COST

Contact Calaveras County Public Health at 209-754-6460 for questions.

Anthem

CCPH | OPIOID SAFETY PROGRAM

Program Successes

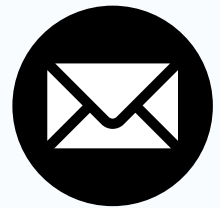
- Over 3,500 Narcan boxes distributed
- 8 community Narcan kiosks
- Stocked vending machine with Narcan/fentanyl test strips
- 1,200 community members trained in naloxone use and opioid safety
- 75 confirmed overdose reversals using CCPH-distributed Narcan



Questions?



Colleen Rodriguez: CRodriguez@calaverascounty.gov



Justin Barnes: JBarnes@calaverascounty.gov



Quincy Dyson: QDyson@calaverascounty.gov

