

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**DATE: April 21, 2022**



## **CHICOSTART ANNOUNCES IHUB2 DESIGNATION CONCEPTS & PARTNERS**

**Chico, CA: The Governors' Office of Business (Go-BIZ) California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA)** recently announced that **Chicostart** is 1 of 10 grant recipients for the California Inclusive Innovation Hub (iHub2) program.

The launch of CAIOSBA iHub2 program, focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion, will accelerate technology and science-based firms in key industry areas with a strong outreach focus on diverse founders, including women and people of color, and on underserved geographies and regions. **Chicostart's** iHUB2 designation covers over 20+ counties in Northern California.

Chicostart's focus will be to build the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem for equitable access to entrepreneurial resources with inclusive ecosystem expansion into our rural and diverse communities. This will include growing Chicostart's **growTECH** initiative throughout the region as well.

The Chicostart iHUB designation concepts include, but are not limited to:

- building the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem
- stronger ties to the community college system
- leverage UC and CSU initiatives
- provide access to entrepreneurial resources by expand Chicostarts footprint with our "Powered By" series
- workshops on key industry sector programs and translating resources from english to spanish and later, from english to hmong.

Chicostart is grateful for these partners who are in support of these above concepts and programs including [California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) (CAHCC) covering 120 chambers, [Regional Consortia of Community Colleges](#) covering 22 community colleges, economic development agencies from most counties under our purview, every university in our region, coworking spaces, VC's, accelerators, commercialization partners and more.

[CalOSBA iHUB2 Press Release](#)

[California Inclusive Innovation Hub Program and Map \(iHub2\)](#)

For media inquiries about the iHUB2 designation or to learn more about [Chicostart](#) services and [growTECH membership](#), please contact Eva Shepherd-Nicoll, Executive Director of Chicostart at [eva@chicostart.com](mailto:eva@chicostart.com).

**About Chicostart:** Chicostart supports and enriches Northern California's Entrepreneurial Ecosystem by providing small business, entrepreneurs and startups the resources they need to succeed. Our platform includes shared office amenities, mentoring, workshops, internships, tech talks, student to business projects, entrepreneurial events, satellite office programs, and anything else that helps our core mission of helping startups succeed. As a GO-BIZ iHub for the Far North, the Chicostart ecosystem includes but is not limited to investors, technologists, entrepreneurs, students, educators, local businesses, agencies and mentors. ###