

PRESS RELEASE
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CHICOSTART NORTH STATE IHUB2 BRINGS IN UC DAVIS AS AN AG INNOVATION PARTNER

CHICO, CA: [Chicostart](#) and UC Davis are extending agriculture and natural resources to the Northern California Region through their iHub2 partner designation. These resources are extended through the UC Davis [College of Agriculture and Natural Resources](#) and [The Vine](#). This partnership is another valuable component that Chicostarts' North State iHub2 brings to bear to fill this particular gap in the North State entrepreneurial ecosystem.

UC Davis & the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources

The UC Agriculture and Natural Resources connects the power of UC research in agriculture, natural resources, nutrition and youth development with local communities to improve the lives of all Californians.

The VINE - Agriculture and Food Innovation Resource

Under the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, the VINE is a valuable resource connector that identifies, commercializes, and scales science and technology breakthroughs that drive sustainability in agriculture and food systems.

"Addressing food security, agtech and self-sustaining food systems ensure economic survival in the region and rural communities. These are among the biggest societal challenges of our time. UCANR and UC Davis along w/ The VINE partners are taking the lead in gathering partners and addressing these challenges. We are thrilled to be

one of their partners.” stated **Eva Shepherd-Nicoll, Executive Director of Chicostart.**

“Maintaining a competitive, profitable, and sustainable agrifood industry, addressing climate change, and securing the food supply is critical,” said **Gabe Youtsey, Chief Innovation Officer for the VINE.** “This network will be looking to address everything from predictive agriculture and biological controls to small farms and workforce challenges. These VINE partners will ensure the equitable access and diverse participation necessary to tackle these challenges and are glad to have Chicostart and their North State iHub2 region as one of our market and commercialization partners”.

The iHub2 Network is a vital part of Chicostart’s efforts to enhance the North State’s diversity, equity, inclusion, and connectivity to other centers of innovation and economic game changers across the state. Our iHUB2 designated service area comprises 20+ counties in the North State.

Visit our [website](#) to learn more about our iHUB designation and service areas.

For media inquiries about the Chicostart/UC Davis iHUB2 partner designation or to learn more about [Chicostart](#) services and [growTECH membership](#), please contact Eva Shepherd-Nicoll, Executive Director of Chicostart at 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. ###