

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Bridge Forward Technology Announces Web Grant Kern County 2026

Bakersfield, CA – Bridge Forward Technology, in partnership with Tri Counties Bank, 3C Capital Funding doing business as Kern Inclusive Entrepreneurship Hub, is proud to announce the return of Web Grant Kern County 2026, a transformative program designed to empower small business owners by establishing and strengthening their presence in the digital marketplace.

Web Grant Kern County aims to bridge the digital divide by equipping small businesses particularly those in underserved communities with the tools and resources needed to build a professional online presence. Grant recipients will receive a comprehensive digital marketing package, including:

- A custom brochure-style website tailored to their business needs, built by Bailey Ave Inc.
- Professional logo design and assistance securing a domain name
- One year of website maintenance

“Web Grant Kern County reflects our commitment to leveling the playing field for small businesses across the Central Valley,” said Anthony Bailey, Co-Founder of Bridge Forward Technology. “By equipping business owners with the tools to thrive online, we’re fostering innovation, growth, and long-term economic opportunity in our communities.”

3C Capital Funding and the Kern Inclusive Entrepreneurs Hub play a vital role in expanding outreach and supporting entrepreneurs throughout Kern County, helping ensure that diverse business owners have access to critical digital resources and opportunities.

“Tri Counties Bank has a long history of investing in the financial success and well-being of the communities it serves,” said Rose Pereira, Vice President and Community Development Officer at Tri Counties Bank. “Web Grant Kern County ensures that small business owners can focus on growing their businesses without the burden of initial website costs and the first year of content upkeep.”

KIEH will identify a chosen applicant from the 2026 Entrepreneurial Incubator Program. The program is designed for businesses that currently lack an online presence or need support

transitioning into e-commerce. Interested applicants can apply at:
www.bridgeforwardtech.org/webgrant

About Bridge Forward Technology

Bridge Forward Technology is committed to creating opportunities for underserved communities through innovative programs that expand access to technology, digital literacy, and economic development resources. Through initiatives like Web Grant, the organization works to empower individuals and businesses to thrive in today's digital economy.

About 3C Capital Funding

3C Capital Funding is dedicated to supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs by providing access to capital resources, financial guidance, and strategic support that helps businesses grow and succeed in competitive markets.

About Kern Inclusive Entrepreneurs Hub

The Kern Inclusive Entrepreneurs Hub is focused on advancing entrepreneurship and economic opportunity across Kern County by supporting diverse business owners through education, mentorship, and strategic partnerships.

About Tri Counties Bank

Established in 1975, Tri Counties Bank is a wholly-owned subsidiary of TriCo Bancshares (NASDAQ: TCBK), headquartered in Chico, California with corporate offices in Roseville, South San Francisco, and Bakersfield, with assets of nearly \$10 billion and 50 years of financial stability. The bank provides exceptional service for individuals and businesses throughout California with more than 75 locations, advanced mobile and online banking, and access to approximately 40,000 surcharge-free ATMs nationwide. As California's Local Bank, Tri Counties Bank prioritizes local decision-making and community investment. Member FDIC. Equal Housing Lender. NMLS #458732.

About Bailey Ave Inc.

Bailey Ave Inc. is a Central Valley-based technology services firm specializing in website development, digital communications, and technology solutions for small businesses, nonprofits, and community organizations. Through its partnership with Bridge Forward Technology's Web Grant Program, Bailey Ave Inc. provides the technical development and implementation of websites awarded to grant recipients.

www.baileyave.com