

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
DECEMBER 6, 2023**



**ChicoSTART Introduces *Advancing Modoc* as New
*Accelerated by Partner***



December 6, 2023 - Chico, CA: [ChicoSTART](https://www.chicostart.com) is pleased to welcome Advancing Modoc to our *Accelerated by ChicoSTART* iHUB2 program. Advancing Modoc is located in Modoc County which is one of the designated service areas ChicoSTART supports through the CalOSBA Accelerate CA Inclusive Innovation Hub2 (iHub2).

As an *Accelerated by* partner, ChicoSTART will facilitate easy access to business services and resources for the Modoc entrepreneurial community. This collaboration will create and drive an entrepreneurial culture in Modoc County with the ultimate goal of growing innovation in the local economy. By promoting a culture of innovation, ChicoSTART and Advancing Modoc aim to stimulate their communities and contribute to the long-term success of businesses in the county. This works perfectly, as Advancing Modoc works to “strengthen educational outcomes from cradle to career.” ChicoSTARTs resources will help support their community in those areas, which is a significant step towards building a more robust and supportive environment for entrepreneurs.

Eva Shepherd-Nicoll, Executive Director, ChicoSTART says, “This is another example of our rural outreach results, as ChicoSTART’s iHub2 role is to bring entrepreneurial resources to rural areas. Advancing Modoc needs to connect with entrepreneurs at any stage - with resources, tools, programs, and experienced mentors. ChicoSTART will be a one-stop shop for Modoc County and will be helping their community in all of those areas and more. We know how critical it is to get accessible resources to underserved and disaster-impacted areas, and this is one of our core priorities.”

Tanja Ramming- Director, Executive Director of Advancing Modoc, states that “over 40% of every dollar earned in Modoc County is through self-employment. And that doesn’t count toward earning the employees that small businesses employ! Our rural economy depends on the innovation and solutions offered by small-town entrepreneurs. No one is coming to help us- we know that we need to help ourselves! And in that challenge lies the opportunity. ChicoSTART has been invaluable in supporting our experienced and budding Modoc entrepreneurs! By streamlining resources and services and hosting virtual workshops, the word is getting out. Eva Shepherd-Nicoll is an advocate for rural, and we consider her a Modoc champion and dear friend. Not only has she come to Modoc County, but she has taught a workshop series for us and encouraged other service providers to partner and produce. Her enthusiasm and deep knowledge have created serious Modoc momentum! ”

Interested in learning how to connect with Advancing Modoc? Contact Eva Shepherd-Nicoll at eva@chicostart.com or Tanja Ramming at amy@teachinc.org and visit <https://advancingmodoc.org/>.

In 2023, Chicostart was 1 of 13 designees awarded the statewide Accelerate CA Inclusive Innovation Hub (iHUB2) grant from CalOSBA. Chicostart’s iHUB2 designation covers over 20+ counties in Northern California, focusing on building the regional entrepreneurial ecosystem for equitable access to entrepreneurial resources with inclusive ecosystem expansion into our **rural** and **diverse** communities.

About Chicostart: Chicostart supports and enriches Northern California’s Entrepreneurial Ecosystem by providing small businesses, entrepreneurs, and startups with 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.

About Advancing Modoc

Advancing Modoc is one of 10 county members in the North State Together collaborative. North State Together is a regional network of cross-sector partners who have come together to strengthen educational outcomes from cradle to career for all in far Northern California. Our county network teams bring together community leaders, cross-sector partners, families, and students who combine expertise to work toward a vision of student success. They are composed of staff and faculty from our region’s K-12 districts, community colleges, CSU and UC, nonprofit organizations, government, and local industry leaders. This network of practitioners and experts collaborates to guide regional and county-level initiatives and craft tactical plans that will help student populations in the North State. <https://advancingmodoc.org/> # # #

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