

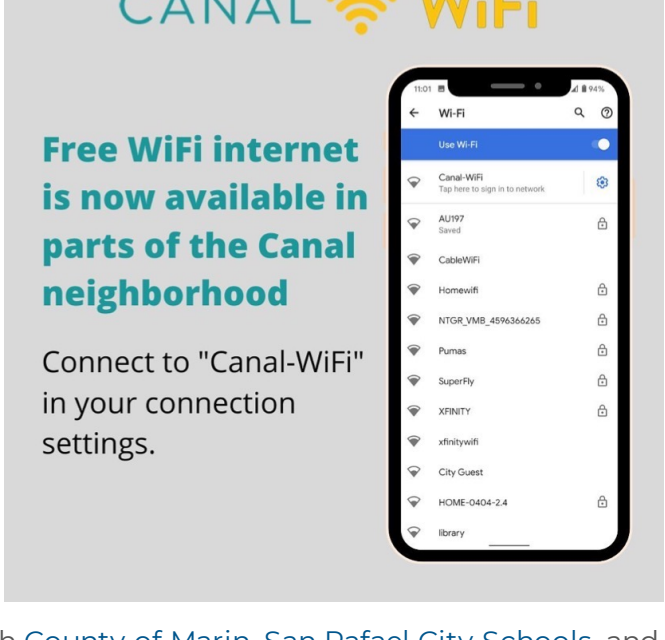
For 15 years, [Canal Alliance](#) CEO Omar Carrera, has advocated for the development of an extensive broadband network in the Canal. Together with the support of funders, community members and partners, the first phase of the mesh Wi-Fi network in the Canal has launched!

Canal Alliance's goal is to build the foundation of a network with scalable infrastructure that allows us to expand the capacity to support the entire community. The network is designed to provide students with priority access to the internet. Residents of the Canal will also have access to a portal that the city of San Rafael will use to impart vital information and critical government services, such as information about public health, unemployment and Cal-Fresh.

As COVID-19 has unveiled disparities and inequalities in Marin County, residents of the Canal are greatly and disproportionately impacted. While 3% of COVID-19 tests in Marin County come back positive overall, 20% of those in the Canal present positive, sometimes spiking as high as 40%. As a result, Canal Alliance and the County of Marin, hired five Contact Investigators (CIs) to identify, interview, and support Canal community members exposed to or infected by COVID-19. Canal Alliance has assisted about 200 people in receiving Unemployment Insurance (UI) and 150 have been granted Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA) this year.

This proactive attitude lifts up our community and helps families. We appreciate the efforts of our staff members who are dedicated to finding creative and flexible ways to address the new and urgent needs that are arising in our community, and we appreciate our community of donors and partners whose generosity and words of support makes our efforts possible.

Canal Wi-Fi now live!



We partnered with [County of Marin](#), [San Rafael City Schools](#), and [the City of San Rafael](#) to build a mesh Wi-Fi Network in the Canal with the help of community members and funders.

We are excited to share the first portion of the Canal Wi-Fi Network is live! We will continue to work to ensure all students have access to reliable internet!

[Click here to read more about the Canal Wi-Fi project >>>](#)

Updates on Canal Wi-Fi

Impact of COVID-19 in the Canal



From her remote workspace, Case Manager Cristina Sosa helps clients to overcome obstacles to housing, employment, nutrition, and family well-being.

[Read the full story >>>](#)



Contact Investigator, Arandu Alvarez, identifies, interviews, and supports Canal community members exposed to or infected by COVID-19.

[Read the full story >>>](#)

Thank You to our Partners and Supporters



A big shout out to [KWMR](#) for promoting 2020 Census Participation in West Marin and making sure we are all counted.

Become an Aliado

During this time of crisis, members of Canal Alliance's Aliados (or 'Allies') monthly giving program are sustaining partners and consistent champions of immigrants. Dedicated advocates of the Latino community, Aliados pledge a recurring gift to Canal Alliance to support immigrants to achieve their goals of meaningful employment, education for their children, and well-being for their whole family.

Join our committed community of Aliados today and support Latino families as they demonstrate resilience in the face of threatening immigration policies, navigate through and beyond the pandemic, and work toward the life they want for themselves and future generations. As a member of the Aliados, you help make Marin a place where everyone can live, work, learn, and succeed.

Join the Aliados Today

Be Counted: Less than 30 days to Complete the 2020 Census



Some of our historically undercounted communities are still struggling with low response rates as they cope with the pandemic and wildfires. Here at Canal Alliance we continue our census outreach efforts by providing assistance to help the community we serve respond to the census.

Accurate census data is critical for recovery efforts ahead of us to support residents, businesses, schools, community based organizations, clinics and other public services. Complete the census today online at <https://my2020census.gov/>, by phone at 844-330-2020 in English and 844-468-2020 in Spanish or visiting us on Thursdays from 4-7 pm in front of Canal Alliance. If you have already responded to the 2020 Census ask your family, friends and neighbors to respond. We all count, we all matter and now is the time to make everyone in our community visible.

Canal Alliance Voter Registration Efforts



Last week Canal Alliance launched our new voter registration program. Watch our new [get out the vote video](#) filmed in the Canal with community leaders. From our [website](#) and [mobile app](#) you can register to vote using our [online link](#). We are also providing virtual voter registration assistance by calling 415-306-0451 or visiting us on Thursdays from 4-7 pm in front of Canal Alliance.

Thank you and Congratulations Janet!



Congratulations Janet Fletcher, née Attaway

for **35 years of financial leadership** in the private and non-profit sectors. In 7 years as CFO at Canal Alliance, Janet helped build a financially secure and sustainable organization that **serves over 4,000 families each year.**



Remembering Board Member Yvonne Ayala



Our hearts go out to the family, friends and loved ones of Yvonne Ayala, who died tragically on August 3rd. A beloved friend and Canal Alliance board member, Yvonne worked as a Human Resources Manager at EO Products. She was a great advocate for the Latino immigrant community and a wonderful ambassador for the mission of Canal Alliance, and will be greatly missed by all who had the honor of knowing her.

More Ways to Keep in Touch

