



## News Release

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November 22, 2016



### **AgPLUS hosts rural small business workshop**

**WINTERS, Calif.** – More than 50 people attended AgPLUS' Rural Small Business Workshop on Friday, November 18 at the Winters Community Center in Winters, Calif. Hosted by AgPLUS Capital Region lead Valley Vision, the workshop was geared toward food and agriculture businesses with under 50 employees in Yolo and Solano Counties.

The forum provided the opportunity for growers, ranchers, processors, distributors, and others in the supply chain to connect with providers of business development resources. Welcoming remarks were provided by Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Mayor of Winters; Don Saylor, Yolo County Supervisor; and John Vazquez, Solano County Supervisor. Presentations on resources available to food and beverage manufacturers were provided by representatives from the USDA Rural Development of California, Small Business Administration (SBA), University of California Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (UC ANR), Solano Small Business Development Center, First Northern Bank and Sacramento Area Council of Governments.

May other partners participated in a Resource Roundup where attendees were able to connect one-on-one with providers.

Valley Vision provided a list of all the available resources and programs at the event, which you can view [HERE](#).

Earlier this year, Central Valley AgPLUS Food and Beverage Manufacturing Consortium (AgPLUS) was awarded an USDA Rural Development California Grant for its AgPLUS Rural Business Resources

Assistance Program. The program provides workshops and technical assistance to small and emerging rural businesses throughout the Sacramento, San Joaquin Valley, and North State regions. Additional workshops are planned into 2017.

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*Central Valley AgPLUS Food and Beverage Manufacturing Consortium (AgPLUS) is an Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP) designated region in Central California. Through a strategic partnership between the Office of Community and Economic Development at Fresno State, the Center for Economic Development at Chico State, Tuolumne County Economic Development Authority and Valley Vision, AgPLUS is an unprecedented effort to bolster California's food manufacturing economy.*

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