



# Bridging the economic divide with public library makerspaces

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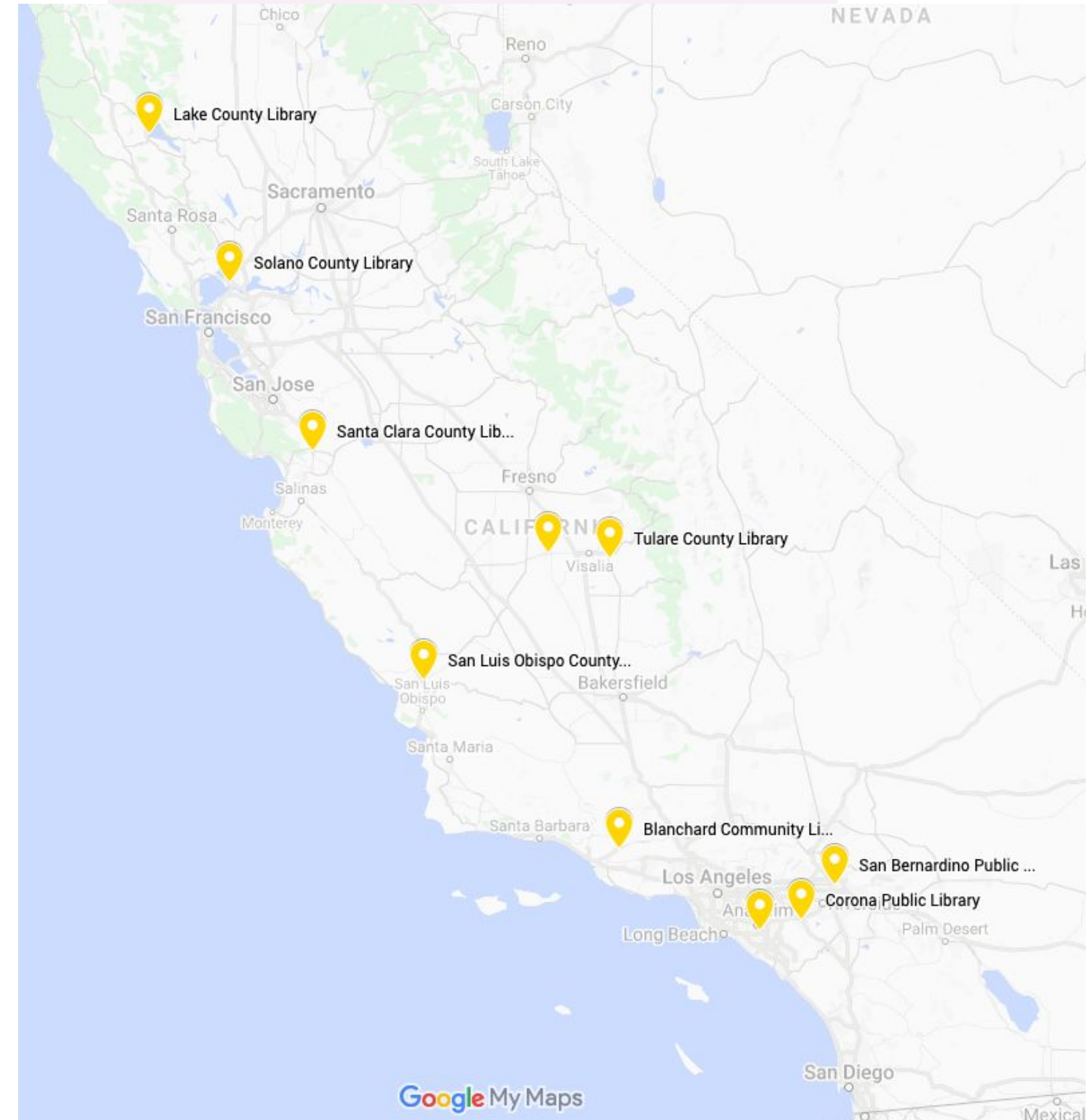
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# The Goal

To provide resources and support for public libraries (without big budgets) to build sustainable maker programs.

We partnered with 10 libraries throughout CA for 2.5 years.



# The Economic Divide

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- Almost 4 in 10 Californians are living in or near poverty
- 17.8% of Californians lack enough resources to meet basic needs
- Latinos and less-educated Californians continue to have dramatically higher poverty rates

<https://www.ppic.org/publication/poverty-in-california/>

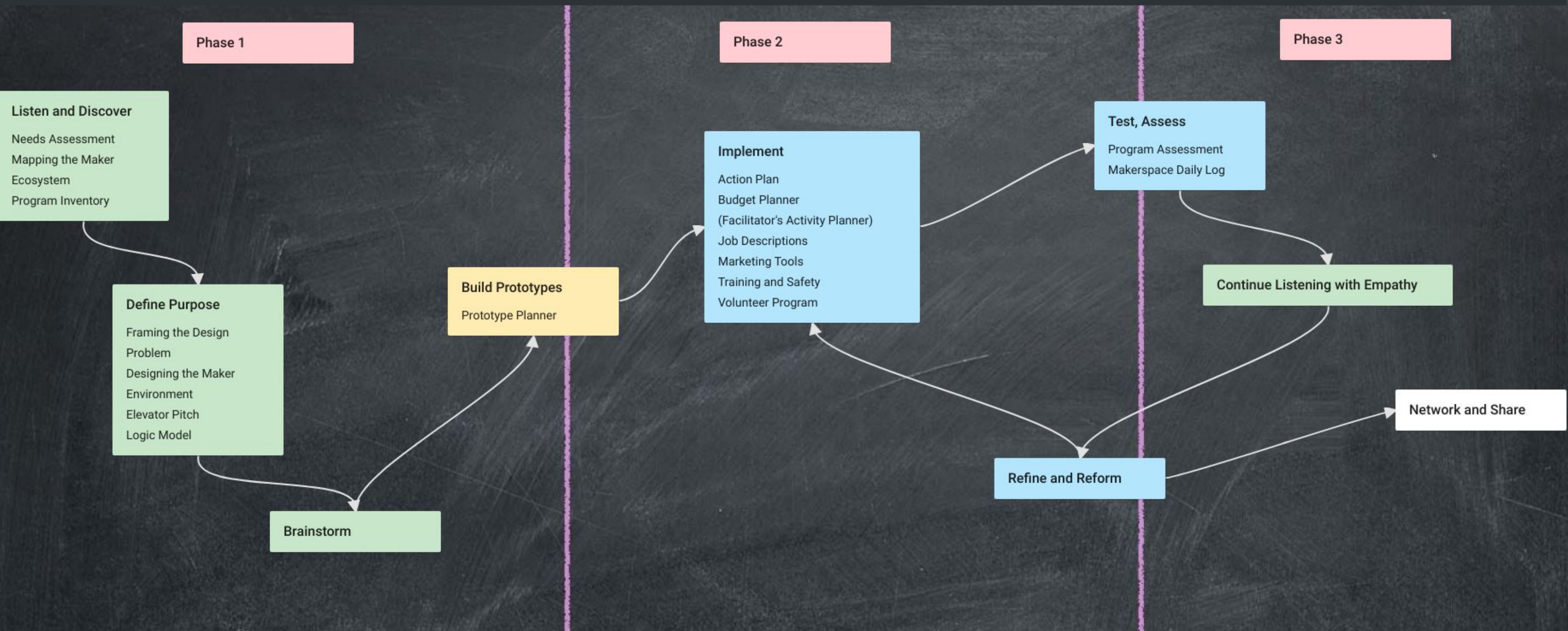


# Why Libraries?

- All are welcome
- Safe environment
- Free resources
- Dedicated to lifelong learning



# Our Process



# The Toolkit Coming Aug 2020!

- Detailed overview of our process
- Workbook with tools you can copy and use immediately

Join our Facebook Group to receive updates!

- Search for [Makers in the Library](#)

Get a preview of the resources at:  
[www.ccclibrarymakers.org](http://www.ccclibrarymakers.org)

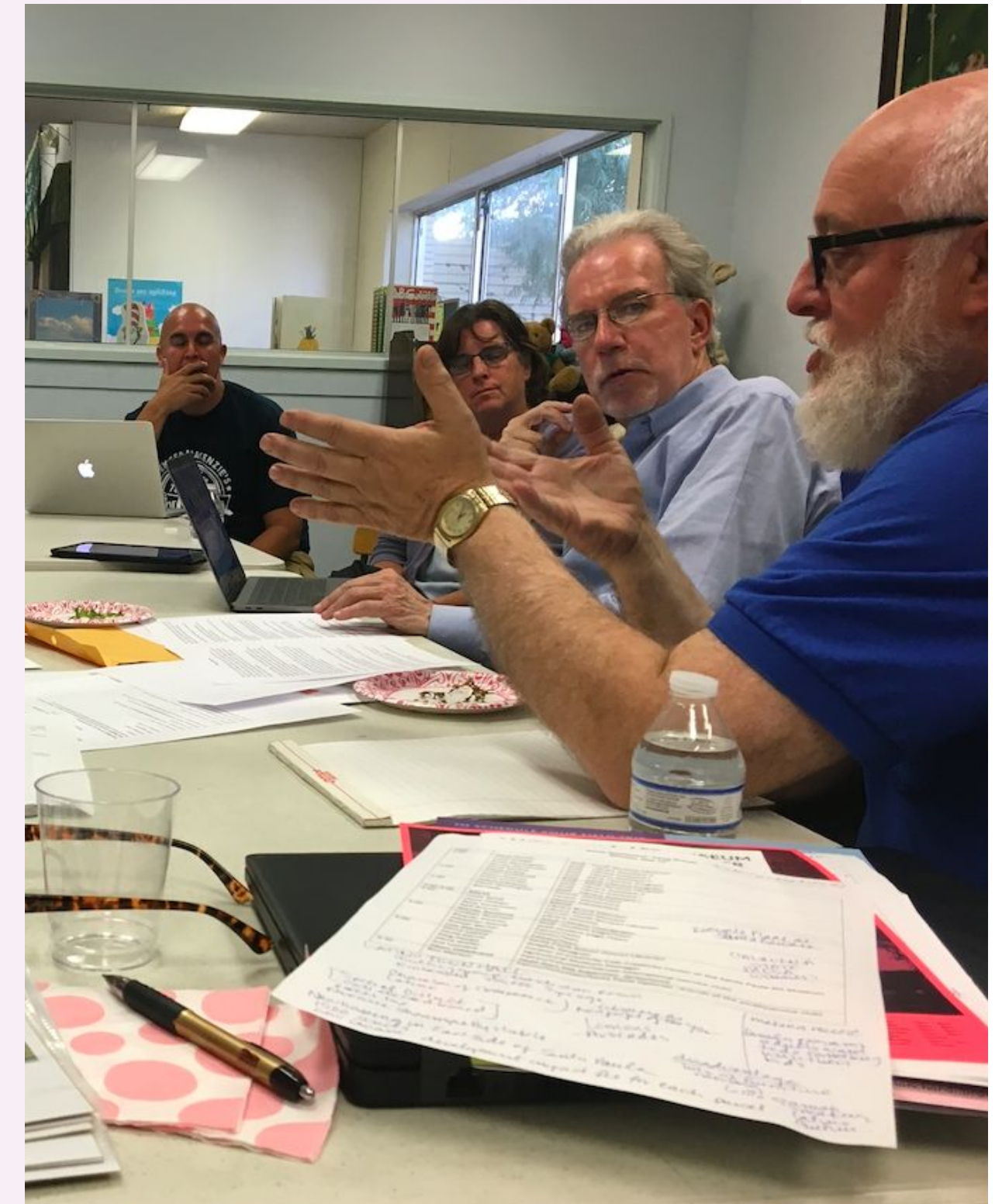


# Listening and Discovery

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## Focus Groups:

1. Provide more in-depth information than other methods
2. Participants interact in ways that enrich the quality of the data
3. The focus group process is as important as the outcome
4. Builds local buy-in and participation



# Who to Invite to Focus Groups

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- Staff
- Patrons
- Community members/partners
- Other interested stakeholders





# How to Ask, What to Ask

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Questions should be:

- Directed from general to the specific
- Should be open-ended to generate discussion
- Move from engagement to exploration
- Avoid 'yes' or 'no question'



# How to Analyze the Results and Start Planning

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- Transcribe all of the focus group comments
- Note main ideas that occur in the answers
- No need to address all issues. Best to start small.



# Quotes



*“Getting the parent away from the kid would be a great idea. One of my goals for the makerspace is to build confidence across the ages groups, for them to go out, be independent, hands-on and creative.”*



# Quotes

*“Having things like a laser cutter, 3D printer or other kinds of tech-related activities, can bring in teen boys and girls. They have skills they don’t even know they have because all of the hands-on activities have been taken out of the schools.”*



# Quotes

*“I’d love a program where you could teach kids about plants and they could dig. It would be like their own garden. At their level it’d be perfect.”*



# Quotes

*“There are lots of artistic people in the community. I think they are all kind of scattered. It would be great if we could be a focal point and try to get them in to work with us.”*



# Lake County Library



Rural Lake County's natural landscape includes Mt. Konocti and Clear Lake.



Lakeport Branch Library in Lake County, CA



# Lakeport's People and Purpose

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Young children and families, to expand on the program offerings beyond Storytime and invite them to hands on STEM and open ended creative experiences

Older adults and seniors, to fill a need for creative activities and community





# Transforming a Space for Children

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# Building a Generous Creative Community for Adults and Seniors

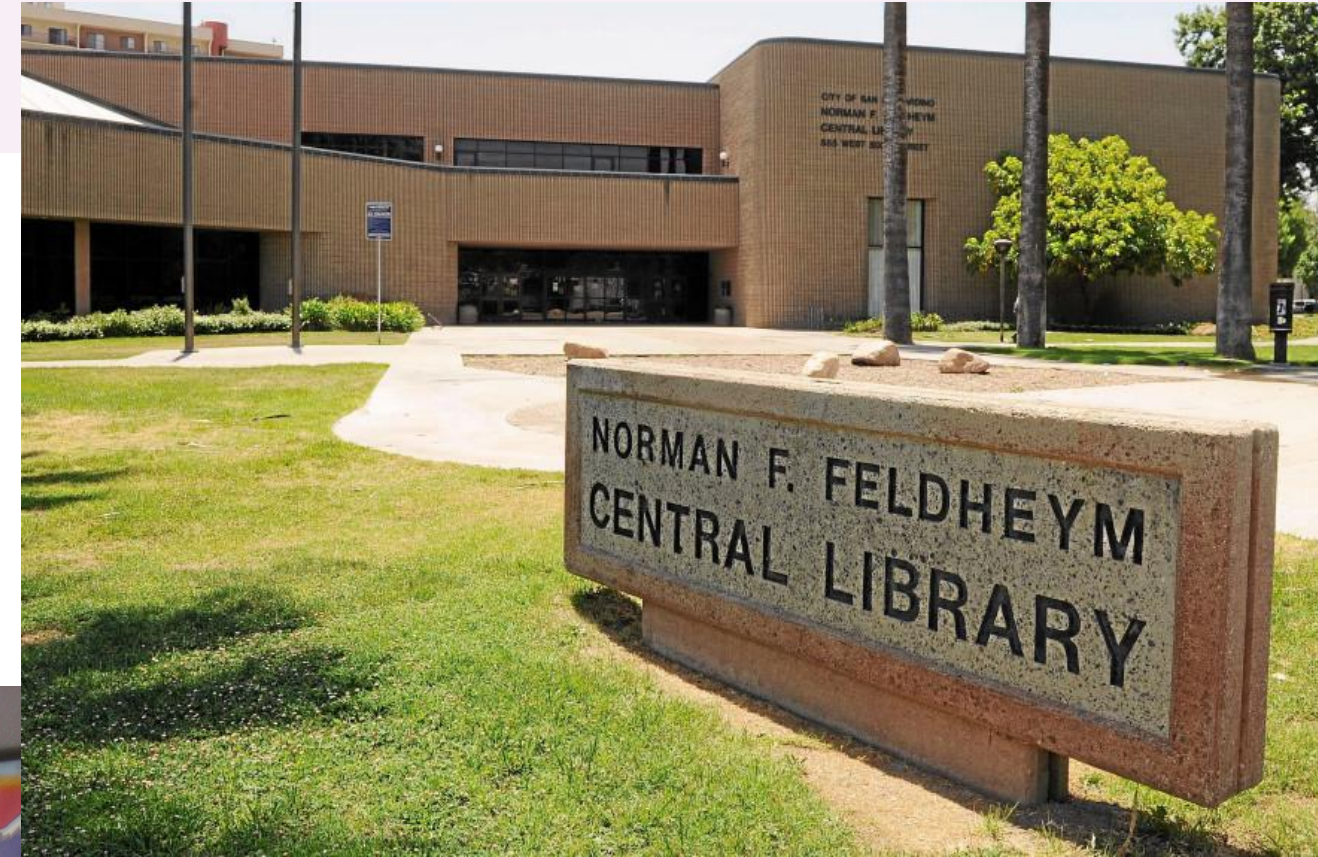
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# San Bernardino Public Library



The San Bernardino Mountain Range



Norman F. Feldheim is the main branch with 3 smaller branches.

Creation Station is part of the Jack L. Hill Lifelong Learning Center on the 2nd floor of the Norman F. Feldheim Central Library.



# San Bernardino's People and Purpose



Cardboard Construction Event



Christmas Ornament  
Craft

3rd Tuesday of the month VR



San Bernardino Public Library's

**MAKERSPACE**  
**Creation Station**

**Dream. Design. Create**

Create a safe, welcoming  
community place for all ages  
to learn and be creative!



# Transforming a Space for a Range of Activities



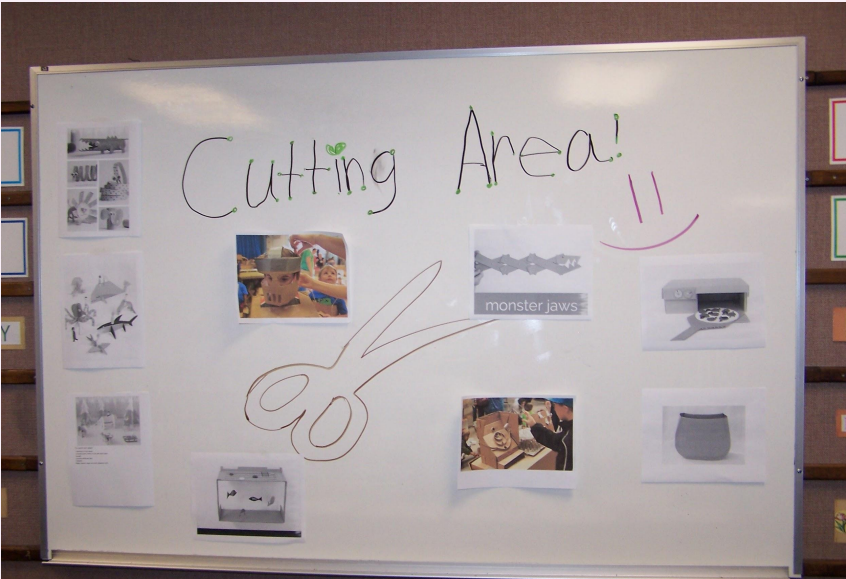
VR night down in the Teen Zone



FFL (Families for Literacy) Room



Jack L. Hill Lifelong Learning Center



Using different areas within the LLC



# Making the Case to Gain Support and Making Time for it in the Library Schedule

**2nd Tuesday VR Day**  
 In the Teen Zone  
 6:00–7:45 P.M.  
 15 minute limit. First come first served.

All participants must sign a waiver. Children under 18 must have parental consent. **Must be 7+ years old to participate.** Children under 12 must have a parent present.

**4th Tuesday**  
**Crochet Club**

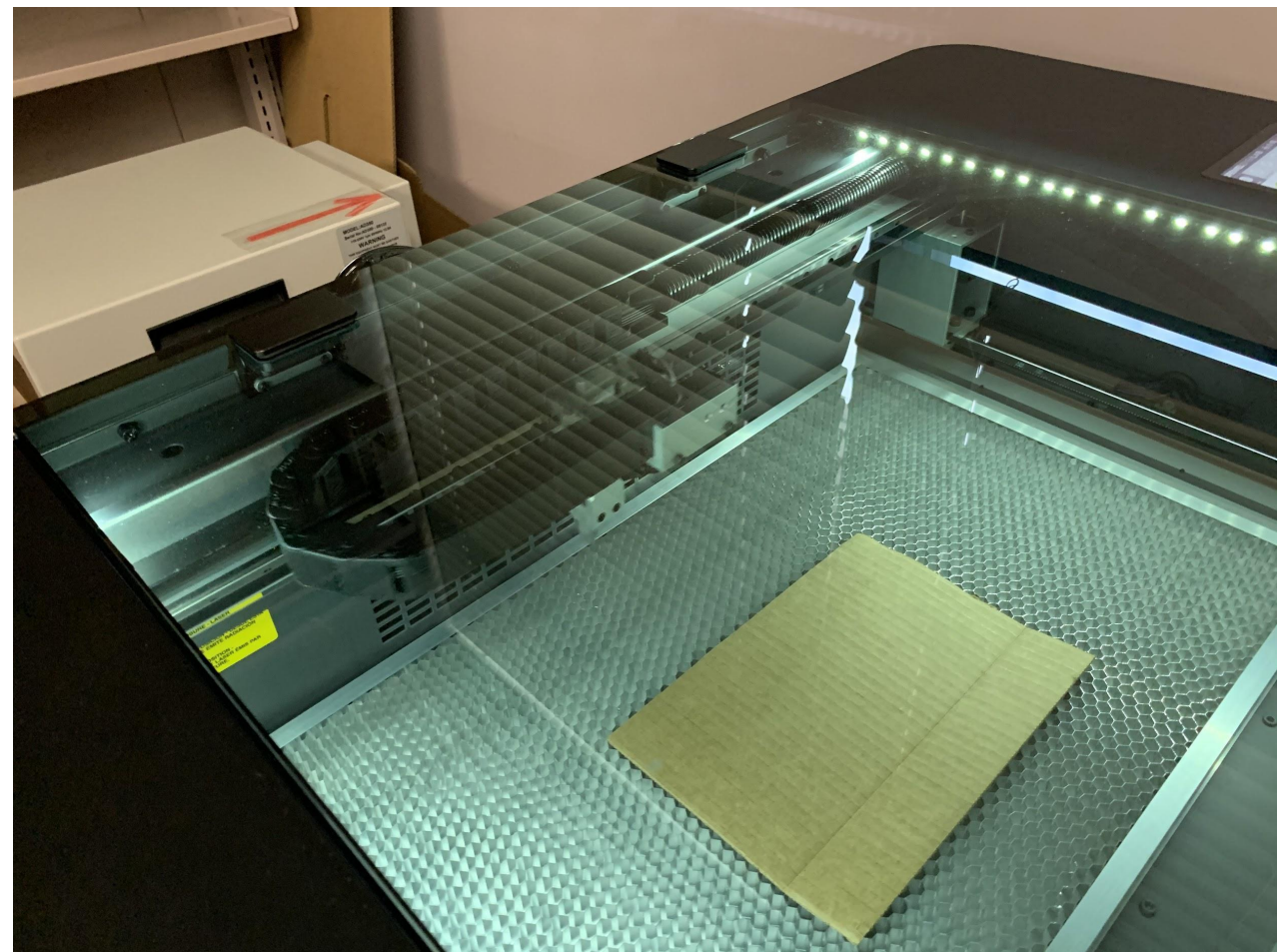
Creation Station 2nd floor  
 Jack L Hill Lifelong Learning Center



6:00–7:45 P.M.

For information call 909-381-8205

Extended evening hours allow makerspace programs for more patrons.



Dremel Digilab Laser Cutter and BOFA Filtration system  
 Donated by the Foundation



Staff member used the 3D printer to create ribbon centerpieces for an annual cancer event.

# Corona Public Library



- Single-branch, municipally funded
  - 15 Full-time staff, 25 Part-time staff
- Serving approximately 168,000 citizens
  - 50% of households have children under age 18
  - Commuter community, under 90,000 local jobs
- School district spans four cities, 50 school sites
  - 53,000+ students
  - 46% of students qualify for free or reduced lunch



# Corona's People and Purpose

## Library Mission:

The Corona Public Library welcomes and supports all people in the enjoyment of reading and pursuit of lifelong learning. Working together, we strive to provide access to information, ideas and knowledge through books, technology, programs, services, and other resources. We believe in the freedom to read, to learn, and to discover.

## Maker Exchange Focus:

- Primary: Teens
- Secondary: Adults
- Tertiary: Tweens





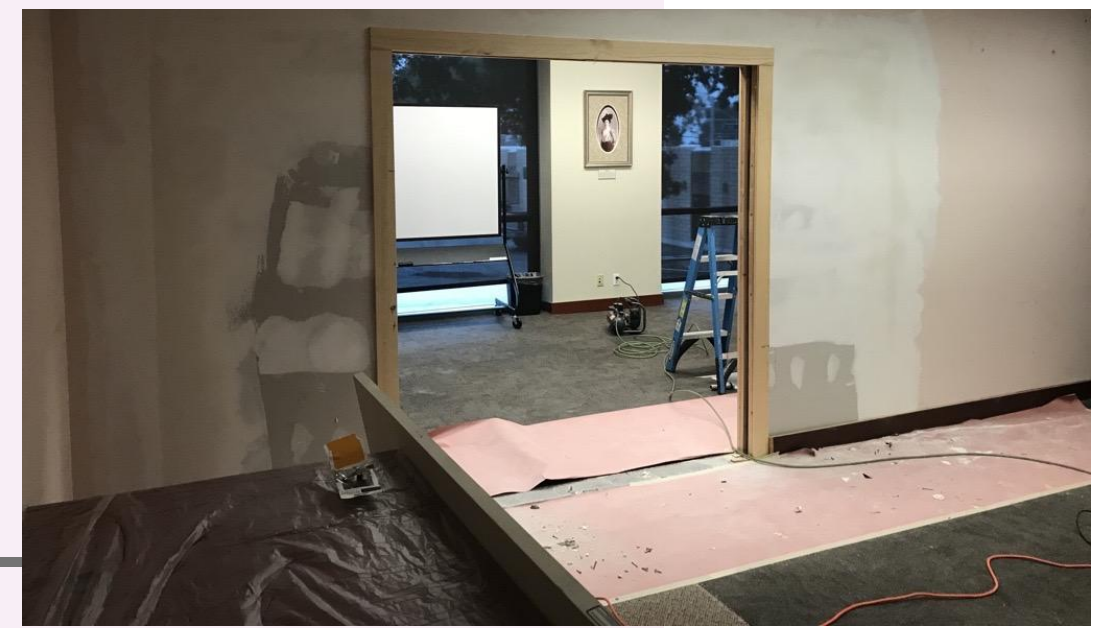


# Building capacity, building partnerships

- Funders/Sponsors
  - Non- and for-profits
- Partners
  - Local Makers
- Administration
  - Institutional Support



# Launching the Maker Exchange



# Question and Answer

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*This project was made possible in part by the  
Institute of Museum and Library Services.*



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