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The California Office of the Small Business Advocate (CalOSBA) supports economic growth and innovation statewide. CalOSBA's core mission is to provide resources to all California small businesses, disabled veteran business enterprises (SB/DVBEs), minority and women-owned businesses, and those individuals who own and operate businesses located in low-wealth and rural communities.

CalOSBA supports outreach and engagement efforts through advocacy, sharing resources, and building resilience through programs and our Technical Assistance Network that supports growth and business sustainability.

This regional newsletter highlights the ecosystem and CalOSBA's efforts to serve California businesses statewide.

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[Northern California](#)

Natural Behavioral Solutions Helping Kids Achieve Independence Through Behavioral Health



Caption: Amanda Messina-Godfrey, Founder, Executive Director, and Board-Certified Behavior Analyst therapist

Natural Behavioral Solutions is an Applied Behavioral Analytical (ABA) company which uses naturalistic approaches to teaching children and adults ages 1 through 22 years-old with disabilities or behavioral concerns to achieve independence in their home, school, and community.

This quote by Brooke Hampton on the Natural Behavioral Solutions website captures the spirit of their approach:

“Speak to your children as if they are the wisest, kindest, most beautiful and magical humans on the Earth, for what they believe is what they will become.”

Amanda Messina-Godfrey, Founder, Executive Director, and Board-Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) therapist received small business guidance from the Renaissance Entrepreneurship Center to help her business grow.

Find out more by reading the article on LinkedIn by [clicking here](#).

[Central California](#)

Congratulations Precision Construction Services: The 2023 State Small Business Persons of the Year for California



Caption: Precision founders Karl Vaillancourt, Jared Malapit, and Erik Wright

Recently, the SBA announced the “2023 Small Business Persons of the Year” from each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Precision Construction Services (PCS), a leading construction company based in San Luis Obispo, CA, was selected as the 2023 Small Business Persons of the Year for the State of California. Founded in 2010, PCS has been providing construction services to commercial and residential clients in the Central Coast area. Customer satisfaction has been at the core of PCS's business philosophy.

Administrator Isabella Casillas Guzman, head of the U.S. Small Business Administration stated, “Our 2023 State Small Business Persons of the Year have given their all to achieve their American dream — to own and build a strong, resilient business; create jobs; increase competition and innovation and power America’s historic economic recovery”.

The winners will be recognized on Sunday, April 30th and Monday, May 1st during the National Small Business Week awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. CalOSBA congratulates Precision Construction Services for a job well done in receiving this recognition.

For additional information about this year’s Small Business Persons of the Year, please see the press release here: <https://www.sba.gov/document/report-2023-small-business-persons-year>

Precision Construction Services Website: <https://www.precision.services/>

[Southern California](#)

From Labs to the Land - How a Dream Fund Grant Paired with Guidance Helped From the Land Build Sustainable Ag Tech Innovations in the Inland Empire



Left to right: Dr. Gina Oliver and Richard Hutchison in the lab before their From the Land adventure.

From the Land is a sustainable ag tech innovation company in Yucaipa, California in the Inland Empire. The company was established by Dr. Gina Oliver and Richard Hutchison in late 2019. CalOSBA visited the farm to check out From the Land's ag tech farming innovations.

Gina and Richard explained that their structure is similar to the adobe-style house building method used around the world, however, they have developed a proprietary data capture, power, and lighting system within the structure to enable the structure to operate off the power grid. The demonstration project is growing mealworms sustainably – each piece of the process is monetized via different verticals. The frass (mealworm waste) is sifted out of the bran (mealworm food) and is being sold at local hardware stores as fertilizer for gardening, the mealworms are being sold to local zoos and pet owners as reptile food, and the mealworm skins will eventually be processed and sold as well.

Mealworms? You read that right. These scientists are developing this business model to be scalable for consumers to do at home – we're talking economic mobility and sustainable agriculture in your very own backyard and community!

What does this mean?

Learn more about how From the Land is using sustainable ag tech to transform the way Californians farm by [clicking here](#).

For more small business resources and information, visit calosba.ca.gov.

No-cost and low-cost training is available through Technical Assistance Centers across the state. Browse the training schedule on the CalOSBA website by [clicking here](#).

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