Joe Davis, Chairman, Hoopa Valley Tribe

After serving as Recreation Director and then Planning Director for the Hoopa Valley Tribe, Davis was elected to the Hoopa Valley Tribal Council in 2019 and then elected Chairman of the Hoopa Valley Tribe in 2021. A long time volunteer for youth programs on the Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation, the largest in California, Davis was serving as Planning Director in 2015 when the Reservation lost its only grocery store which was owned by a corporation based in Oregon. This led to the Tribe's decision to develop its own grocery store, an effort led by Davis to eliminate Hoopa's status as a food desert and take back control over the food security of the community and 40 associated jobs. Since that time, the Hoopa Valley Tribe has been working to reduce its dependency on outside food sources but still faces challenges with regards to infrastructure, access to capital, and regulation.