



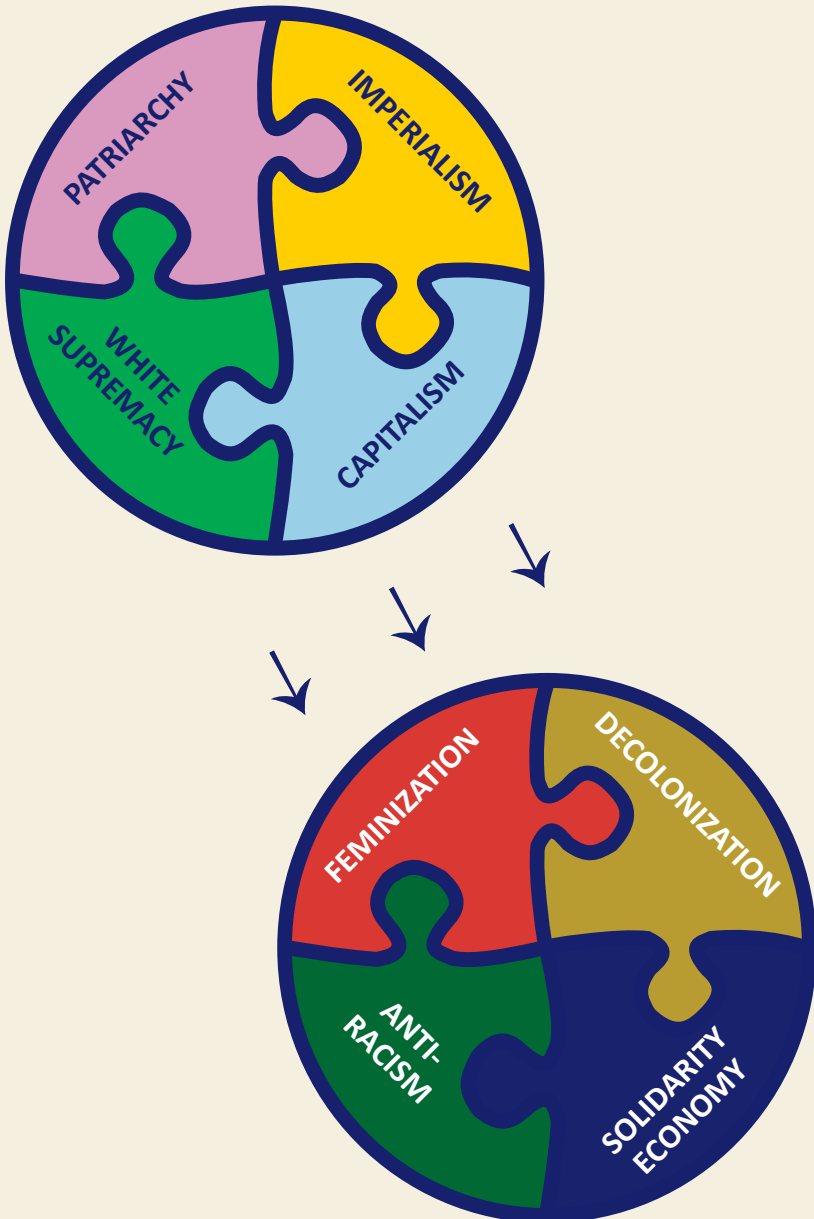
Building a Solidarity Economy on California's North Coast



WHO WE ARE,
WHAT WE BELIEVE,
& WHAT WE DO

Our Mission

Cooperation Humboldt helps to build a solidarity economy on California's North Coast, empowering residents to meet their collective needs in harmony with nature, without exploiting anyone.





What We Believe

Our current institutions are fundamentally racist, sexist, and class oppressive. This is a result of social, political and economic systems that incentivize domination and exploitation of women, people of color, and poor, homeless, disabled, queer, undocumented, and Indigenous people.

Capitalism is an economic system based upon exploitation and oppression, and it will destroy the planet if we do not shift to a cooperative and sustainable economic system.

It is possible to create new institutions that incentivize cooperation, love, compassion and kindness. This new system will be capable of supporting every person with a good quality of life.

We lift up and support groups that are doing grassroots organizing with working class people and people of color, who are training organizers and building long term strategies to resist fascism and create new models for a joyous and collaborative new future reality.

We can work with you (or your organization) even if you do not believe these things, but we want to be explicit and clear about who we are and what we believe.

5 Principles of a Solidarity Economy

A solidarity economy is a system in which everyone has their needs met in a way that does not exploit anyone or harm the environment.

It articulates approaches to how our economy can better serve people and the planet rather than private profits and blind growth.

PLURALISM

Solidarity economy is not a fixed blueprint, but rather acknowledges that there are multiple paths to the same goal of a just and sustainable world.

SOLIDARITY

Solidarity includes a range of social interactions grounded in collective practices such as cooperation, mutualism, sharing, reciprocity, altruism, love, caring, and gifting.

EQUITY

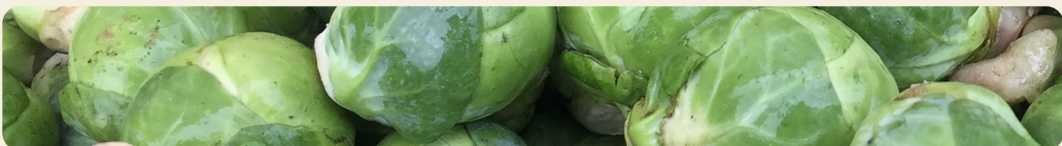
Solidarity economy opposes all forms of oppression - imperialism and colonization; racial, ethnic, religious, LGBTQ, patriarchy, and cultural discrimination.

SUSTAINABILITY

Drawing heavily upon Indigenous perspectives of living in harmony with nature and with each other, solidarity economy upholds the principles of sustainability and regeneration.

PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY

Solidarity economy embraces participatory democracy by enabling decision making and action to be as local as possible, thereby providing ways for people to participate directly in decision making about their communities.

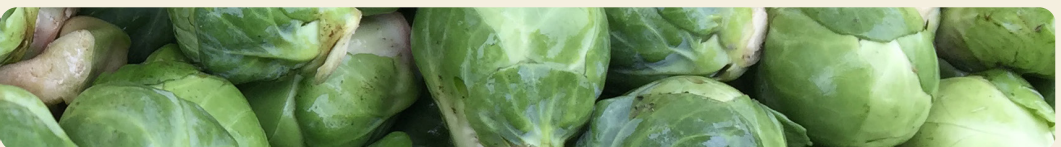


Our Theory of Change



A theory is a foundational set of beliefs about how the world works - a set of interrelated concepts, ideas and definitions that explains and predicts events and situations. Theory without action is mere contemplation; but action without theory is just “doing stuff.”

At Cooperation Humboldt, we are intentional about developing a shared theory of how the world currently operates, and committed to building concrete projects to create a new world.



Programs & Projects

Our programs are built around basic human needs, designed to catalyze transformational shifts to acknowledge that these needs are, in fact, inalienable rights that should never be subject to commodification.

We're working to transform Humboldt County into a regenerative community that can sustain life and future generations as we face climate crises and natural disasters.

PROGRAM AREA FOUNDATIONAL BELIEF

ARTS & CULTURE

Systemic culture shift manifests itself through artistic expression. That's why we engage with artists who share our vision of a cooperative society.

CARE & WELLNESS

Health, wellness, and care are fundamental human rights. We create education, services, and community partnerships to remove the profit motive from healthcare.

ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY

Ordinary people must control the fundamental decisions about how our society is structured - including economics.

EDUCATION

Everyone has the right to education. We are all teachers and we are all learners. Collective self-education is critical to our success as organizers.

FOOD

Access to nutritious, culturally appropriate food is a fundamental human right that should never be dependent on wealth or income.

HOUSING

Access to safe, secure, and affordable housing is a fundamental human right. No one should ever be without housing.



SPECIFIC PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES

- Annual Artists Dismantling Capitalism Symposium
- Field Guide to a Crisis (social practice project with people in recovery)
- Regenerative Theater (realizing a solidarity economy through theater)
- Somatic Practices (body-centered seminar to unlearn white supremacy)
- Imaginal Services Bureaux (art in service of envisioning social justice)
- Peer Community Health Workers (a worker owned cooperative in collaboration with Open Door Community Health Centers)
- Care Line (support for people in recovery from opioid addiction)
- Keeping Physicians in Humboldt County
- Public Banking (banking accountable to people, not corporations)
- Participatory Budgeting (public budgets governed by those impacted)
- Worker Owned Humboldt (incubating worker owned co-op businesses)
- Study Groups (small group discussion series)
- Public Workshops, Forums, and Teach-ins
- Wiyot Honor Tax (voluntary tax paid to original inhabitants of this area)
- Mini Gardens (small food gardens for low income residents)
- Little Free Pantries (neighborhood hubs for resource sharing)
- Food Not Lawns (converting front lawns into gardens)
- Community Fruit Trees (planting free fruit trees in public places)
- Educational offerings around food cultivation and preparation
- Development of Ecovillages
- Development of Housing Cooperatives
- Supporting Policy Change for Micro Housing

Resilience in the Time of COVID

COVID-19 has exposed the ways our current systems fail to support fundamental human needs. In times of crisis, there are also opportunities for transformation. We're responding to the crisis by meeting immediate needs while simultaneously preparing for a better post-pandemic future.

MEETING COMMUNITY NEEDS

Volunteers run errands and deliver supplies to community members, make DIY hand sanitizer, cleaning supplies, and face masks, and coordinate advocacy work to push for needed changes with other allied local organizations/institutions.

MINI GARDENS



Volunteers deliver customized small garden setups to low income residents at no charge, helping to:

- Increase access to fresh produce at no cost,
- Shift power from corporate food sources to individuals/communities,
- Reduce trips to the grocery store, and
- Increase exercise and fresh air.

WORKER OWNED HUMBOLDT

Worker owned cooperatives (co-ops) empower workers to take ownership of their own labor, learn new skills, and share equally in profits.

Worker Owned Humboldt supports existing co-ops and incubates new ones. Through a series of free webinars and a Co-op Academy, we provide tangible support for workers to launch a co-op.



**cooperation
humboldt**

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