



“We’ve long sought ways to address the challenge of having so many of our employees living well outside of Mill Valley, many beyond Marin County. The recent North Bay fires put a spotlight on one of the many negative impacts of this situation, as during that emergency so many of our staff members were unable to get to our schools. “Addressing this imbalance would vastly improve the quality of life for staff, and improve education in Mill Valley.”

Kim Kirley
Principal, Park Elementary School



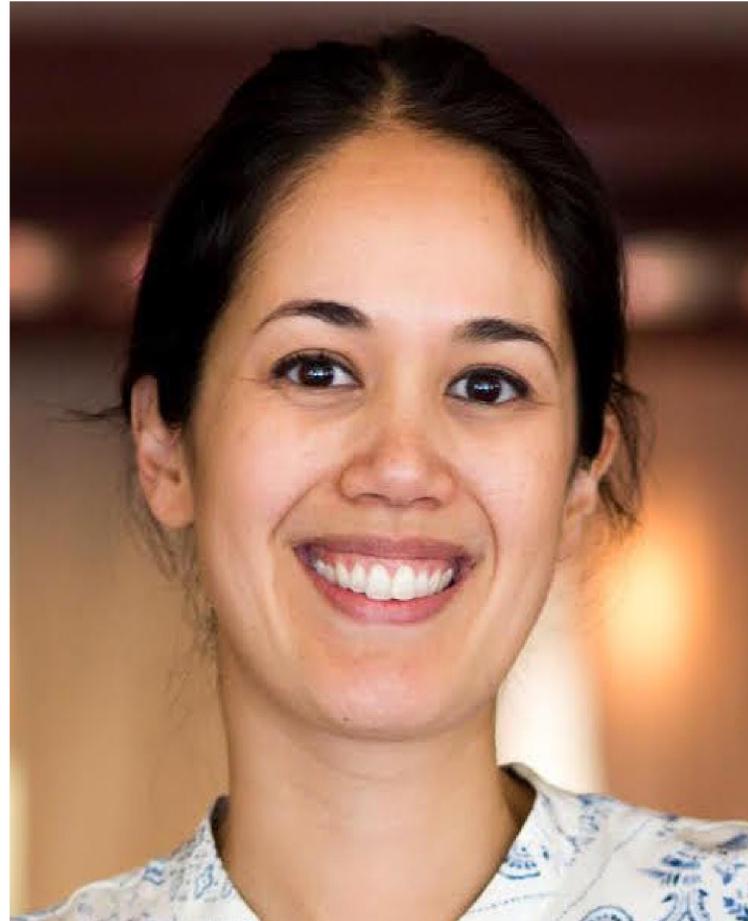
“One of the things that I was struck by during the fires in Sonoma and Napa counties was just how many firefighters, including Mill Valley firefighters, live in those counties. If we want our local firefighters to deploy onto a local disasters quickly, it’s imperative that more of them live within or at least closer to our community.”

Tom Welch
Mill Valley Fire Chief



“The vast majority of our employees have worked here for many years – decades in some cases – and most of them are not able to live here in town. That is not a healthy dynamic for our business or our community. To have the workers that you see everyday at the market living here would be a boon for the vitality of Mill Valley.”

Ryan Canepa
Mill Valley Market



“Like many of the owners of our local restaurants and food-serving businesses, our family has struggled with both hiring new workers and retaining our longstanding employees because many of them have to deal with incredibly long, often costly commutes to get here. As a longstanding local business, our employees are part of the fabric of our restaurant. We need to find ways to help more of these vital members of our community to live here.”

**Felicia Ferguson,
co-owner, Piazza D’Angelo restaurant**



“Because the programs and services we offer at the Community Center are so wide-ranging – from toddlers to seniors and from an array of artistic and athletic disciplines – we hire for a lot of very different types of positions, abilities and backgrounds. Doing that in the current housing landscape is extremely difficult! We welcome any efforts to improve the local hiring landscape via making housing more affordable for a greater variety of people.”

Jenny Rogers

City of Mill Valley Arts & Recreation Director



“We have more than 360 members that span a wide range of industries, and we are constantly hearing from leaders within each of those sectors that the difficulty of hiring and retaining talent in Mill Valley is exacerbated by the current dearth of affordable housing in town and throughout Marin. We understand that this is a multi-layered, complex issue and we welcome the City’s efforts to tackle it in a strategic way.”

Paula Reynolds
Co-Director, Mill Valley Chamber