

A Community of Learning and Action

The Fund is made up of funders and community leaders committed to creating a philanthropic community of action and knowledge sharing about the impact of organizing and broader broader power building strategies to advance just and equitable development.

Common Counsel Foundation serves as the gathering point and backbone of the fund, with more than thirty years of progressive philanthropy, funding grassroots social movements and centering the leadership of communities.

Funder Partners

Akonadi Foundation	Chan Zuckerberg Initiative	Sunlight Giving
Amplify Fund	East Bay Community Foundation	The California Endowment
California Community Foundation	Liberty Hill Foundation	The James Irvine Foundation
	San Francisco Foundation	Weingart Foundation

Community Advisors

<p>BAY AREA</p> <p>ACCE Institute, Contra Costa</p> <p>AYPAL: Building API Community Power</p> <p>Causa Justa :: Just Cause</p> <p>Eastside Arts Alliance</p> <p>Faith in Action Bay Area</p> <p>Filipino Advocates for Justice</p> <p>Glad Tidings Community Development Corporation</p> <p>North Bay Organizing Project</p> <p>Regional Tenant Organizing Network</p>	<p>Power California</p> <p>Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability</p> <p>INLAND EMPIRE-INLAND REGION</p> <p>ACLU of Southern California</p> <p>Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement</p> <p>Inland Congregations United for Change</p> <p>Pueblo Unido Community Development Center</p> <p>Starting Over, Inc.</p> <p>Time for Change Foundation</p> <p>Training Occupational Development Educating Communities (TODEC)</p> <p>Legal Center</p> <p>LOS ANGELES</p> <p>ACCE Institute, Los Angeles</p>	<p>Alliance for Community Transit – Los Angeles</p> <p>East LA Community Corporation</p> <p>Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance</p> <p>LA Voice</p> <p>Little Tokyo Service Center</p> <p>Community Development Corporation</p> <p>Public Counsel</p> <p>Social Justice Learning Institute</p> <p>Strategic Actions for a Just Economy</p> <p>STATEWIDE</p> <p>ACCE Institute</p> <p>Faith in Action Network – PICO California</p> <p>Right to the City Alliance – Homes for All California</p> <p>Tenants Together</p>
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Be a Part of This Movement

We envision an inclusive California, where people have the voice and power to direct the decisions that impact their lives. Equitable development is possible, and organizing efforts are building the power in communities to create neighborhoods that provide a high quality of life and support the communities’ goals for themselves, their families and their regions. We hope you will join us.



Congregations Organized for Prophetic Engagement (COPE) in the Inland Region is a Community Advisor of the Fund.

To learn more about the fund and dive deeper into insights, practices or how you can join the effort, contact us at F4ICA@commoncounsel.org



Photo from ACCE Institute

The Fund for an Inclusive California is committed to racial and economic justice. We support power building in communities of color that have been pushed to the financial brink, to advance their solutions to neighborhood displacement and gentrification at the local, regional, and statewide levels, and hope you will join us.

Our Affordability Crisis

Right now, California is facing a housing crisis of historic proportions. At the root of it are legacies of systemic racism, segregation and a sequence of policy decisions made by leaders that tipped the scales to center corporate interests and neglect the experiences and desires of community members for their own cities and neighborhoods.

People of color, undocumented people, youth and people struggling to make ends meet are too often excluded from decisions about development in their own neighborhoods. As a result, it is those same people being disproportionately uprooted from their homes. A combination of corporate interests and systemic disinvestment have ushered in extreme price increases in neighborhoods, stagnant wages, and overall deteriorating quality of life is forcing people to move away from family, jobs, community networks and their way of life. To stop this trajectory, we must lift up a vision of equitable development for public good.



In 2019, Community Advisors of the Fund from across the state gathered for a two-day session in Stockton, CA.

We believe community power is key to driving local equitable development. It must be directed by the leadership of people of color and communities working hard to make ends meet amid the housing affordability crisis.

Snapshot of the Fund

5

regions in California:
Bay Area, Central Valley,
Inland Region, Los
Angeles and Statewide

11

Funding partners at
the table, learning
with and from
Community Advisors

\$10.8

MILLION

Raised and committed

35

Community
Advisors directing
on-the-ground
work and strategies
of the fund

80%

Led by people of color

Photo from Right to the City Alliance

Photo from California Rural Legal Assistance

Photo from Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)

Just and Equitable Development
Must Be Community Driven

The Fund for an Inclusive California is guided by the belief that just and equitable development must be driven by the leadership and vision of residents that are most impacted by decisions about the places where they live. We are driven by this value and every action and practice we have is an extension of it.

Aligning Resources with
Community Expertise

We support community-driven solutions and creating opportunities for community members to have an equal voice and decision-making power in how their neighborhoods are developed. We believe that those closest to the problem are also best able to inform and guide the overall direction and grantmaking priorities of the fund. As such, the fund has been crafted in consultation with community advisors, learning about their priorities and the strategies that are relevant to the context of their region. We set and evolve our funding approaches and operational practices based on what will best support their capacity, leadership and vision for equitable development.

We are resetting the paradigm of philanthropy, to be truly equitable not only in values and beliefs, but in practice. And, we are encouraged and energized to have so many partners joining us.

Why Power Building

AMPLIFYING COMMUNITY VOICES

Equitable solutions to the housing crisis require the vision and leadership of communities. Development without community input exacerbates current conditions and threatens long-time residents’ ability to maintain an economic foothold in their neighborhoods, preserve family and community ties, and contribute to their neighborhoods’ cultural vibrancy.

SUPPORTING LEADERSHIP, GROWING AGENCY

Funding organizing strengthens the leadership of those who are most impacted by the decisions made about housing and development locally, regionally and statewide. As their leadership is supported and developed, their engagement extends to their social circles and communities, building a deeper sense of belonging, agency and full expression of political voice, and ultimately a stronger democracy.

ORGANIZING IS INTERSECTIONAL AND ACHIEVES
COMMUNITY IMPACT

Organizing power creates meaningful and lasting change by securing policies, practices and systems change that improve the health and well-being of communities. Organizing groups are multi-issue in nature and work on issues and campaigns that illuminate their analysis and understanding of the intersections of immigration status, good jobs and living wages, the justice system and how resources are allocated to develop neighborhoods that are welcoming and healthy for people and the environment.


Join the Movement Moment


In California, residents and institutions are coming together and organizing in new ways, creating a movement moment to advance a community-driven vision for local and statewide development. Immigrants, young people, mothers, and so many others are responding in places across the state by organizing, achieving historic policy wins, and reimagining community-driven development for public good that centers their lived experiences.


This calls for philanthropy to rise to the occasion and support the strengthening and amplifying a movement of directly impacted communities and allies at the scale that is needed to seize the movement moment.

The Fund for an Inclusive California supports organizations that focus on long-term power building and provide capacity building resources to strengthen local, regional, and statewide organizing infrastructure. The fund is designed to enable greater strategic coordination of power, resources and best practices. Our collective efforts aim to:

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Strengthen the organizing capacity of core base building organizations working to advance and implement community-driven approaches that are necessary to disrupt the drivers of gentrification and displacement and ensure community stabilization, affordability, and longer-term community-driven development without displacement.
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Grow the bigger “we” by supporting organizing groups with an intersectional approach as well as more nascent organizing efforts where additional resources and relationships can be leveraged for local, regional, and statewide impact.
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Strengthen networking infrastructure by facilitating learning and collaboration in and across regions and issue areas and by supporting local organizations to play a more active role in state-level advocacy and civic engagement efforts.
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Lift a vision of development for public good, one in which low-income communities and communities of color are empowered to shape what sustainable development looks like in their local neighborhoods.
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Model equity-driven collaborative philanthropic practice by creating a learning community to catalyze increased philanthropic funding for power-building organizations.

“Allowing grassroots groups to have a seat at the table during the initiative’s design and implementation has meant that the goals and structure of the fund have augmented and built on ongoing work rather than requiring organizations to abandon projects or make sudden, resource-draining changes to their programs.”

— COMMUNITY ADVISOR