

August 30, 2022

Board Chair Supervisor Holly Mitchell
Supervisor Katherine Barger
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Hilda Solis
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple St., Room 866
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: Expediting ARPA Contracting Opportunities for CBOs and Expanding ARPA Investment in Communities

Dear Honorable Board of Supervisors:

We appreciate the productive partnership that has developed between Los Angeles County staff and community-based organizations (CBOs) through the Equity in County Contracting initiative (ECC) over the past year. After months of hard work, it was gratifying to see the Board motion, *Implementing the Priority Strategies of the Equity in Contracting Project*, successfully pass on August 9, 2022. On behalf of the nonprofit service providers, we look forward to moving ahead, working in collaboration with ISD, DEO, ARDI, Auditor-Controller, County Counsel and the CEO to create greater efficiency in County government and greater access to County contracting dollars to serve County residents.

Over the past two years, we have urged swift action to reform contracting policies and practices. Meanwhile thousands of CBOs continue to step up in record numbers to provide services and support to residents throughout L.A. County. In fact, the Nonprofit Finance Fund (NFF) recently surveyed local nonprofit organizations and 81% saw an increase in demand for their services as a result of COVID; 49% reported they were not able to meet demand. As costs continue to rise this year, the pressure on organizations to meet community needs continues to grow faster than the County's ability to ensure that those organizations can do so without sacrificing their own financial viability.

While we appreciate your commitment to an equitable economic recovery, particularly in under-resourced communities of color, we respectfully request that:

- The County moves with more urgency to distribute ARPA funds, and
- A larger proportion of Tranche 2 pandemic recovery dollars support the work of CBOs.

We are voicing our concerns now because CBOs are still waiting for the opportunity to apply for the millions of dollars in ARPA designated social service contracts in Tranche 1. We have yet to receive any reassurance that, as part of an equitable and inclusive recovery, more than 10% of the federal money in Tranche 2 will flow into the communities of color hardest hit by the pandemic -- as the federal legislation intended.

As the County commits \$900 million in Tranche 2 ARPA funds, we urge you to direct County staff to move expediently to put those dollars to work now. Specifically, we ask that you carry out the streamlined contracting practices identified by the ECC teams, increase the total investment in CBO contracting

opportunities to more than 10% (as planned), and design financially viable contracting opportunities posted online for CBOs to apply before the end of the year.

Sincerely,

Nonprofit and Philanthropic Economic Resiliency Task Force Working Group

Name	Organization
Regina Birdsell, Lead*	<i>Center for Nonprofit Management</i>
Jodi Kurata	<i>Association of Community Human Service Agencies</i>
Efrain Escobedo	<i>California Community Foundation</i>
Benny Torres	<i>CD Tech</i>
Gayle Whittemore	<i>Children's Bureau</i>
Martine Singer	<i>Children's Institute</i>
Joe St. John	<i>Koreatown Youth and Community Center</i>
Johng Ho Song	<i>Koreatown Youth and Community Center</i>
Andrea Nunn	<i>Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce</i>
Janet Marinaccio	<i>MEND</i>
Bre Onna Mathis	<i>Nonprofit Finance Fund</i>
Wilma Franco	<i>SELA Collaborative</i>
Elizabeth Berger	<i>Special Service for Groups, Inc.</i>
Va Lecia Adams	<i>St. Joseph Center</i>
Matthew Trujillo	<i>The Advancement Project California</i>

Our Friends & Allies

Name	Organization
Heather Tunis	<i>Achieving Effectiveness Counsel & Coaching</i>
David Diaz, MPH	<i>Active San Gabriel Valley</i>
Teddie Valenzuela	<i>Amanecer Community Counseling Service</i>
Jacquelyn Honore-Elam	<i>Amazing Grace Conservatory</i>
CEDRIC WHITE	<i>Antelope Valley Community Uplift Foundation</i>
Danielle Wildkress	<i>Arlene & Michael Rosen Foundation</i>
Georgia Van Cuylenburg	<i>Arts Bridging the Gap</i>
Michelle Freridge	<i>Asian Youth Center (AYC)</i>
Kathleen Gallegos	<i>Avenue 50 Studio, Inc.</i>
Brenda Watson	<i>Black Women Rally for Action – Los Angeles County</i>
Charisse Bremond Weaver	<i>Brotherhood Crusade</i>
Joan M Aschoff	<i>Child & Family Center</i>
Jonathan Parfrey	<i>Climate Resolve</i>
Francisco Moreno	<i>COFEM Council of Mexican Federations</i>
Miguel A. Santana	<i>Committee for Greater LA</i>
Alicia Lara	<i>Community Partners</i>
Ethan LaCaro	<i>CONTRA-TIEMPO</i>
Ana Maria Alvarez	<i>CONTRA-TIEMPO Activist Dance Theater</i>
David Howden	<i>Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)</i>
F Christy Zamani	<i>Day One</i>
Amy Turk	<i>Downtown Women's Center</i>

Stu Semigran	EduCare Foundation
Ms. Eddie Mae Williams	Executive Support Network
Martha Escobedo	Florence Firestone Community Organization
Magdalena Victoria Leon-Bianchi	Fostering Kids For Life serving LA SB Riverside
Jorie Das	Friends of the Children - Los Angeles (Friends LA)
Sabrina Ullah	HealthRIGHT 360
Jeff Farber	Helpline Youth Counseling, Inc.
Eva McCraven	Hillview Mental Health Center, Inc.
Ricardo Mota	Human Services Association
Serita Cox	iFoster
Laura Ferretti	Impact Philanthropy
Rudy Espinoza	Inclusive Action for the City
	Instituto de Avance Latino CDC / Centro de Vida Victoriosa
	Church
Carlos Rincon	Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Eli Veitzer	JVS SoCal
Mark R. Edwards	KIPP SoCal
Joanna Belcher	LA Commons
Karen Mack	LA Conservation Corps
Wendy Butts	Look What She Did
Sylvia Chavez	Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
Michael Flood	Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
Derek Polka	Mental Health America of Los Angeles
Christine Petit, PhD	Mi Familia Resource Center, Inc.
Elizabeth Oliveros	Mundo Maya Foundation
Sara Zapata Mijares	Newstart Housing Corporation
Cesar Zaldivar-Motts	North Valley Caring Services
Kristina Caberto Wallace	Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services
Todd Sosna	Outward Bound Adventures
Charles Hall Thomas Jr.	Para Los Ninos
Drew Furedi	Para Los Ninos
Sam Joo	PATH (People Assisting The Homeless)
Jennifer Hark Dietz	Peace4Kids
Zaid Gayle	Penny Lane
Wendy Carpenter	Quaid and Khan Family Care
Nilofer Quaid	Rainbow Labs
Jacob Touns	Service Center for Independent Life
Larry S Grable	Slate-Z
Zahirah Mann	Social Justice Learning Institute
Derek Steele	SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK
SHAKEEL SYED	Southeast Community Development Corporation
Emma Hernandez	Southern California Grantmakers
Chris Essel	Strong Women
Christina Montalvo	Tarzana Treatment Centers Inc.
al senella	The Nonprofit Partnership
Christina Hall	The People Concern
John Maceri	The River Project
Melanie Winter	

Bamby Salcedo
Sheila Scott-Wilkinson
Gemma Lurie
Eileen Garcia
Cher Ofstedahl
Jessica Melendez
Sarah Thomas
Mike Dennis
Jay Allen

The TransLatin@ Coalition
Theatre Of Hearts Inc Youth First
TreePeople
TreePeople
Trinity Youth Services
TRUST South LA
Union Station Homeless Services
United Way of Greater LA
Wayfinder Family Services



JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE LA



TreePeople

