

# Driving Equitable Outcomes Through the Community Economic Resilience Fund:

## A Community-Centered Approach



AFN is the leading national grantmaker membership organization focused on advancing equitable wealth building and economic mobility.

- ✓ Broaden your Knowledge Base
- ✓ Connect to a Powerful National Network
- ✓ Amplify your Impact
- ✓ Collaborate for Influence



**Business  
Ownership**

**Financial  
Health**

**Employment  
& Income**

**Education**

**Health**

**Housing**

**The Wealth  
Gap**

# SPEAKERS



**Jacob Denney**  
(moderator)  
SPUR



**Jay Banfield**  
All Home California



**Christa Brown**  
San Francisco  
Foundation



**Kristania De Leon**  
Participatory  
Budgeting Project

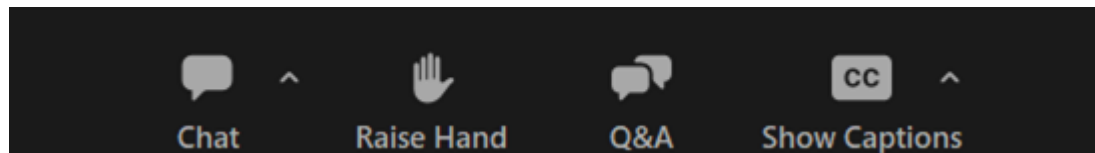
# WEBINAR CONTROL PANEL

## PARTICIPATE

Type your question in the  
**Q&A BOX**  
to be addressed during  
discussion breaks or during  
Q/A

## CLOSED CAPTIONS

Captions can be turned on via  
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to be viewed in real-time and  
will also be available in the  
recording afterwards



# Moving Beyond Recovery

*Supporting community calls for long-term targeted investments*

July 12, 2023



**San Francisco  
Foundation**

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# Background: Regional Action Groups



Focus Area	Priorities
<b>Building a Better Economy</b>	Job Quality Standards Supporting BIPOC-owned Small Businesses
<b>Ensuring Affordable Housing</b>	Eviction Moratoria Housing in federal recovery packages
<b>Supporting Under-Invested Communities</b>	Childcare Digital Divide Guaranteed Income

# As local resources started to flow, powerful budget advocacy was needed

- The COVID-19 **State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF)** established by ARPA provided cities and counties in the Bay Area \$3 billion in flexible resources to lay the foundation for a strong and equitable recovery.
  - These funds could go towards public sector revenue replacement, essential worker pay, public health and economic impacts of the pandemic, and infrastructure investments.
  - These resources offer a unique opportunity for regional leaders to make targeted investments to advance racial equity by addressing the needs of Black and brown communities harmed most by the pandemic, and systemic barriers that preceded it.

# Community Advisory Committee

- **Edie Irons** and **Joanne Karchmer**, All Home
- **Melissa Jones**, **Monet Boyd**, and **Darris Young**, BARHII
- **Omar Carrera**, Canal Alliance
- **Kim Kruckel** and **Karina Laigo**, Child Care Law Center
- **Dan Geiger** and **Sara Gurdian**, Contra Costa Budget Justice Coalition
- **Mariana Moore**, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa
- **Oraiu Amoni**, **Tracey Brieger**, and **Kung Feng**, Jobs with Justice San Francisco
- **Jhumpa Bhattacharya**, Maven Collaborative
- **Alina Harway** and **Madison Roberts**, NonProfit Housing
- **Louise Auerhahn** and **Derecka Mehrens**, Working Partnerships USA
- **Ellen Wu** and **Chris Schildt**, Urban Habitat

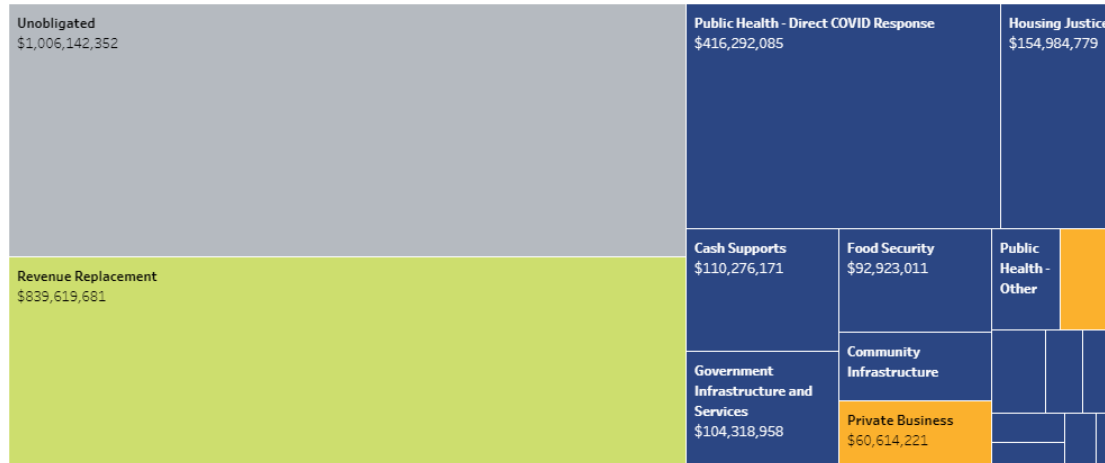


# The Power of Data: Bay Area Recovery Dollars Tracker

<b>Overview</b>		<b>Projects</b>	<b>Map</b>	Geography Type Region	Geography Name Nine-County Bay Area
<b>\$3,025,376,271</b> Total Allocation	<b>\$2,019,233,919</b> Total Obligated	<b>\$1,006,142,352</b> Total Unobligated	<b>33%</b> Percent Unobligated		

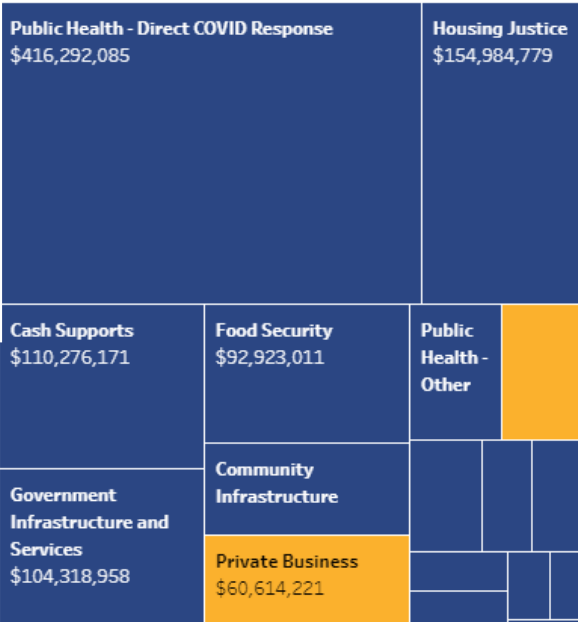
**Local governments still have an opportunity to leverage ARPA dollars to support communities most harmed by the pandemic.**

33% of SLFRF funds allocated to Nine-County Bay Area are unobligated. Of the SLFRF that has been obligated, Nine-County Bay Area has put the highest amount towards Revenue Replacement.



# Cities & Counties used resources to offset declines & invest in communities

- **Revenue replacement** - Nearly half (43%) of obligated dollars have gone to revenue replacement
- **Public health investments** - the second largest spending category (20%).
- **Other significant areas** - of investment included housing justice (7%), cash supports (6%), and food security (5%)



# Cities & Counties approached their use of funds differently

- **Some Bay Area governments leveraged SLFRF funds to fund new, equity-oriented pilot programs and initiatives**
  - For example, \$105.3 million was invested in cash supports that funded guaranteed income pilots in Sonoma, South San Francisco, and Richmond.
- **A handful of municipalities used SLFRF dollars for policing and incarceration, which does not align with the stated intent of using these funds to advance equity.**
  - The cities of San Mateo and Santa Clara spent a combined \$34 million on police salaries and services.
- **Local governments used various strategies to engage impacted communities and gather community input in the allocation of SLFRF dollars.**

# Recommendations for Messaging

- **Important Themes** - We need to
  - Hold government accountable,
  - Name the villain (*corporate greed, structural issues, etc.*), and
  - Make the case for long-term, targeted investments
- **Move Beyond Recovery** – Name the long-term causes of Bay Area inequity and call for long-term investments.
- **Unity** – Our issues are deeply interconnected. We cannot work geographic or subject matter silos.



# Recommendations for Cities & Counties



- **Explicitly prioritize programs that support Black and brown communities** who continue to experience the impacts of the pandemic.
- **Make long-term, permanent, targeted investments** that will reach the communities that have long been underfunded and will sustain the impact of these initial investments.
- **Ensure budget decisions are guided and informed by community** priorities and partnerships.
- **Evaluate how they use SLFRF funds** and other resources using an equity lens.

# Recommendations for Funders

- **Invest in cross-issue area power building and budget advocacy:**
  - Budget Power Project- a partnership between Million Voters Project, Advancement Project, and California Budget Policy Center
  - Bay Rising and local affiliates
  - More opportunities are coming down the pike: IJJA, etc.
- **Support efforts to stop the interception of federal and state relief funds** were actually intercepted by the state! Millions of Child Tax Credit, stimulus, and relief payments were intercepted from low-income Black and Brown families.



# Questions?

**Christa Brown**  
**[christab@sff.org](mailto:christab@sff.org)**

# Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF)

Driving Equitable Outcomes through the Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF); A Community Centered Approach





# Vision | Community Economic Resilience Fund

The Community Economic Resilience Fund (CERF) is a \$600 million fund to build a sustainable and equitable economy across California, with a focus on supporting new strategies to diversify local economies and develop industries that create high-quality, broadly accessible jobs for all Californians in the transition to a carbon-neutral economy.



Build an equitable and sustainable economy working towards a carbon-neutral economy



A high-road approach to economic development that invests in paying living wages and environmentally sustainable practices



Community and worker-centered inclusive economic planning



Equitable outcomes for the region's disinvested communities

# About | Community Economic Resilience Fund

A satellite map of California with 13 regions outlined in white. The regions are distributed across the state, with a higher concentration in the Central Valley and the Bay Area. The map shows the state's coastline, major cities, and geographical features like mountains and rivers.

- Established 13 regions, with the nine-county Bay Area being one of the regions
- Provides \$5 million planning grants to each region to support a High Road Transition Collaborative (HRTC) and conduct two-year planning process
- Selected All Home as the Convener, with the Bay Area Good Jobs Partnership for Equity as Fiscal Agent, for the Bay Area region
- At the conclusion of the planning process, projects engaged with or supported by the HRTC will compete for State funding

# BA- HRTC's Purpose

Our collective goal in the planning phase of CERF is to **re-envision regional economic development** planning, centered around the values of equity, high-road employment, sustainability and climate resilience, and **shaped by workers** and impacted community members themselves.

## Principles

- ★ Climate Resilience Led by Frontline Communities and Workers
- ★ Lift Up Job Quality, Grow High-Road Jobs, Elevate Racial Equity and Worker Voice
- ★ Honor Local Without Losing the Power of the Region
  - **Six Sub-Regional Tables:**
    - Alameda
    - Contra Costa
    - Marin/Sonoma
    - Napa/Solano
    - San Francisco
    - San Mateo/Santa Clara
- ★ Inclusive, Democratic, Grassroots Governance
- ★ Take Action Towards Transformational Change

# BA- HRTC's Sub-Regional Tables | Objectives



Drive **deep and meaningful community engagement** with a focus on equity. This should include engagement with members affiliated with labor and/or community organizations as well as stakeholders unaffiliated with either sector or other formal institutions.



Lead and guide the subregional tables in the process of **identifying 1 to 3 pilot initiatives with potential regional impacts** that are aligned with BA-HRTC goals and will be most competitive in the State grant-making process.



Create a **long-lasting regional economic development infrastructure that will empower communities and workers** across the Bay to lead equitable, high-road climate & economic development projects; and position the region to attract additional capital and resources beyond CERF.



Identify projects that could potentially **activate capital from sources other than CERF**, e.g. Inflation Reduction Act funding, Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Acts funding and venture capital.

# PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING

**Real Money, Real Power**

**Kristania De Leon, Co-Executive Director**



PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING PROJECT

[www.participatorybudgeting.org](http://www.participatorybudgeting.org)

# What is participatory budgeting?

## *Participatory budgeting*

is a democratic process in which community members directly decide together how to spend part of a public budget.



# How PB works



## DESIGN THE PROCESS

A steering committee that represents the organization or community creates the rules and engagement plan.



## BRAINSTORM IDEAS

Through meetings and online tools, participants share and discuss ideas for projects.



## DEVELOP PROPOSALS

Volunteer “budget delegates” develop the ideas into feasible proposals.



## EVALUATE THE PROCESS

The steering committee and participants evaluate if goals were met and plan changes for the next cycle.



## FUND WINNING PROJECTS

The organization funds and implements the winning ideas.



## VOTE

Participants vote on the proposals that best serve the organization or community’s needs.

# PB in California: past, present and pending

- ✓ Best Start sites
- ✓ Los Angeles City & County
- ✓ Long Beach (city and community levels)
- ✓ Marin County
- ✓ Merced (county & schools)
- ✓ Oakland
- ✓ Pomona
- ✓ Sacramento
- ✓ San Francisco
- ✓ Vallejo



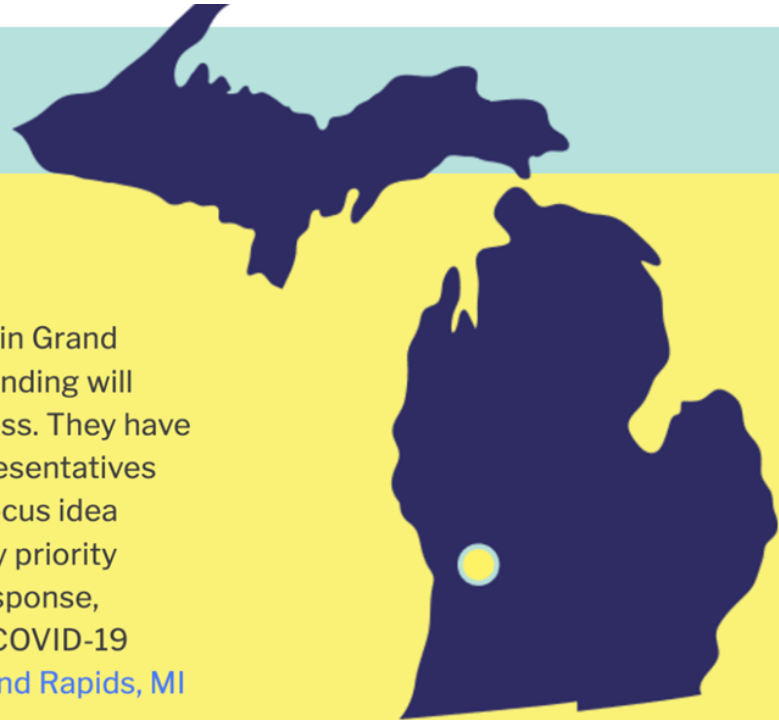
# Participatory Budgeting for COVID Recovery



PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING PROJECT

## LOCAL EXAMPLE: GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Community-led decision making is underway in Grand Rapids, Michigan where \$2 million of ARPA funding will be allocated by participatory budgeting process. They have convened their steering committee with representatives from each of the cities three wards and will focus idea collection and proposal development on 5 key priority areas: violence reduction, public safety co-response, housing affordability, broadband access and COVID-19 economic impacts. Learn more about the [Grand Rapids, MI PB process](#).



# ARPA Schools Process: Central Falls, RI



PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING PROJECT

# What kinds of budgets?

- City, county, state, and federal budgets
- Public agency budgets
- Discretionary funds of elected officials
- School, school district, and university budgets
- Police and carceral budgets
- Non-governmental sources like foundation or nonprofit budgets
  - **Participatory Grantmaking!!**

# Get engaged!



## A Community-led Recovery: How to Use Participatory Budgeting for American Rescue Plan Funding

OUR RECOVERY,  
OUR PRIORITIES

OUR RECOVERY,  
OUR PRIORITIES

### THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

Congress passed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support our communities during the COVID-19 pandemic. Using community-led decision making to distribute ARPA funds will help ensure investments match real community needs.

The American Rescue Plan Act is a historic opportunity to not only build back our communities and economy after the devastating COVID-19 pandemic, but also has the potential to address the deeply embedded inequities in access and voice in our democracy.

Practices like participatory budgeting can increase equity, access, and accountability in spending decisions, transforming and deepening democracy as we build back better. Your community can and must have a say in American Rescue Plan Fund Allocation! Here's how:



## Change From Within

A Guide to Running Participatory Budgeting in Your Organization

PART 1: Advocating & Planning for PB



<https://www.democracybeyondelections.org/portfolio/arpa/>

<https://www.participatorybudgeting.org/pb-for-orgs/>

<https://vimeo.com/pbproject>



PARTICIPATORY  
BUDGETING PROJECT

[www.participatorybudgeting.org](http://www.participatorybudgeting.org)

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ParticipatoryBudgetingProject



@PBProject



Grantmakers Advancing  
Economic Equity