Driving Equitable Outcomes Through the Community Economic Resilience Fund:

A Community-Centered Approach

July 12, 12:30pm-1:30pm PDT
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
SPEAKERS

Jacobs 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 Show Captions 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

San Francisco Foundation
### Background: Regional Action Groups

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<th>Focus Area</th>
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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
Local governments still have an opportunity to leverage ARPA dollars to support communities most harmed by the pandemic. 33% of SLPF funds allocated to Nine-County Bay Area are unobligated. Of the SLPF 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%)
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: IIJA, 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
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
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

www.participatorybudgeting.org
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
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
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

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

Change From Within
A Guide to Running Participatory Budgeting in Your Organization

PART 1: Advocating & Planning for PB

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

Next Generation Democracy:
Elected Officials share their experiences with Participatory Budgeting

https://vimeo.com/pbproject
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www.participatorybudgeting.org

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