

First 5 LA Community Opportunities Flexible Fund



Black Californians United for Early Care and Education: Focus on racial wage justice/rate reform, building community voice and active engagement.



Black Equity Collective: Is dedicated to strengthening Black-led and Black-empowering organizations to advance equity and justice for Black communities in Los Angeles specifically the Antelope Valley by organizing and implement regional convenings to address the systemic barriers affecting Black children from prenatal to age five and their families.



Maternal Mental Health NOW: Is dedicated to ensuring equitable access to holistic, trauma-informed, and culturally responsive perinatal mental health care for Black birthing families. With a focus on Community engagement and lifting Black birth workers experiences with a direct connection to policy and systems change advocacy efforts.



Parent Organization Network: Expanding parent engagement for TK families to gather data and use for advocacy efforts. Address the developmental stage of 3-4 year olds and challenges of integrating in traditional school system.



Families in Schools: Uses the Promotora's model to support literacy and family connection. FIS works closely with the Los Angeles School District (LAUSD) to address policy and systems change to close gaps for students of color and students from low-income communities.



CA Black Women's Collective Empowerment: Advocacy and policy recommendations to uplift Black mothers of young children. CABWCEI will craft a strategic roadmap for economic justice, which will be shared with funders and policymakers to advocate for sustained investments in Black-led organizations working to alleviate poverty



Parent Voices CA: Respected community organizing group in the ECE space with a focus on gubernatorial issues. Their approach prioritizes intentional engagement with parents, ensuring they have the tools, knowledge, and networks necessary to drive meaningful systems change around early education and safety net programs.



Saahas for Cause: Focus on South Asian communities and providing resources to mothers and education to providers (healthcare, preschool, libraries) to reduce barriers for South Asian children and families.

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander
Lactation Collaborative of California

AANHPI Lactation Collaborative- Will mobilize AANHPI communities to advocate for improved data collection and reporting practices for Los Angeles AANHPI pregnant and postpartum parents through an expansion of CDPH's Maternal and Infant Health Assessment driven in advocacy and system change work.



Pomona Community Foundation: Opportunity to embed community members in local government with building skills and civic engagement capacity and the implementation of a funding measure for Pomona.



Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust: Park development on LAUSD schools greening projects in South and Central Los Angeles. These projects demonstrate how combining hands-on environmental education with youth leadership development can create lasting change in our communities. By focusing on elementary schools, establishing environmental stewardship values early while creating green spaces that benefit entire neighborhoods.



CACFP Roundtable: Policy change/advocacy for food programs in FCCs locally and statewide. CACFP Roundtable seeks to collaborate with home-based childcare providers in Los Angeles County to increase access and strengthen the childcare food system.



GRACE: Systems change focused on poverty reduction with community involvement. GRACE's work will prioritize partnerships with organizations who are dedicated to base building with low-income parents and families, specifically families who have accessed or been denied public benefits and can speak to the importance of a whole child, whole family approach.



United Parents and Students: Guaranteed basic income model that supports families with children prenatal to age 5; coalition work to spread the model/narrative of GBI benefits.



**CALIFORNIANS
TOGETHER**
CHAMPIONING THE SUCCESS
OF ENGLISH LEARNERS

Californians Together: Translation/Policy implementation for Dual Language Learners (DLL) – Statewide, though many languages spoken in LA.



El Sereno Community Land Trust

El Sereno Community Land Trust: Community Garden that addresses land use, informal education, generational learning, cultural identity. Funds to advocate for policy changes, survey families, and collect data on the impact of garden based. education.



**GENTE
ORGANIZADA**

Gente Organizada: Policy implementation and monitoring for recently passed “Pomona Kids First” policy. Through Community engagement they will expand a cohesive network of institutions and service providers to address some of the critical challenges faced by our young children and their families. This network will be convened to address infant mortality rates, preschool enrollment, literacy, and access to safe

recreational spaces for play.

**LONG BEACH
FORWARD**
Community. Power. Justice.

Long Beach Forward Inc: Social housing and participatory budgeting addresses housing insecurity. Create more legal pathways within the City of Long Beach and County of Los Angeles to develop and finance social housing for families and children. Collaborative between community residents directly impacted by inequities, community-based organizations, and government leaders and staff in local

government and public education systems.



BreastfeedLA

Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles: Breastfeed LA: Mobilizing to address breastfeeding disparities among underserved populations in Los Angeles County. Key initiatives included the "Lactation Justice: Activating our Community Response" summit, which united healthcare providers, policymakers, and community members to tackle systemic barriers to breastfeeding.



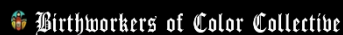
Children's Specialty Care Coalition: Organizing with several children's health advocacy organizations that directly impact children and youth, including the 0-5 population. Advocating for continuous Medi-Cal coverage for the 0-5 population, urging the Department of Health Care Services to seek federal approval to implement this policy, working to strengthen the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) benefit for children, particularly those with coverage through California Children's Services, and continuing to advocate for rate stabilization for pediatric specialists to increase access to care for children and youth with complex health care needs.



South Bay Center for Counseling: Community-based doula support. Doulas provide emotional, physical, and informational support during pregnancy, labor, and postpartum, which lead to increased access to culturally congruent care, reduced rates of cesarean sections, shorter labor times, lower incidences of preterm labor, lower rates of perinatal mood disorders and improved experiences overall.



Early Edge CA: DLL Field-Building project was leveraging existing partnerships to make connections with new partners in the space. Were able to engage in new partnerships with organizations such as Para Los Ninos. We are proud of expanding our LA-based connections through this work with the following local organizations: A



Birthworkers of Color Collective: Their work has expanded doula access by offering no-cost training to low-income community members ultimately diversifying the doula workforce. They offered free PAVE training to doulas in their Collective, as well as to doulas in our community to help reduce the administrative burdens associated with enrollment and reimbursement for the Medi-Cal Doula Benefit. They collaborated with experts in the field who serve as board members, community partners, and members of our Collective to create alliances within birthwork and strengthen their capacity as a resource hub.



CIELO: Advocated to change policies to require health and state agencies to collect and disaggregate data for Meso-American populations in the state of California. It is the first step in understanding the Indigenous migrant populations in the state of California. CIELO collaborated with the Department of Public and Social services (DPSS) to provide create awareness trainings to their staff and improve the services provided to indigenous families.



LA Walks: Developed a free, publicly accessible online certification program based on LA Walks updated PedPower curriculum, hosted on a newly launched website. The tool allows community members to learn how to advocate for safer streets, develop safe routes to schools, and become paid consultants to lead the community engagement efforts for active transit projects in their neighborhoods. This platform will ensure that families and community advocates have the tools they need to create change in their neighborhood.



CHIRLA: Has been coordinating to uplift recent migrant buses arriving to the city of Los Angeles, with a focus on informing about the conditions of children 0-5 and pregnant women. Coordinated access to housing and services for migrant arrivals, which includes shelter and hotel stays, access to food, transportation and case management.



EveryChild CA: Launched a series of new training opportunities that helped our community of early learning and care professionals understand how to operate CCTR Contracts, how to operate CSPP contracts, and how to operate an Infant/Toddler program, including operational information that applies to FCCHENs. All of these professional development opportunities held virtually to enable equitable access from any corner of the state.



CRCD: Is working to help parents of young children (prenatal to 5) access workforce training and good jobs with fair wages. Focus on family economic strengthening is supported by a significant body of research that says increasing family income improves early childhood outcomes including healthy physical and emotional development, and readiness for kindergarten. Project will raise awareness of the barriers faced by working/job-seeking parents of very young children (prenatal to 5 years old) in Best Start Region 2 as they try to access workforce development and secure good jobs, and will lay the foundation for multi-sector systems change (workforce, childcare, and local businesses among others) to remove those barriers.



EmpowerThem Collective: Maximize parents' involvement in community coalition work and coordinate meetings and training to support parents' engagement authentically and effectively. Provide in-house parent training, secure childcare support onsite and provide meals so that parents can engage with minimal barriers. We will utilize in-kind resources to conduct an evaluation of this program to improve and refine the process and showcase how valuable lived experience is to the development of programming and policy change. This evaluation report and proven methods will be used to seek out future funding for sustainability purposes.



REFUGEE CHILDREN CENTER

Refugee Children Center: The community garden project would create social, economic, and environmental equity for the North Hills community where the nearest community garden is more than five miles away. Overall, this project would help us in moving steps closer toward Indigenous Food Sovereignty for communities of color across and beyond Los Angeles County to potential global capacities. Cultivating the garden provides cultural identity affirmation, economic opportunities to provide for families, and access to green space. Nature-based education will uplift cultural practices/ancestral knowledge. Connected to oral history: Org is partnering with UCLA Education Department to publish oral history statements (shared during meeting).