



CALIFORNIA FUNDERS
for Boys & Men of Color

Collaboration. Progress. Impact.

2019 - 2020





Table of Contents

About the California Funders.....Pg. 1
for Boys and Men of Color

Introduction.....Pg. 2

Impact By the Numbers.....Pg. 3

2019 - 2020 Top Moments.....Pg. 4

From the Network.....Pg. 5

CFBMoC at Work.....Pg. 6

Changing the Narrative.....Pg. 7

Join Us.....Pg. 8

About the California Funders for Boys and Men of Color

Launched in 2014, California Funders for Boys and Men of Color brings together CEOs from the state's leading philanthropic institutions to shape a better future for boys and men of color—and for California. Our members are driven by a vision that all boys and men of color should enjoy full inclusion in all of the opportunities this state has to offer.

California's prosperity depends on our young men of color. Cultivating access to opportunity for our young people benefits all of us. Yet, our boys and men of color face barriers to opportunity at every point in their development, from childhood to adulthood. Every day, our boys and men are left behind by our school systems, held back from success by our criminal justice system, and shut out of employment opportunities.

California Funders for Boys and Men of Color aligns the resources, networks and voices of California's foundations—from family and private foundations to corporate and community funders—with the goal of improving opportunities for African American, Latinx, AAPI and Native American boys and young men. Since its inception, California Funders for Boys and Men of Color has engaged in collaborative efforts to remove systemic barriers and create pathways that enable our boys and men of color to achieve their greatest hopes and dreams—continuing a decades-long commitment by many of our member foundations.

Our Vision and Approach

We are guided by the lifecourse framework, which means we seek to improve the health, educational and economic opportunities for boys and men of color over the course of their lives. We are working to build momentum, public will and policy attention so that California's boys and men of color are:

- Sufficiently prepared to begin school and learn.
- Able to understand math and read at the appropriate proficiency by third grade.
- Earning their high school diplomas.
- Facing less arrests, convictions and recidivism as youth and as adults.
- Graduating from college.
- Securing meaningful and stable careers with sufficient pay to support their families.

Our Structure

Program Manager:
Sergio Cuellar, *Sierra Health Foundation and The Center*

Backbone Team:
Castle Redmond, *The California Endowment*
Ray Colmenar, *The California Endowment*
Fatima Angeles, *The California Wellness Foundation*
Bilen Mesfin Packwood, *Change Consulting*
Debrah Giles, *East Bay Community Foundation*
Greg Hodge, *Khepera Consulting*
Julio Marcial, *Liberty Hill Foundation*
Matt Cervantes, *Sierra Health Foundation and The Center*



Dear colleagues,

Throughout California, young people and their families, and community and movement leaders, are working tirelessly to shape the state into a beacon of opportunity, hope and inclusion for all.

Their vision, commitment and power is yielding tremendous impact, moving critical policy and systems change forward at the local and state levels—from pushing youth justice systems to focus on youth development, to fighting for equity in our education systems, and advocating for economic equity.

Our work as funders is to march in lockstep with them, seeding and supporting their efforts for a more just California for everyone. California Funders for Boys and Men of Color fosters the collaboration needed to do just that—collaboration not just among our members, but also with policy makers through the Select Committee Assembly, with community partners through the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, and with boys and men of color themselves.

Collaboration, as we know, is not easy. It takes time and patience. I am grateful we are in it together for the long haul, and am proud of our continued push toward progress and collective impact. Our young people deserve nothing less.

Chet P. Hewitt
President and CEO
Sierra Health Foundation
The Center

Impact By the Numbers



Guided by the lifecourse framework, collectively invested nearly **\$700,000** from the statewide pooled fund and aligned funding directly into organizations in California working to advance opportunity for boys and men of color.



Leveraged more than **\$5.5 million** to support the work of community partners focused on California Funders for Boys and Men of Color strategies.



Grew our membership in 2019, welcoming NextGen Policy and Stuart Foundation.



Supported the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, which passed **four pieces of legislation** in 2019.



Supported Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color in organizing **1 hearing and 5 community roundtables** throughout California.



Reached nearly **1,000 people** in philanthropy, policy and advocacy through our regional action committee meetings, presentations and events.

2019 - 2020 Top Moments

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia (D-Coachella), chair of the Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color, hosted a press conference to kick off the first informational hearing for the committee in 2019. At the hearing, legislators reviewed the past several years of the state's investment in boys and men of color to help direct future resources and legislation.



Governor Newsom signed AB 392: The California Act to Save Lives. For decades, families of loved ones killed by the police have fought against police violence and for greater accountability. Dozens of families and advocates, including members of the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color and the California Funders for Boys and Men of Color, joined the Governor to mark this historic moment. Introduced by Assemblymember Shirley Weber (D-San Diego), AB 392 updates the state's use of force laws to hold police officers accountable and encourage officers to avoid using deadly force at every possible opportunity.



San Francisco supervisors voted to close juvenile hall by 2021, thanks to the organizing and leadership of directly impacted people and youth led by Young Women's Freedom Center. San Francisco set a precedent for the state and the nation by becoming the first major city in the country to commit to shutting down its juvenile hall.



Through the leadership of system-impacted youth, Los Angeles County will now have a probation oversight commission.



Along with the Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, California Funders for Boys and Men of Color supported a California Policy track session at the MBK Rising! Summit in Oakland. The day featured panels on education systems and equity with Secretary of State Alex Padilla and Superintendent Tony Thurmond, and conversations with advocates and funders about disinvesting from mass incarceration and policing, and investing in education and jobs.



California Funders for Boys and Men of Color joined more than 800 change makers, thought leaders and activists to learn and strategize on how we can achieve philanthropic equity together at the CHANGE Philanthropy Unity Summit. California Funders for Boys and Men of Color organized a panel of network members, advocacy leaders and young people to share how, over the last decade, California has seen a groundswell of leadership that has resulted in statewide and local policy shifts and investments to improve outcomes for boys and men of color.



From the Network

“ Our vision for boys and men of color is to live—live long lives in the community. That our straight, and queer, Black and brown cis and trans folks build futures together void of the harmful realities grown from racism and disinvestment. We dream of spaces where our communities can thrive. If we are going to talk about advancing equity and justice, then philanthropy has to be bold, courageous and be willing to talk about race. I believe that being explicit about racial justice and centering race in our analysis is so important.

Lateefah Simon, President, Akonadi Foundation

“ Our vision for boys and men of color across California is a robust youth development system that integrates across agencies, nonprofits and school systems to address core development and unmet needs of boys and men of color, especially for boys and men of color who face hardship related to poverty, abuse, prejudice, over-policing and/or neighborhood violence.

Antonia Hernández, President and CEO, California Community Foundation

“ Funders can play an important role in this work. I believe we have both the freedom and the responsibility to aim high and set bold college goals on behalf of our students. Our young people need to know that California will not allow them to be left behind. Our collective future depends on it.

Monica Lozano, President and CEO, College Futures Foundation

“ The policy solutions we need lie with those most affected by systemic barriers. Across age and issue area, we know that people closest to the pain are also closest to the solutions. By centering the voices and leadership of those most impacted by systemic oppression, we are building a world where people belong, succeed, and collectively exercise power.

Marc Philpart, Managing Director, PolicyLink, Alliance for Boys and Men of Color

“ We have already begun to see what can be achieved when we make positive investments in our communities of color, but much more remains to be done. All of us are a product of multiple second chances. It should not matter where you come from, what you look like, or what your socio-economic standing is—every youth should have the same opportunities to achieve their California dream of success. We will continue our legislative work alongside our philanthropy and advocacy partners as part of the boys and men of color policy movement to strategically reach diverse regions so that we can best direct future investments for optimal impact.

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia (D-Coachella), Chair of the Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color

CFBMoC at Work

California Funders for Boys and Men of Color members are organized across three regional action committees across California—in Sacramento–San Joaquin Valley, Southern California and Northern California. In each region, members are responding to the needs identified by local leaders and organizers and seeding efforts to transform barriers to opportunities faced by our communities. Learn more about how each region is working to advance a more inclusive California for all.



Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley

Co-Chairs:

- Chet Hewitt, Sierra Health Foundation and The Center
- Linda Beech Cutler, Sacramento Region Community Foundation

Focus:

- Access and completion of post-secondary degree and certificate programs for boys and men of color.

Impact to date:

- In 2020, the regional action committee will invest \$250,000 from the statewide pooled fund; CFBMoC is leveraging \$350,000 in 2020 to support the work of community partners and local colleges.



Northern California

Leadership Team:

- James W. Head, East Bay Community Foundation (Co-Chair)
- Fred Blackwell, San Francisco Foundation (Co-Chair)
- Lateefah Simon, Akonadi Foundation (Juvenile Justice Working Group Co-Chair)
- Allison Magee, Zellerbach Family Foundation (Juvenile Justice Working Group Co-Chair)

Focus:

- Ensuring that boys and men of color are part of a thriving regional economy while building capacity of community partners to make systemic changes to the juvenile justice systems in the Bay Area.

Impact to date:

- More than \$350,000 invested from the statewide pooled fund to support local policy and systems shifts in workforce development and juvenile justice reform; leveraged \$1.1 million to support the work of community partners.



Southern California

Leadership Team:

- Shane Goldsmith, Liberty Hill Foundation
- Jeff Kim, The California Wellness Foundation
- Joanna Jackson, Weingart Foundation
- Albert Maldonado, The California Endowment

Focus:

- Reshaping Los Angeles County's approach to youth justice and youth development.

Impact to date:

- More than \$200,000 invested from the statewide pooled fund to support local policy and systems shifts; leveraged \$3.4 million to support the work of community partners.
- Eight Community Partners received grants to produce a three-year blueprint for systems reform with a focus on: Reducing youth contact with the justice system and creating a youth development system that includes community-based prevention and diversion; Building a youth/community-led movement that develops leadership of system-impacted individuals.

Changing the Narrative

California Funders for Boys and Men of Color makes communications and narrative change a core part of the work to shift perceptions of boys and men of color. In February 2020, we launched the Here to Lead (#HeretoLeadCA), a storytelling initiative featuring powerful stories from Asian American and Pacific Islander, Native, African American and Latinx boys and men of color who are working to shape California into a state where everyone belongs. Here to Lead will feature stories that celebrate the leadership, power and voice of multigenerational boys and men of color—inclusive of transgender, gender nonconforming and LGBTQI+ stories. We are showcasing these profiles via written stories, photos and videos on a story-driven web site, and are creating assets that can be shared via social media. A preview of the stories is below:

Tyler Okeke

Tyler Okeke is fighting to empower his generation by lowering the voting age to include the young people already creating change. "We urge the adults who are entrusting us with the future to listen to young people and follow our lead."



Jesse Rodriguez

On November 13, 2014, a Bakersfield police officer shot and killed Jesse's cousin, James. Jesse helped to bring together families and advocates from Bakersfield and all around California to fight for justice and accountability for our communities, and push for the passage of AB 392: The California Act to Save Lives. "I had to show my children we couldn't sit back and let this injustice stand. I was tired of feeling unsafe in my own community."



Phal Sok

After 17 years of confinement, at the age of 35, Phal Sok was facing being deported to Cambodia, a country he had never set foot in. Using what he'd learned from his own experience, he started organizing to fight for his right to stay in the country—and for other immigrants and their families. "I am interested in helping to create a system that will give all of us a real chance at healing, so young people can have a real future."





Join Us

California Funders for Boys and Men of Color offers a powerful network of foundation CEOs committed to radically transforming the lives of boys and men of color in California through focused investment and collective action. Our members lead private, regional and community foundations and are supported by the expertise of professional grant-making and communications staff, many of whom have direct experience in policy and systems change and movement building. We focus our efforts and investments in California. Our members need not be located in California, but should share our interest in investing in this state.

Get in touch for more information on California Funders for Boys and Men of Color and how to get involved.



Collaboration.
Progress.
Impact.

2019 - 2020



**CALIFORNIA FUNDERS
for Boys & Men of Color**

www.cafundersforbmoc.org



@CABMOCFunders



@cafundersforbmoc

