



A Message from CPI's Executive Director

Dear {{FirstName or 'Friend of CPI'}},

Today is GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that mobilizes people to do good in their communities by giving back.

Today, we [launch a campaign](#) to raise \$20,000 by 2020.

This GivingTuesday, we hope we can count on your support as we prepare for a big year ahead. 2020 presents unique opportunities to make life better for working families. Whether we are out front or behind the scenes, CPI is always working on solutions to address systemic inequities that affect diverse working families in the San Diego region.

There is so much at stake and so much work to do.

Our research and advocacy empowers our community and holds our leaders accountable. Our work is not possible without the generosity of our supporters. Please give what you can to help us reach our year-end fundraising goal. There is no gift too big or small. We've also created a [campaign toolkit](#) and would appreciate you sharing this campaign with your network. On behalf of the whole CPI team, **thank you!**

[DONATE NOW](#)

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kyra R. Greene'.

Kyra R. Greene, PhD (She/Her/Hers)
Executive Director
Center on Policy Initiatives



ADVOCACY SPOTLIGHT

"If the City is really committed to ensuring that boards and commissions [are open to] all San Diegans, we need to [...] reduce the civic engagement barriers for low-income, people of color, and working people."



Last month, CPI and three [Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute](#) alumni testified to the Rules Committee about the need for amendments to the City's policy on Boards & Commissions:

We called on the city to:

1. codify the removal of credit checks and background checks,
2. ensure all community members have the opportunity to serve regardless of citizenship status, and
3. create a more transparent and responsive application process.

Listen to CPI's full statement below, read by our Leadership Development Coordinator and Organizer, Ana Laura Martinez:



VIDEO: Ana Laura Martinez testifies at SD City Council on behalf of CPI

SEJ ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Earlier this year, the Margeurite Casey Foundation recognized two of our Students for Economic Justice (SEJ) alumni, **Ignacio Valverde (2018)** and **Sarah Farouq (2017)** with the [Sargent Shriver Youth Warriors Against Poverty Leadership Award](#). This award honors their vision, passion, and dedication to improving the lives of families in their communities.

Sarah recently shared her story with the Casey Foundation about how she started organizing disenfranchised communities, participating in civic engagement, and joining Muslim student advocacy.

Watch Sarah's full interview below:



VIDEO: Sarah Farouq (SEJ 2017) shares her story with the Marguerite Casey Foundation

ICYMI: Applications for the 2020 cohort of SEJ fellows are now open. The SEJ summer fellowship program is an intensive full-time, \$15-per-hour, six-week program that places committed student activists at community organizations to gain hands-on organizing experience in a current campaign for economic justice.

If someone you know would be a good candidate for this fellowship, please share this opportunity.

Applications are due February 28, 2020.

[**APPLY TO BE A FELLOW**](#)

DONATE TO  **CPI**
CENTER ON POLICY INITIATIVES



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