

Hi {{FirstName}},

Our BCLI Concludes

Our 2019 Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute concluded on June 15.



Our guest panelists were:

- Laurie Jones Neighbors (bottom left above), architect of the nation’s very first BCLI program;
- San Marcos City Council Member María Núñez (top right);
- BCLI alumna Leticia Cazares (top left), Southwestern Community College District Governing Board;
- BCLI alumna Tazheen Nizam (top middle), who shared her experience of running for Vista’s City Council; and
- Ami Admire (bottom left), graduating BCLI Fellow who taught us about the history—and resilience—of our county’s Native tribes.

Laurie captured concisely what motivates our 2019 Fellows—and the four cohorts before them—when she said, “I want to change things for the better before I leave this Earth.”

The 2019 SEJ Fellowship Begins

Summer truly arrived at CPI the last week of June! That's when we welcomed our **Students for Economic Justice** Class of 2019. They're our 14th cohort to date.



During the first two days of training, we talked about why we organize; our organizing core values; strategies for social change, economic justice, and educational equity; and Fellows reflected on their commitments for the six weeks of the Fellowship. They *really* want to organize. And that's a very good thing.

They will be getting hands-on organizing experience at Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 569, Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest, San Diego Education Association and California Teachers Association, Service Employees International Union Local 221, SEIU-United Service Workers West, and United Domestic Workers of America.

Learn more about this year's Fellows [here](#).

An Invitation to Celebrate Our Leaders

Please join us in celebrating this year's SEJ *and* BCLI Fellows on **Wednesday, August 14, 2019** at the **San Diego LGBT Community Center**. Please save the date. Contact our development director, Quynh Nguyen, at quynh@onlinecpi.org if your organization or you want to help ensure we can keep supporting amazing leaders like these by becoming a sponsor for this event.

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Winning Language Justice in the City Budget

The Community Budget Alliance had another year of successful advocacy. One of the big wins is that after two years, the City of San Diego has now allocated funds

that will allow community members to request and the City to provide interpretation and translation services at community planning group meetings.

More than 30 languages are spoken in the city, and one in every seven residents does not speak English well. Providing translation services at community planning group meetings is one step towards ensuring community-oriented infrastructure planning and real democracy. It's another way we're helping create opportunities for our vibrant and diverse community leaders to lead.

Help us get the word out and so community leaders start requesting translation and interpretation at their community planning group meetings.

Winning Over \$30 Million for Communities and Families in the County Budget



On [June 13](#), more than 300 members of the Invest in San Diego Families coalition came out to the County Board of Supervisors' evening budget hearing. Advocacy by our coalition was instrumental in getting the County to hold evening budget hearings in 2016 and 2017 and to reinstating the hearing this year after the board refused to hold a hearing in 2019. What a difference community advocacy and an election can make!

Close to 600 people were present at the hearing. One hundred and eleven of our coalition members, from all over the county, delivered powerful, heartfelt testimonies. All our prep beforehand (three public speaking trainings and four community town halls) really paid off that evening.

On June 25, the Board of Supervisors adopted their 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 budgets, which include several programs our Invest in San Diego Families pushed for. Collectively, these wins represent more than \$30 million in new investments in communities and families.

Thank You

Whether it's supporting community coalitions in the fight for equitable public investments in historically underserved communities or helping leaders take their leader-

ship to the next level, we love the work we do here. Help us keep making a difference for working families in San Diego. Thank you!

Donate

In solidarity,

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



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