Education Blueprint for Boys and Men of Color in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties

Request for Proposals

The Center at Sierra Health Foundation is an independent 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization bringing people, ideas and infrastructure together to create a collective impact that reduces health disparities and improves community health for the underserved living in California. For information about The Center, visit www.shfcenter.org.
READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS AND CRITERIA CAREFULLY

**The Funding Opportunity**

The California Funders for Boys and Men of Color (CFBMoC), managed by The Center at Sierra Health Foundation, in partnership with Sierra Health Foundation and the Sacramento Region Community Foundation, will award a total of $250,000 through one-year grants up to $25,000 each to community-based organizations in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties. These grants will support the development of a regional education blueprint to increase the number of boys and men of color accessing and completing an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs. The CFBMoC Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Regional Action Committee (SSJV RAC) is made up of member foundations Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, The California Wellness Foundation, College Futures Foundation and The California Endowment.

To improve educational outcomes of boys and men of color in the region, CFBMoC has pooled resources from California’s leading foundations to invest in key grassroots and advocacy organizations in the region to support deeper policy and systems change that will improve access to and completion of an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs. CFBMoC will invest in organizations that are utilizing community-based, trauma-informed methods to support on- and off-campus wrap-around services for boys and men of color.

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**Educational Barriers for Boys and Men of Color**

**High School Education Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Percentage of BMoC in the 2017-2018 four-year cohort</th>
<th>Rate of BMoC who graduated with their HS diploma</th>
<th>Rate of BMoC who graduated meeting the UC/CSU requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento County</td>
<td>31.5%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Joaquin County</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>26.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>71.7%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>42.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Post-Secondary Education Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Local Community College, California State University and University of California institutions</th>
<th>Percentage of BMoC enrolled</th>
<th>Young men of color completion rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Los Rios Community College District</td>
<td>23.8%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Joaquin Delta College District</td>
<td>71.3%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California State University, Sacramento</td>
<td>34.3%</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California, Davis</td>
<td>21.1%</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the data presented above and the data from our community conversations in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties, we are seeing that while boys and men of color are successfully graduating from high school, there is a need to focus on getting boys and men of color to access courses that prepare them for college and help them meet the UC and CSU requirements to make them eligible to apply for a four-year university.

We also see through the data and our community conversations that boys and men of color who attend college — especially those entering post-secondary opportunities through our local community colleges and California State University systems — are failing to complete their coursework to obtain their degrees.

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2 YOUNG MEN OF COLOR. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://dataportal.edresults.org/YMOC/CommunityCollege
For these reasons, this RFP focuses on improving access to and completion of an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs for boys and men of color.

**FUNDING TIMELINE:**

- **Thursday, February 20, 2020**: RFP Release
- **Monday, February 24, 2020**: Proposer’s Webinar
- **Wednesday, March 18, 2020**: Applications Due
- **Mid-April 2020**: Awards Announced
- **May 2020**: Funds Available

**BACKGROUND**

The California Funders for Boys and Men of Color (CFBMoC) is a network of 16 foundation CEOs with the aim to build the momentum and public awareness necessary to address systemic barriers that limit access to opportunities and to shape a better future for boys and men of color and for California. We are dedicated to aligning our efforts, resources and influence to improve the lives of African American, Latino, Asian Pacific Islander and Native American boys and men of color. CFBMoC is managed by The Center at Sierra Health Foundation.

Locally, each of the members of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Regional Action Committee (SSJV RAC)—Sierra Health Foundation, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, College Futures Foundation, The California Endowment, and The California Wellness Foundation—are committed to the vision of the CFBMoC and have committed to support these issues through continued, strategic investments throughout the years.

Together with policymakers, business and community leaders, we are working to build momentum, public will and policy attention so that California’s boys and men of color:

- Are prepared for and thrive in school
- Reach math and reading milestones at the appropriate grade levels
- Earn their high school diplomas
- Graduate from college with quality degrees, credentials and certifications
- Face fewer arrests, convictions and recidivism as youth and as adults
- Are healthy, safe and free from violence
- Secure meaningful and stable careers with sufficient pay to support their families

The CFBMoC launched a place-based strategy in summer 2016 designed to: 1) align, amplify and accelerate existing successful models for system and policy change rooted in community, and 2) influence the allocation of public resources and attention in ways that would have the most meaningful impact.

The strategy is based on a shared understanding that existing local and statewide efforts—community, public and philanthropic—must have a sharper analysis of the issues facing boys and young men of color, and have the capacity to drive systemic and structural changes to achieve population-level impacts.

Guided by the CFBMoC North Star Goal³, the Life Course Framework⁴, and the CFBMoC Outcomes and Policy Priorities⁵, the CFBMoC seeks to support and partner with local leaders to transform policies, systems and institutions through its place-based strategy, via a combination of five activities:

1. Advance policy and systems changes (locally and statewide) based on best practices that remove barriers and expand opportunities.

³ To increase the number boys and men of color achieving employment that pays enough to support a family in California (300% federal poverty level)

⁴ Arnold Chandler, A Life Course Framework for Improving the Lives of Boys and Men of Color, Forward Change Consulting

⁵ “About the California Funders for Boys and Men of Color” California Funders for Boys and Men of Color, https://cafundersforbmoc.org/about/.
2. Leverage philanthropic relationships, investments, knowledge and influence with the public and private sectors and reallocate public resources and investments.

3. Deepen the organizational capacities of communities to advance and sustain long-term change by strengthening organizing and youth engagement and leadership.

4. Ensure measurable population-level outcomes are achieved by programs and systems alike.

5. Advance the CFBMoC communications strategy to connect the well-being of boys and men of color to the health and economic success of communities and society.

To support this strategy and these activities locally, the SSJV RAC will invest in creating more opportunities for boys and men of color to access and complete an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs. With the first initial investment of the SSJV RAC targeted to Sacramento and San Joaquin counties, the intended outcome is to ensure the foundational elements for policy change are advanced to influence college, school and classroom practices that foster equity.

**Program Grants**

To further advance the above-mentioned strategy in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties, the SSJV RAC has committed to supporting local community-based organizations in partnership with education systems leaders to develop a comprehensive local and regional education blueprint for boys and men of color that will support activities to:

1. Increase the number of boys and men of color enrolling in and completing an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs, or bachelor’s degree program.

a. This priority will work to support student-centered communications strategies, teacher development, and research and student support services, with educational equity as the focus.

b. Students, parents and community partners should be engaged as advocate’s voices within this strategy and work in and out of the educational institutions to assure that these services and programs are implemented and fully funded.

2. Strengthen the pipeline to community college and/or four-year university for justice-involved and/or system-impacted boys and men of color.

3. Improve school climate that prepares and supports the increase of boys and men of color to enter into higher education and complete an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate program or bachelor’s degree program.

The CFBMoC SSJV RAC, supported by Sierra Health Foundation and Sacramento Region Community Foundation, will award up to 10 grants with a maximum of $25,000 per grant over a one-year period to community-based organizations in Sacramento and San Joaquin counties—a total investment of $250,000. The Regional Action Committee also will have funds available to support local education system leaders to participate in the development of the blueprints and action plans. The funds for education systems leaders will be offered once community partner grantees have identified the districts and leaders they currently are working with.

To support the blueprint process, the CFBMoC SSJV RAC will make technical assistance available in the following areas:

- data support
- participatory action research
- facilitation to complete the local and regional blueprints

CFBMoC SSJV RAC members, Sacramento Region Community Foundation, The California Wellness Foundation and College
Futures Foundation have and/or will make concurrent investments aligned with the Regional Action Committee strategy to support current and future outcome improvements at local K-12 and higher education institutions in the region.

With this funding opportunity, resources for technical assistance and current and future aligned funding investments, the CFBMoC SSJV RAC will invest up to $1.2 million in the region to support greater access to and completion of an associates-to-transfer degree program, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs.

**SCOPE OF WORK**

Funds from this grant will support participation in a planning process that will contribute to the development of a collaborative blueprint and action plan to facilitate access to and completion of post-secondary associates-to-transfer degree programs, high-value career-technical certificate programs or bachelor’s degree programs.

Grantees are expected to fully participate in collaboration with fellow grantees, systems leaders and youth from their counties and from across the region to develop local and regional blueprints and action plans for boys and men of color. Grant activities will include:

- CFBMoC Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Regional Action Committee Education Blueprint Grantee Kick-Off
- Regular local education blueprint planning meetings
- Regional education blueprint planning convenings
- CFBMoC Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Regional Action Committee meetings
- CFBMoC Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley Regional Action Committee funder briefings

**ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

This funding opportunity is open to nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and working in Sacramento and/or San Joaquin counties. Fiscal sponsors for entities that are not qualifying 501(c)(3) nonprofits are eligible to apply as long as the project meets the criteria.

**SELECTION CRITERIA**

The most competitive applications will:

- Capitalize on existing, strong community leadership and infrastructure focused on building alliances and coalitions aimed at advancing policy and system change campaigns that target improving the educational climates of local K-12 and higher education institutions where boys and men of color attend in Sacramento and/or San Joaquin counties;
- Leverage existing boys and men of color-related investments made by CFBMoC members, particularly those focused on dismantling the school-to-prison pipeline, addressing school climate and other student pushout issues;
- Leverage the presence of local networks focused on improving outcomes for boys and men of color, such as My Brother’s Keeper Community Challenge collaboratives and subsequent local action plans led by cities/counts;
- Leverage public and private leadership to focus attention on boys and men of color issues, such as the Assembly Select Committee on the Status of Boys and Men of Color, My Brother’s Keeper cities, etc;
- Show the ability to work in partnership with public sector leaders and other nonprofit community-based organizations;
- Demonstrate work that is explicit to supporting health and racial equity and the intersection of multiple issues to support the improvement of educational outcomes for boys and men of color.
SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Applications are due March 18, 2020, by 1 p.m.

Send questions and inquiries related to this funding opportunity to centergrants@shfcenter.org with the subject line: SSJV RAC RFP Question

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

☐ Initiate the funding application online. The link also is posted on the CFBMOC web site.

☐ Participate in the Proposer’s Webinar on February 24, 2020 from 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm. Register to attend at https://www.shfcenter.org/CFBMOCWebinarFeb24

☐ Required Application Attachments
  • Proposed project budget completed in The Center’s Proposed Budget Template (template available in the online portal for download)
  • Proposed budget justification – Upload a narrative that explains your proposed expenditures
  • 501 (c)(3) IRS determination letter
  • Financial Statement – Must show organizational revenue and expenses for your organization’s most recent full fiscal year (Not IRS Form 990)

Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. Applications received after the above deadline may not be considered.

If you are unable to submit your application online or need help, please contact us at centergrants@shfcenter.org with the subject line: Application Online Help.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION GUIDELINES

To help us process your application, please follow these submission guidelines:

• We encourage you to participate in the Proposer’s Webinar set for Monday, February 24, 2020 from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. Register to attend at https://www.shfcenter.org/CFBMOCWebinarFeb24

• We encourage you to submit your application before the deadline date in case you need help with any of the RFP components.

• Applications are due no later than 1 p.m. (Pacific Time) on Wednesday, March 18, 2020.

• Submit the application via our online portal through this link. New users of the portal will need to create an account as the first step in the application process. You will only use this link one time to initiate your application. After you have started working on your application, use the link below or received via e-mail to continue working on your saved application.

• In the portal, for optimal functionality, use Internet Explorer as the browser when working on a PC and Safari as the browser when working on a Mac. Do not use Google Chrome.

• Respond to all required fields (marked with a *).

• Upload all attachments listed under the “Application Checklist” below.

• On the portal, you may click “Save & Finish Later.” You will receive an e-mail with a link to return to your in-progress application. You may also use this link to return to your in-progress application.

• Click “Save & Finish Later” any time you will not be working in your application for a few minutes.

• You may submit your application only once. Be sure your application is complete and accurate, including required documents, before submitting it. Revised applications will not be accepted.

• If you are unable to submit your application online or need help, please contact us at centergrants@shfcenter.org with the subject line: Application Online Help.
APPLICATION FOR REFERENCE ONLY
SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION USING THE ONLINE PORTAL

If you are unable to submit your application online or need help, please contact us at centergrants@shfcen.org with the subject line: SSJV RAC Application Online Help.

Education Blueprint for Boys and Men of Color in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties

APPLICANT ORGANIZATION INFO

Organization name

Is this organization a fiscal sponsor?

Name of fiscally sponsored project, if applicable

Address

County

Phone

Web Site (optional)

Director/CEO Contact Name

Director/CEO Contact Title

Director E-mail address

Director phone

Application Contact

Application Contact E-mail Address

Application Contact Phone

Applicant Organization Tax ID #

PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name: Education Blueprint for Boys and Men of Color in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties

Brief Summary and Purpose of Project: To support organization to fully participate in collaboration with fellow grantees, systems leaders and youth to develop local and regional education blueprints and action plans to improve access to and completion of post-secondary Associates-to-Transfer degree programs, high-value Career-Technical Certificate Programs, and/or Bachelor’s degree programs for boys and men of color in Sacramento and San Joaquin Counties.
Amount Requested (Up to $25,000): $_______

Start Date: May 1, 2020

End Date: April 30, 2021

Proposed Implementation Strategy (select at least one)

☐ Mentorship/Relationship Building
☐ Peer-led Support and Leadership Program

GEOGRAPHY

County-level

Indicate in which county or counties this work will take place. (Total must add up to 100.)

☐ Sacramento %
☐ San Joaquin %

POPULATION TO BE SERVED

Race and Ethnicity

For each youth population benefited by the organization, provide your best estimate of the percentage of the total people of each population (Total must add up to 100.)

☐ African-American/Black %
☐ Asian-American/Asian Pacific Islander %
☐ Latino/Hispanic %
☐ Native American %
☐ Other population [specify]

Age Group

For the age groups listed below, provide your best estimate of the percentage of each age group your organization benefits. (Total must add up to 100.)

☐ 10-14 %
☐ 15-19 %
☐ 20-24 %
Additional Population

Check any of the following populations that are a primary focus of the organization.

☐ Boys and Men of Color
☐ Farm Workers / Agricultural Laborers
☐ Immigrants (including Undocumented)
☐ LGBTQ
☐ People who are Homeless
☐ People with Disabilities

NARRATIVE QUESTIONS

Organization Description. Briefly describe the applicant organization (or lead organization, if the applicant is serving as a fiscal sponsor only) including (a) its mission, (b) how long it has served the community, (c) the youth it serves, including age, gender, ethnicity, socioeconomic situation, where they live and any special circumstances and (d) history of supporting a collaborative with a common agenda. (300 words maximum)

Organization Experience - Education Outcomes. Describe your organization’s experience championing better education outcomes for boys and men of color through policy and practice. Include examples of notable successes in your organization’s work with improving school climates, improving opportunities for boys and men of color to graduate high school, access post-secondary education opportunities, complete a post-secondary degree or certificate program and/or support system impacted boys and men of color to re-enter the education system. (300 words maximum)

Organization Experience - Working with Youth. Describe your organization’s experience working with youth, system impacted youth, their families and communities of color to improve education outcomes. (200 words maximum)

Organization Experience - Education Systems. Describe your organization’s experience working with K-12, Community College, and/or four-year university system leaders to advance policy and systems changes that improve access to and completion of post-secondary degree and/or certificate programs. What K-12 districts and/or higher education systems are you working with? What is the nature of that work? (300 words maximum)

Community Partner Engagement. How are you engaging with other community partners improve education outcomes for boys and men of color in your county. What community partners are you working with? What is the nature of that work? (300 words maximum)

Technical Assistance. What technical assistance would your organization benefit from in implementing this project? This technical assistance can be focused on organizational capacity building or community capacity building. This information will help us plan our learning convenings. (150 words maximum)
APPLICANT COMMITMENT

☐ If funded, applicant commits to participating in local planning meetings and regional planning convenings. Number and frequency of meetings and convenings are to be determined.

ATTACHMENTS

☐ Proposed Budget (required) - Download The Center’s budget form in the Attachments tab of the online application form, fill it in and upload it.

☐ Proposed Budget Narrative (required) - Describe each budget item, explain how the funds will be used, including other funding committed to the project and the source of other funding. Describe in-kind resources.

☐ IRS Letter of Determination - Upload the applicant organization’s IRS Letter of Determination in PDF format. Browse to the document on your computer. Select it, click OK, then click Upload.