

**California Jobs First Collaborative Meeting**

**July 18, 2025**

**9:00 to 10:00am**

**Zoom Video Conferencing**


**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86993468590?pwd=bkRibjZGaCtoSVFZMTNxNEtwN2ZJdz09>**

**Webinar ID:**

**869 9346 8590**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Discussion: Community Enhancing Projects- action item Open Poll
3. Discussion: Job Creating Awardees
4. Collaborative Comments and Updates (*time permitting*)
5. Adjourn

An aerial photograph of a city at dusk, featuring a large blue rectangular frame with a white center. Two red vertical bars are positioned on the left and right sides of the white center. The city below shows various buildings, roads, and greenery under a twilight sky.

# **July 18th Collaborative Meeting**

# Job Creating Projects (\$3.6 Million)

- Primary goal of increasing good paying jobs and/or business development and growth in the industries of tourism and outdoor recreation, medtech, high-tech hardware, semiconductors & microelectronics, advanced manufacturing, precision manufacturing, healthcare, childcare, education, and construction.
- Projects should be focused on the creation, development, or support of businesses and economic activity.
- Stronger projects also demonstrate a positive impact on the climate.



# Community Enhancing Projects (\$1,000,000)

- Address any topic(s) in the Regional Plan Part 2, and/or industries not mentioned in the Job Creating Projects section, and/or could not meet the definition of a good paying job/income.
- Although not exhaustive, these would be topics such as housing, healthcare access, green technologies, childcare access and climate adaptation.
- For projects that are not primarily climate focused, stronger projects demonstrate a positive impact on the climate.
- Collaborative decides how this funding gets spent.

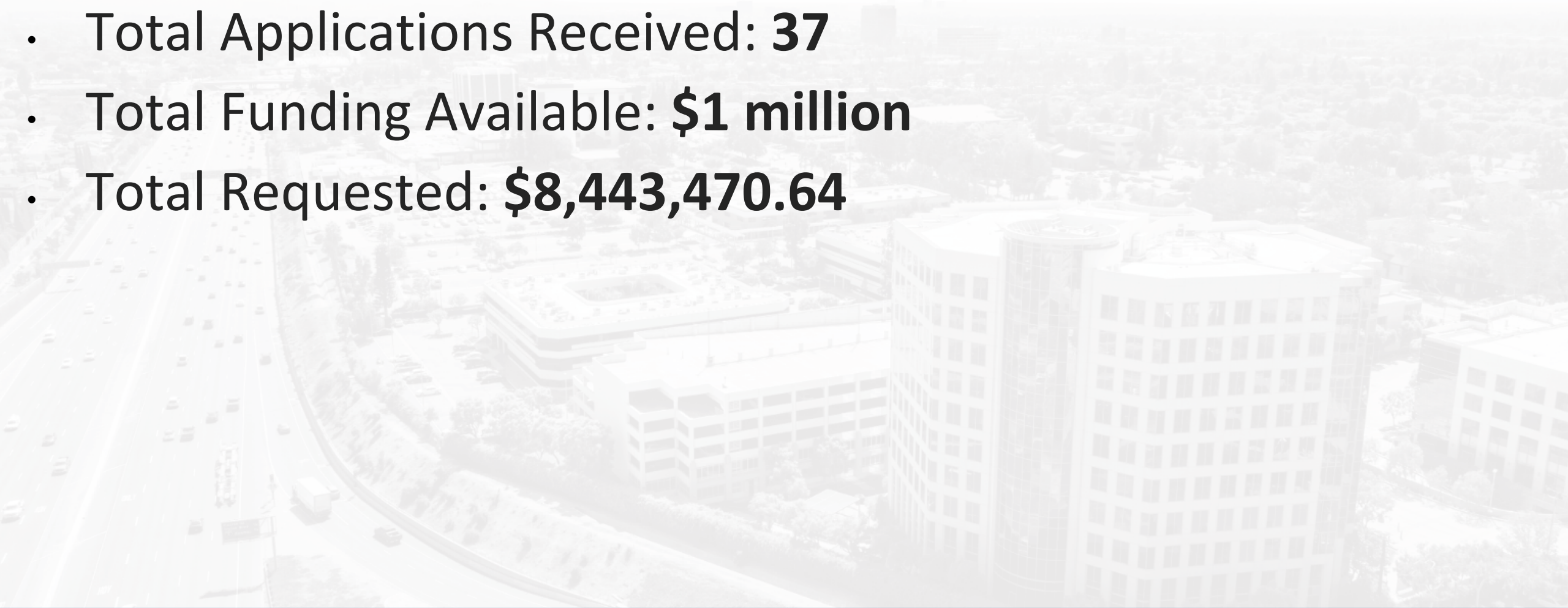
An aerial photograph of a city at dusk, showing a highway interchange, various buildings, and distant mountains under a cloudy sky. A large blue rectangular frame is centered over the image, with two red vertical bars on its left and right sides. Inside the blue frame, the text "Round 2 Community Enhancing Projects" is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

# **Round 2 Community Enhancing Projects**



# Community Enhancing Projects Snapshot

- Total Applications Received: **37**
- Total Funding Available: **\$1 million**
- Total Requested: **\$8,443,470.64**



- Poll of projects will be released on Friday, July 18th
- Select no more than 3 projects or your ballot will be invalid
- Rank Choice. 1st place 5 points, 2nd place 3 points, and 3rd 1 points.
- Utilize project name to vote by entering it in the textbox
- **Your first entry is your first place, second entry is your second place, etc.**
- **Cannot vote for a project that you/your organization is directly involved in, or your entire ballot is invalid.**
- Poll closes firmly at 5 pm on Tuesday, July 22nd.
- If needed, a follow up poll will be released on Wednesday, July 23rd and will close at 5 pm on Friday, July 25th.
- We will fund all eligible expenses starting with the highest vote getter, and then the next highest project, etc. until \$1 million is exhausted.



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# Questions/Discussion



An aerial photograph of a city at dusk, featuring a large blue rectangular frame with a white center. Two red vertical bars are positioned on the left and right sides of the white center. The text "Job Creating Project Awardees" is written in bold black font within the white center. The background shows city buildings, roads, and mountains under a cloudy sky.

# **Job Creating Project Awardees**

# Job Creating Project Snapshot

- Total Applications Received: **46**
- Total Funding Available: **\$3.6 million**
- Total Requested: **\$15,147,495.30**





# OC Small Business CDFI- OC Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Aims to establish a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI) to support the evolving needs of small businesses across Orange County. CDFIs are mission-driven financial institutions that provide affordable credit, capital, and financial services to economically distressed communities, effectively bridging the gap left by traditional lenders. This initiative will focus on priority industries such as tourism, medtech, high-tech hardware, advanced manufacturing, and more, driving sustainable growth and innovation.

## What we liked about the proposal

- Proposal focused on supporting small and medium sized businesses
- OC has a low number of CDFIs compared to other large population centers



# Store One- City of Anaheim

A food incubator and culinary training center located near downtown Anaheim. It will have two culinary pilot programs – Culinary Entrepreneurship and Culinary Workforce Development – will provide food business startup training & incubation services and culinary skills training services delivering new economic opportunities to residents. Over its first 5 years, the project estimates serving 100 entrepreneurs, creating 50 new businesses and 250 new jobs, and training 600 culinary professionals as well as supporting their transition into good paying jobs in the local culinary and hospitality sector.

## What we liked about the proposal

- Food Entrepreneurship
- Meets the community where they are
- Not reliant on just Catalyst dollars



# In-Home Child Care Training- Hope Community Services

A training and support program to equip Vietnamese Americans with limited English with the guidance, skills and knowledge to become licensed home-based childcare providers, creating jobs and improving childcare access for the underserved Vietnamese community in Orange County. This Concept Phase initiative will fund critical early-stage planning activities necessary to adapt and pilot the successful CIELO Childcare Business program for the Vietnamese community—a population facing significant linguistic, cultural, and economic barriers to employment and entrepreneurship.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Concept Phase
- Childcare as a Workforce Enabler



# Workforce Innovation in Neurodiversity- NeuroTalent Works

NeuroTalent Works (NTW) in partnership with Goodwill of Orange County, Project SEARCH, and the Chapman Thompson Policy Institute on Disabilities. The project will transition those with non-visible intellectual and cognitive disabilities—into good-paying jobs in Orange County's healthcare sector by bridging the gap between job candidates and employer readiness to hire. Project SEARCH offers a strong training pipeline; 67 neurodivergent individuals have completed healthcare job training, yet only 4 are in internships, and 3 have been hired. The key barrier is not candidate readiness—but employers' ability and confidence to implement hiring and retention practices.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Targeted Neurodivergent Individuals
- Standing internships/partnerships with major healthcare employers



# Permit Fee Waiver Pilot Program- City of Anaheim

Aimed at accelerating economic growth by attracting, supporting, and expanding businesses in key priority industries. Key program objectives are Permit Fee Waiver, Site Selection Assistance, Workforce Development Alignment, Industry-Specific Outreach Campaigns.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Concept Phase
- Direct Support for Businesses
- Local government attracting businesses into the region

# HealthWorks OC- Orange County Workforce Development Board

Address persistent healthcare labor shortages. The initiative brings together healthcare employers, workforce boards, education partners, and community-based organizations to assess workforce gaps, identify shared priorities, and align hiring needs with improved training pipelines in addition to access for disinvested populations to high-growth healthcare careers. The project's main goals are to strengthen cross-sector alignment in the healthcare workforce system, partner with healthcare employers to ensure workforce programs and training aligns with evolving hiring needs, advance equity and inclusion by identifying and reducing systemic barriers that limit access to healthcare careers for historically disinvested communities.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Countywide Impact
- Systems Change Workforce Development
- High propensity of good paying jobs in the healthcare sector



# OC MITA- International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Trades Local 5

Mechanical Insulation Thermographic Assessment (MITA) Program reduces energy waste, improves environmental health, and creates high-quality jobs through a unique combination of industrial assessments and equitable workforce development. MITA identifies insulation failures in energy-intensive systems—often invisible yet significant sources of energy loss and greenhouse gas emissions. 10 participating facilities will receive a full implementation plan and post-assessment support. Parallel to technical assessments, MITA delivers union-aligned, bilingual workforce training to at least 10 residents. Trainees receive stipends and hands-on field experience leading to certifications and placement into green construction, HVAC, or energy auditing careers that start at \$45,000–\$65,000 with benefits and long-term advancement pathways.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Business support to reduce their environmental impact
- Union aligned workforce training



# Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN)- School of Continuing Education

Develop the first free Licensed Vocational Nursing (LVN) program in Orange County, as a bridge from the Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) program. The target is underserved populations and provides access to help obtain stable, higher paying healthcare careers, eliminate educational barriers, and advance nursing licenses from CNA to LVN. Expected results include expanded educational access for underserved students seeking healthcare careers, increased numbers of skilled vocational nurses to address critical workforce shortages, and a scalable model to meet industry needs, all of which improve access to learning and employment and disproportionately impact disinvested communities.

What we liked about the proposal:

- First of its kind
- HASC confirmed serious shortage in LVNs
- Significant budget on supplies

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**Partially Funded**



# **Little Saigon Business Community Benefit District- City of Garden Grove, Santa Ana, and Fountain Valley**

The cities of Garden Grove, Fountain Valley, and Santa Ana are partnering on the Little Saigon Business Community Benefit District and Specific Plan Project (LS-BCSP), a regional initiative that promotes cultural tourism and job creation while honoring 50 years of Little Saigon's resilience. The project will transform key areas into vibrant cultural hubs through streetscapes and urban design elements inspired by Vietnam, enhance public spaces, and connect businesses and stakeholders to cultural tourism opportunities.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Funded in Round 1
- Multi-City
- Opportunity for long lasting impact by creating a sense of place



# Westminster's Little Saigon Blueprint for Economic Vitality and Quality of Place- City of Westminster

Conduct the pre-development stages outlined in the Little Saigon Blueprint for Investment (Blueprint), a study commissioned in 2020. These efforts, described below, aim to position Westminster's Little Saigon for long-term economic growth, cultural recognition, job growth, and economic resilience. The funding will support project leadership coordination, redevelopment & beautification, establish Public-Private Partnerships, marketing and engagement, and Business Improvement District (BID) Formation.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Connects with Neighboring
- Multi-City
- Opportunity for long lasting impact by creating a sense of place

# Culinary Arts- Santa Ana College School of Continuing Education

Establishing a culinary kitchen on campus will increase access with additional classes offerings in the morning, afternoon, evening and weekends, and develop curriculum for additional training areas: confectionery, meats, fusion, vegan, etc.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Small Business Training
- Large portion of budget focused on construction of Culinary Kitchen
- Over 500 students a year



# Culinary Futures- Coast Community College District

Culinary Futures brings together Cypress College, Orange Coast College, and Saddleback College and national industry leaders and regional employers to create sustainable pathways from education to high-quality employment. Project goals are to place at least 40 students in structured internships/apprenticeships and upskill 60 incumbent workers through Credit for Prior Learning, focus on at least 4 pathways to mid-level technical roles that offer living wages, benefits, and career advancement, prioritize future-facing knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs), artificial intelligence (AI) integration, and other industry trends through 4 annual convenings. Validate best practices and provide implementation guidance to cultivate a more qualified talent pipeline that leads to high-quality jobs and career advancement, with a special focus on disinvested communities.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Employer Engagement through the National and California Restaurant Association
- Multi Community College Partnership for Regional Impact

# Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment-Goodwill Industries of Orange County

Our goal is to develop a project that will rapidly upskill individuals traditionally served by GIOC, equip them with the tools to access good-paying, future-ready jobs while contributing to California's climate resilience and sustainability goals. The average wage of EVSE technicians in our region is \$36.21 per hour or \$81,770 per year. The EVSE Program will feature a comprehensive workforce readiness plan for an industry with good paying jobs and we will improve the lives of our trainees because during the grant-funded cohort, activities will include individualized wraparound support services, job readiness training, classroom instruction and hands-on lab experiences, and post-program employment placement assistance.

What we liked about the proposal:

- Climate Forward workforce training
- Based on a successful model in Georgia
- Clear Equity Focus
- Pathway to very high paying job



# AI Enabled Innovation for Healthcare and Priority Industries- Octane

This AI-Enabled Innovation Hub for Healthcare and Priority Sectors will drive business development & workforce transformation by harnessing artificial intelligence (AI) to build new pathways into high-paying jobs. Primary goals are to enable AI-driven innovation across priority sectors, develop a diverse, future-ready workforce by upskilling residents from disinvested communities, & support entrepreneurship, job creation, & inclusive access to opportunity.

What we liked about the proposal:

- High California Jobs First Focus (Bet Category)
- High engagement from Industry

# Little Village

Woman-led social enterprise offering short-term, flexible childcare alongside coworking space and a play café. Our space will serve 25–30 coworking families and hundreds more via our open play café. We'll provide discounted memberships and sponsorships for families in need, particularly student parents striving for degree completion and long-term stability. We aim to create up to 10 new jobs across childcare, events, and operations. Our hiring practices prioritize equity, focusing on candidates with lived experience—single moms, student parents, and caregivers from underrepresented communities.

What we liked about the proposal:

- South Orange County
- Childcare
- Deep Equity Focus



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# Questions/Discussion



# R1 Awardee Update

California Jobs First

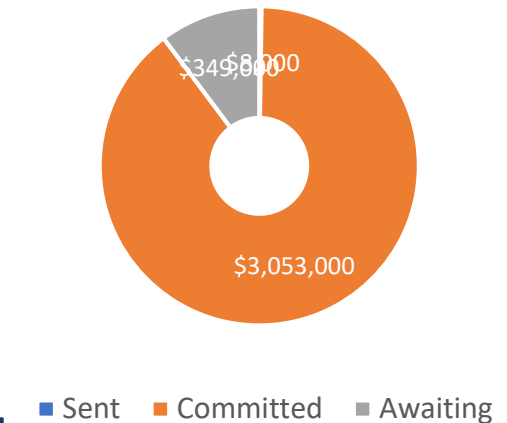
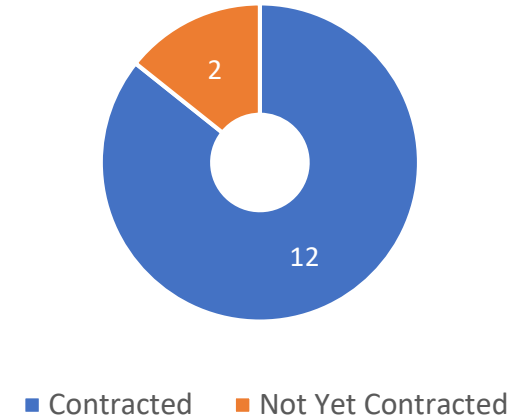
Regional Investment Initiative - Catalyst

July 18, 2025



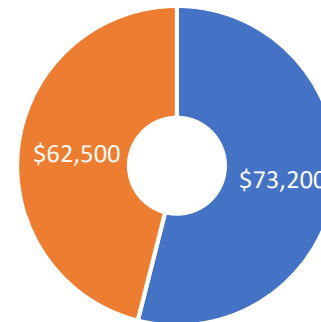
# Contracts

- Of the 14 awarded proposals, 12 have been fully executed with 2 remaining – over \$3M has been committed
  - We are awaiting 1 for signature and 1 to begin the contracting process
- Work began 05/01 or 06/01, so we are receiving financial reports on how the awardees are spending
  - To date, over \$8K has been submitted and approved
  - We expect over \$400K for this upcoming reporting period



# Advanced Payment

- Of the 14 awardees, 2 have been sent the AP they requested with 1 remaining – over \$70K has been sent
  - We are reviewing the final request
  - If approved, we'll send the amount requested and the total AP issued would be over \$135K to support projects in their early stages
- Awardees are required to report on how AP funds are used to ensure transparency and compliance



■ Issued ■ Requested



# Our goal is to get the awardees contracted and ready to do work as soon as possible

- We remain open/available for questions– please email inquiries to [subcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org](mailto:subcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org)
- We will provide awardee updates at all future collaborative meetings
- We will meet with all awardees at least once during their contract term to review adherence to the contract (program and budget)

# THANK YOU

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SHARING MORE  
UPDATES AT THE NEXT COLLABORATIVE MEETING



**Nguyet (Natalie) Nguyen**

Sr. Contracts Specialist

Charitable Ventures

[subcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org](mailto:subcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org)



## R1 Awardee Update #2

1. Contracts
  - a. Of the 14 awarded proposals, 12 have been fully executed with 2 remaining – over \$3M has been committed
    - i. We are awaiting 1 for signature and 1 to begin the contracting process
  - b. Work began 05/01 or 06/01, so we are receiving financial reports on how the awardees are spending
    - i. To date, over \$8K has been submitted and approved
    - ii. We expect over \$400K for this upcoming reporting period
2. Advanced Payment
  - a. Of the 14 awardees, 2 have been sent the AP they requested with 1 remaining – over \$70K has been sent
    - i. We are reviewing the final request
    - ii. If approved, we'll send the amount requested and the total AP issued would be over \$135K to support projects in their early stages
  - b. Awardees are required to report on how AP funds are used to ensure transparency and compliance
3. Questions or concerns?
  - a. Please email inquiries to [tosubcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org](mailto:tosubcontracts@charitableventuresoc.org)