August 5, 2016

Dear Poverty Roundtable Participants:

On behalf of The ABA’s Commission on Homelessness & Poverty, welcome to Collaborate to Advocate: Lawyers and Communities Working to End Poverty. I am thrilled that all of you are able to participate in this event!

The Commission thanks everyone who helped to make this event possible. We thank the experts who are participating today—representing some of the finest programs in the region—as well as the clients and former clients who will share their perspective and insight throughout the dialogue. This roundtable will include a mix of participants, including many bar leaders as well as members and liaisons of the Commission from across the country, each with his or her own voice and area of expertise. We are grateful for this enthusiastic local, state and national participation.

This convening, which brings together experts from throughout the Bay Area, is part of a multi-year initiative aimed at identifying and promoting best practices for eliminating legal and justice system-related policies, practices and procedures that unfairly perpetuate or worsen the harmful effects of poverty. Working with stakeholders from the state and local government, service provider, religious, academic, political and legal communities, the Commission will host additional anti-poverty roundtables in a diverse set of communities—ranging from urban areas in large cities, smaller cities, suburban communities and counties, and rural areas—to reflect the broad range of geographies where poverty exists. We have held roundtables in Miami, Chicago, Houston and DeLand, FL, Alabama (Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma) and are planning future poverty roundtables in Oklahoma City and Sulphur, OK (in partnership with the Chickasaw Nation) in late October.

Today’s discussion will be highlighted on the Commission’s site at www.ambar.org/homeless under the tab for Collaborate to Advocate: Lawyers and Communities Working to End Poverty. We look forward to not only supporting your efforts as you continue the dialogue, but also highlighting your success to other communities as we implement this initiative.

Best regards,

Ted Small
Chair, American Bar Association Commission on Homelessness & Poverty
Background:
Nearly 50 million Americans now live below the federal poverty line. Recent societal, economic and political events (economic meltdown, mortgage foreclosure epidemic, Trayvon Martin, Hurricane Katrina, Ferguson, Missouri, Michelle Alexander’s “The New Jim Crow,” 9/11, the “school to prison pipeline,” unaccompanied minors coming across the border, etc.) have given rise to unprecedented public awareness of income inequality in America, the number of children living in poverty and the disparate treatment and impacts of the law and justice systems on communities of color and populations that face other barriers and obstacles to justice, such as disability, limited English proficiency, immigrant status and other factors.

Initiative Goal:
Identify and help promote and implement best practices for eliminating legal and justice system-related policies, practices and procedures that unfairly perpetuate or worsen the harmful effects of poverty on low-income people and communities, including obstacles and barriers to public benefits, employment, housing, treatment and services needed by people experiencing homelessness or living in poverty.

Working Definition of Poverty:
Poverty is a state or lived experience caused and perpetuated by various, often compounded, factors such as:
• Inadequate economic resources and opportunity to build assets, including employment, adequate income and assets to meet basic human needs such as food, housing, clothing, etc.;
• Insufficient access to social resources such as healthcare, justice and education;
• Weak political standing and limited opportunity for meaningful association and engagement;
• Isolation and lack of cultural identity support;
• Inability to hold institutions and individuals accountable for fair and equitable behavior;
• Disparate treatment based on poverty compounded by other forms of structural unfairness and disparity based on race, ethnicity, gender identity, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, indigenous identity, national origin, etc.
Manifestations of Poverty:
1. Substandard and unaffordable housing and homelessness;
2. Disproportionate involvement in criminal and civil justice systems;
3. Food inadequacy;
4. Inadequate healthcare and poor health outcomes;
5. Inadequate education outcomes;
6. Lack of opportunity for full employment at a living wage;
7. Living through an unending and continuous cycle of crises;
8. Lack of personal and physical safety;
9. Stigma and lack of personal dignity; and
10. Isolation from community and political infrastructure.

Implementation: Anti-Poverty Roundtables, Toolkit for Communities Seeking to Develop and Operationalize Local Anti-Poverty Agendas, and the ABA Online Quilt of Community Anti-Poverty Discussions
The goal of each roundtable is to bring together 10-15 community stakeholders who are interested in identifying, promoting and implementing best practices for eliminating policies, practices and procedures that unfairly perpetuate or worsen the harmful effects of poverty on low-income people in that particular local community. To connect other communities with the national anti-poverty discussion, the Commission will encourage the designation of at least one panelist in each community who is willing to develop an edited summary of the ideas exchanged and proposed new programming for posting to a Commission-moderated online blog entitled, “Operationalizing A New Anti-Poverty Agenda: An Online Quilt of Community Discussions.” This online blog would allow each roundtable to share its diverse perspective on the most pressing manifestations of poverty within their community as well as its proposed solutions. With the addition of notes from each roundtable, the Commission would add a patch to the national Online Quilt in order to bring together diverse patterns of anti-poverty ideas. These shared ideas could be implemented by other communities who in turn share their own strategies for combatting poverty, creating a resource for all communities to use in removing the practices, policies and procedures that worsen or perpetuate poverty. Additionally, in furtherance of its goal of educating the bar and the general public about homelessness and poverty and the ways the legal community can collaborate with other stakeholders to assist those in need, the Commission is developing a resource entitled: Toolkit for Communities Seeking to Develop and Operationalize Local Anti-Poverty Agendas, in which the Commission will compile a wealth of ABA policy and programming knowledge into a series of “blueprints for action” that are cross-disciplinary and specifically address each of the identified Manifestation of Poverty areas.
Anti-Poverty Community Roundtable:  
A Conversation with Local Experts  
on the Bay Area’s Innovative Roadmap to Cut Poverty  
San Francisco, CA  
Friday, August 5, 2016  
11:30 AM to 3:30 PM  
InterContinental Hotel, 888 Howard Street, Telegraph Hill Room (4th Floor)

Agenda

11:30 AM – Lunch will be served during a casual networking opportunity

12:00 PM – Welcome and Introductions

12:15 PM – Overview: What does poverty look like in the Bay Area? What is Rise Together?

12:30 PM – Poverty: Addressing Root Causes and Obstacles to Prevention

What are the root causes of poverty, and what are the best strategies to address them?

- What can be done to anticipate those root causes and proactively prevent people from falling into poverty?
- What is the Bay Area—and your organization, specifically—doing to address the root causes in order to prevent poverty?

What are the greatest challenges when it comes to addressing poverty?

- Structural “upstream impediments”?
- The “Suburbanization of Poverty”?
- Legal and/or justice system barriers?

Have you noted any intersectionality between race and poverty generally or race and one or more of the ten manifestations of poverty specifically?
1:30pm – Break

1:45pm – Collaboration: Innovations and Solutions

*How do providers, organizations, the faith community, advocates, lawyers, the criminal justice system, etc. currently collaborate to address poverty in the Bay Area?*

- From your perspective, what are the benefits of collaboration?

*What lessons can you share with us and communities across the country when it comes to collaborating to address poverty?*

- What are the best practices you’ve identified?
- What are you doing specifically to support the collaborative effort in your own community as well as across the 9 counties with regards to the delivery of services and systems change?

*How would you and your organization like to collaborate further? What challenges impair your ability to collaborate?*

*How do you measure and report success? (e.g., metrics, data collection efforts, statistics and reporting methods)*

2:45pm – Next Steps

*What’s on the horizon for Bay Area anti-poverty initiatives, and what can the ABA do to support your efforts?*

- What are your next steps?
- Given your successful track record and lessons learned, what next steps or initiatives do you think are likely to yield positive results? Who/what will it take, and how will you get there?
- How can the ABA and the legal community support local anti-poverty initiatives?

3:30pm – Concluding remarks
**Presenters**

**Oscar Chavez, Assistant Director, Sonoma County Human Services**
Serving residents in need of assistance—including job seekers, adults, children, teens, families, veterans, people with disabilities and the elderly—Sonoma County Human Services provides eligible residents with job training and job search services, enrolls eligible individuals and families in CalFresh or Medi-Cal, supports veterans, helps foster children and teens, and foster parents, protects abused or neglected children and helps keep seniors and dependent adults safe. [http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Human-Services/](http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Human-Services/)

**Arlene Hipp, Secretary, Bay Area Legal Aid Board of Directors, Alameda County Community Representative**

**Carla Javits, CEO, Roberts Enterprise Development Fund**
REDF creates jobs and employment opportunities for people facing the greatest barriers to work by investing capital and expertise in mission-driven organizations. REDF helps them build their business, expand their markets, measure the results, and reinvest in programs to employ more people. [http://redf.org/](http://redf.org/)

**Megan Joseph, MA, Executive Director, Rise Together**
Launched five years ago in response to the staggering statistic of 1 in 4 Bay Area residents living in poverty, Rise Together declared the goal of lifting 328,500 families out of poverty and into prosperity—with the overarching mission of ending poverty in the Bay Area for good. Through continual engagement with a multi-sector Steering Council and affiliates in each county, the initiative focuses on addressing issues related to Basic Needs, Employment and Education through policy, systems change and collective action. The interdisciplinary and holistic initiative comprised of 200+ partners is a model worth replicating in communities across the country. [http://risetogetherbayarea.org/](http://risetogetherbayarea.org/)

**Mariana Moore, Director, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa County**
This cross-sector initiative engages local elected officials, social sector organizations, businesses, labor, local government, faith-based, academia and the philanthropic sector in a collective effort to eliminate poverty by addressing structural causes at the policy level—including public policies that address poverty at the root causes: high-quality early childhood education, higher education, sufficient wages, affordable housing, health care, quality food, EITC. The campaign goals are: improve economic security and well-being; raise awareness of unfair policies that hurt residents; and bring diverse stakeholders together to create practical, lasting solutions. [https://endpovertycc.org/](https://endpovertycc.org/)

**Robert R. Planthold, Bay Area Legal Aid Board of Directors, At-Large Community Representative**

**Allison Pratt, Chief of Partnerships and Strategy, Alameda County Community Food Bank**
Established in 1985, Alameda County Community Food Bank is the hub of a vast collection and distribution network that provides food for 240 nonprofit agencies (food pantries, soup kitchens, child-care centers, senior centers, after-school programs and other community-based organizations) in Alameda County—providing 540,000 meals weekly. In 2014, the Food Bank distributed 25 million meals—more than half of the food was fresh fruits and vegetables. Since moving into our permanent facility near the Oakland Airport in 2005 and leading the national food bank movement for a ban on the distribution of carbonated beverages, the Food Bank has ramped up distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables by more than 1,000%. Their systematic approach to alleviating hunger includes: one of California’s busiest — and most efficient — emergency food helplines; a multilingual CalFresh (formerly known as food stamps) outreach program
which serves as the blueprint for programs across the nation; dynamic hunger and nutrition education programs; and, an innovative advocacy program that promotes policies to benefit low-income residents.  
http://www.accfb.org/

Kari Rudd, Staff Attorney, Bay Area Legal Aid  
Kari Rudd is a staff attorney in the consumer law unit at Bay Area Legal Aid, assisting borrowers and homeowners facing foreclosure, debt collection and credit reporting problems. Kari also helps to run weekly debtors’ rights clinics throughout the Bay Area. Prior to joining Bay Area Legal Aid, Kari was an attorney at Housing Preservation Project in Saint Paul, MN after graduating from the University of Minnesota Law School in 2009.  https://www.baylegal.org/ 

Steven Weiss, Staff Attorney and Regional SSI Advocacy Coordinator for the Bay Area, Bay Area Legal Aid  
Steven Weiss is a staff attorney in the Alameda County office of Bay Area Legal Aid, and their Social Security & SSI Advocacy Regional Coordinator, specializing in administrative advocacy with the Social Security Administration and other public benefits advocacy. Prior to joining Bay Area Legal Aid, Mr. Weiss was a staff attorney at the Homeless Action Center in Berkeley, California. He is 1998 graduate of the Golden Gate University School of Law, and received his B.A. from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo in Urban Public Policy Administration.  https://www.baylegal.org/
Statement of Services: Megan Joseph, Executive Director, Rise Together

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:
Megan Joseph, Executive Director, Rise Together
Work: 415-808-4456
Cell: 925-726-1326
mjoseph@risetogetherbayarea.org

Organization Website and Mission:

www.risetogetherbayarea.org

Mission: Activating the collective power of 9 Bay Area counties to lift 328,500 families out of poverty and into thriving prosperity

Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:

Rise Together is working to shift from a piecemeal movement that has isolated bright spots of innovation and efficacy to one that is synergistically aligned, the whole of which will be much greater than its parts.

Within the Key Drivers of Employment, Education and Basic Needs, we are currently focused on moving the following priorities forward:

1. Raise the minimum wage to at least $15 across the region and advocate for related supports such as minimum hours and set schedules.
2. Expand the refundable State Earned Income Tax Credit so money is not left on the table
3. Fund universal, quality, affordable child care and preschool, both as a work support for the current workforce and as a developmental/education support for the success of our economy’s future workforce
4. Promote and expand transitional jobs and social enterprises such as subsidized employment, especially focused on the safe return/re-entry of those formerly incarcerated to lead productive lives in their communities.
5. Champion education strategies that lead to high school graduation and completion of college or postsecondary training in high-wage jobs, such as linked learning that supports career pathways and emphasizes not just access but support to sustain educational and vocational endeavors to completion.
6. Focus on expanding the overall availability of affordable housing stock. In addition, promote shared housing and rapid re-housing as strategies that increase disposable income and stability for individuals and families, maintain the ability of seniors to age in place, and ensure that Bay Area communities remain diverse, vibrant and cohesive.

Rise Together implements 4 synergistic strategies that help create alignment and move efforts in 9 counties: Strategic Communications, Capacity Building, Policy and Data. Through these
strategies, Rise Together will support the next generation of coalitions and collective impact initiatives, revolutionary collaborative efforts that are efficient, effective and focused on results.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:
The conversation about income inequality and opportunity in the Bay Area has never been louder or clearer, and there has never been a greater need or a better time to come together as a region with one voice for big change. This is the Bay Area’s moment.

Over 200 partners across 9 counties in the Bay Area have signed on to the Roadmap to Cut Poverty, showing solidarity in the effort to address poverty. Rise Together follows a Collective Action approach, building the capacity of the region to work across sectors together for larger scale change. The outcome has been a more connected network of organizations and initiatives sharing best practices and information across jurisdictions to move place based efforts forward while also activating to support local, state and national policy and best practices.

Barriers and Challenges:
1 in 5 Bay Area residents living in poverty is unacceptable. Poverty is a complex issue that requires a complex solution, and we know that we can achieve more together than any of us could on our own. There are currently bright spots of action across the region that are making progress, but a need for alignment, synergy and scale to effectively move the needle. Instead we have a 500-piece puzzle of how to increase economic opportunity without the complete picture to guide us. In addition, siloes between services, jurisdictions, funding models and policy making bodies continue to perpetuate piecemeal solutions that are necessary but not sufficient for large scale change. Rise Together continues to face the challenge of breaking down siloes to create a unified and powerful voice for change across the region.

Does your organization currently collaborate with lawyers/legal services/court programs? Who and how?

Current legal partners who have signed on to the Roadmap to Cut Poverty: Bay Area Legal Aid

In addition, our backbone organization, United Way Bay Area, hosts the annual Koko Challenge: [https://uwba.org/Koko-Challenge](https://uwba.org/Koko-Challenge) Each year, United Way Bay Area teams up with the Bay Area General Counsel Group and local law firms to raise money to combat poverty. The Challenge provides Bay Area lawyers – who are known to be highly competitive and generous – with a unique way to give back to the community, have fun and build morale. Over the past 29 years, more than 50 Bay Area law firms have contributed more than $32 million.

Additional legal partners are welcomed! The legal community plays a very important role in both direct services to support individuals overcoming barriers and moving out of poverty in addition to helping to create critical policy that will scale and sustain change.

If I Ruled The World:
I would help unleash the greatness and potential of every individual to lead transformative change, creating a planet thriving with equity, dignity and compassion for all.
Statement of Services: Oscar Chavez, Assistant Director, Sonoma County Human Services

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:
Oscar Chavez, Assistant Director
Upstream Investments
Sonoma County Human Services Department
Phone: 707-565-3812  E-mail: ochavez@schsd.org

Organization Website and Mission:
Upstream Investments website: www.upstreaminvestments.org
Portfolio: http://www.upstreaminvestments.org/html/programs.htm
Led by the Sonoma County Human Services Department, the mission of Upstream Investments is to facilitate the implementation of prevention-focused policies and interventions that increase equality and reduce monetary and societal costs for all residents of Sonoma County.

Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:
The Upstream Investments Policy Initiative is a collective impact initiative chartered by the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors in response to concerns over escalating costs in the local criminal justice system. The initiative seeks to reduce downstream criminal justice costs and enhance community outcomes by shifting the focus of policies, funding, and programming toward upstream investments in evidence-based and evidence-informed prevention and early intervention programs and services.

This initiative provides an infrastructure to respond to and address the 10 manifestations of poverty. By strengthening organizational capacity to improve client outcomes and by supporting prevention focused policies and investments, we can expect to see a multiplied return in the future: a stronger local economy and re-capture of dollars saved by reducing the need for services and safety-net programs.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:
The initiative supports the shift toward upstream investments through three strategies:

INVEST EARLY
Whenever possible, local investors should prioritize funding and other resources to prevention-focused policies and interventions.

INVEST WISELY
Ensure that upstream policies and interventions have the highest likelihood of success by investing in those that are backed by sound evidence.

INVEST TOGETHER
Work collaboratively across sectors and initiatives to scale upstream policies and interventions in areas of highest need to achieve measurable change in targeted indicators.

These strategies are supported through:
• Upstream Portfolio of Model Programs: a set of evidence-informed and prevention-focused programs that have met rigorous requirements to be included on one of Portfolio’s three tiers: evidence-based practices, promising practices, and innovative practices. Currently there are 95 unique programs on the Upstream portfolio serving an estimated 20,000 Sonoma County residents annually, addressing a broad range of needs including early literacy, parenting skills, school readiness, healthy eating, gang prevention and injury-prevention for older adults.

• Technical Assistance and training for community-based organizations (CBOs) focused on how to effectively use evidence and data to enhance a program model, and also for continuous quality improvement purposes

• Targeted outreach and education to funders regarding the importance of investing in programs on the Portfolio; and

• Facilitating cross-sector collaboration to improve community outcomes on long-term indicators of success.

Barriers and Challenges:
The Upstream initiative requires commitment to a long term public/private partnership to shift investments toward prevention. Greater investments and support needs to be made in funding capacity building, robust data collections systems, and program evaluation.

Does your organization currently collaborate with lawyers/legal services/court programs? Who and how?
Our organization currently contracts with Legal Aid Sonoma County to support clients with a variety of legal related issues. There is a need and opportunity to deepen our working relationship with the legal community to address the larger structural challenges and problems that hinder low-income people from fully participation in society and economy.

If I Ruled The World:
I would make major financial investments in prevention efforts that strengthen families and promote intergenerational mobility.
Statement of Services: Carla Javits, President and CEO, REDF

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:
Carla Javits  
President and CEO  
Roberts Enterprise Development Fund (REDF)  
Two Embarcadero Center, Suite 650  
San Francisco, California 94111

Organization Website and Mission:  
Website:  www.redf.org

REDF creates jobs and employment opportunities for people facing the greatest barriers to work. We do it by investing capital and expertise in mission-driven organizations. We help them build their business. Expand their markets. Measure the results. And reinvest in programs to employ more people. We call it social enterprise. It's a revolutionary approach that can transform our economy. Learn more about the power of this approach in this short video.

Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:

Social enterprise funding and advisory services
Social enterprises are double bottom line businesses that sell quality goods and services, and reinvest their revenue so they can hire and support more people who otherwise would be excluded from the workforce – thus making it hard to retain stable housing, support their families, or participate in their communities. Most of those employed by social enterprises have experienced incarceration or homelessness, they are young adults disconnected from school and work, and they may have experienced mental health or addiction issues that have made it challenging to get or keep a job. You can see several short videos about social enterprises here.

We take a holistic approach to investing in social enterprise. We make grants to some of the most effective and innovative social enterprises around, and then provide specialized, hands-on, multi-year advisory services to help their businesses, and their employees, thrive.

REDF has now taken our work out nationally, and is currently providing funding and advisory services to 36 social enterprises in 15 states. You can read more about the social enterprises REDF funds and advises here.

A sector is only as strong as the organizations and people that are part of it. REDF’s strategy to build the field includes fostering a community of practitioners and providing them with best-practices and resources to help them grow and sustain their businesses, helping to develop future social enterprise leaders, and catalyzing national efforts to create and champion supportive public policies.
Field Building

SE4Jobs
Led by REDF, SE4Jobs is a national network of social enterprises dedicated to preparing people who are overcoming employment barriers with the jobs, training, and support they need to succeed. SE4Jobs delivers information, tools, and resources to help social enterprise drive revenue, grow their business, and transform lives through employment.

REDFworkshop.org
REDFworkshop.org is a unique online platform to build the employment social enterprise movement. Offering informative learning modules and video interviews, a robust toolkit for business development, and a way to connect with the field, REDFworkshop.org provides employment social enterprises the resources they need to build their businesses and increase their impact.

Develop Leaders
Since its founding, REDF has prioritized developing leaders in the field of social enterprise through its Farber Internship and Fellowship Programs. The Fellowship Program has been reconfigured into the SE4Jobs Accelerator to be launched in the fall of 2016. This new accelerator program will focus on helping employment social enterprise start-ups increase their impact and grow their businesses. Stay tuned for more information.

Create and Champion Public Policy
REDF advocates for public policies and responsive public sector programming that 1) expands the market for goods and services produced by social enterprises, 2) increases capital available for start-up and expansion of social enterprises, and 3) promotes evidence-based programs and practices for the economic stability and self-sufficiency of participants employed by social enterprises. Some of the individuals who have gotten jobs in social enterprise are among the best advocates.

Building the Social Enterprise Ecosystem
Nature requires a healthy ecosystem in order to thrive. Social enterprise systems are no different. Regionally, REDF works to build social enterprise ecosystems by partnering social enterprises with local government, philanthropy, business, and nonprofit champions to focus around a common goal of creating sustained employment opportunities for those who face barriers to work. Aligned with our national expansion, REDF is building social enterprise ecosystems in the regions where our new portfolio of grantees do business. The prototype for this work is already taking place in California. LA:RISE is an integrated, wrap-around approach to employment and jobs in Los Angeles that unites the City of LA’s Workforce Development System with social enterprises, businesses, and specialized service providers with the goal of improving employment outcomes.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:
REDF has invested millions of dollars in more than 60 social enterprises in California that have employed 11,000+ people in California. As businesses, these social enterprises have earned $163 million in revenue (and counting) to sustain and scale their operations.
People’s average monthly income from wages increases 268% one year after starting the social enterprise job.

Social enterprise generates savings for communities and taxpayers. The return on investment more than doubles.

An evaluation of the social enterprises REDF has been working with by Mathematica Policy Research demonstrated positive results for those employed, and a 123% social return on investment. To learn more:

See impact infographic

Executive Summary

Full Report

We’re equally proud of the results we can’t measure. An increase in hope and dignity. A sense of belonging. A more optimistic future. When the people REDF’s portfolio partners employ go to work and earn a paycheck, they make our neighborhoods safer, their families stronger, and our communities more vibrant. As one job holder at a REDF partner put it: “I have a roof over my head, my bills are paid, I have food in my refrigerator. At the end of the day, I can say: ‘I did that.’”

View recent profiles of individuals whose lives have changed as the result of a job in social enterprise and received REDF’s annual Moldaw award. View recent case studies from some of the social enterprises in our portfolio: Goodwill Silicon Valley, Center for Employment Opportunities, and Chrysalis.

Barriers and Challenges:
Social enterprises offer an evidence-based approach to employing people otherwise likely to remain poor over a lifetime, and it can and should be supported on a bipartisan basis by the business community, philanthropy and government.

The main challenges to growth are the absence of a significant source of capital for social enterprise start up and growth; the fact that social enterprises are not included in the definition of ‘supplier diversity’ promulgated by the Small Business Administration and used by companies throughout the US; the lack of recognition of social enterprise as an important part of the workforce development system by the mainstream programs under the Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act (WIOA); and the ongoing challenges of bias and discrimination in employment – particularly as related to criminal justice system histories, and race.

The ingredients that would fuel growth:
- increased private and public procurement of goods and services offered by social enterprises,
- more direct hiring by competitive employers of those prepared by social enterprise to work,
- funding of growth capital for social enterprise expansion and replication to new communities, and
- continued supports to employees as they make the transition out of social enterprise into the job market.

The field is ready to scale up. REDF’s recent national competition revealed 209 social enterprises in 36 states – a fraction of the employment-focused social enterprises in the field nationwide. The 80 or so that were selected for further due diligence reported that collectively they could employ...
160,000 people over the next 5 years. With the right growth capital and investment in technical assistance to these companies, in short order the US could develop a base of social enterprises across the country capable of employing several hundred thousand people each year, with business partnerships and support structures that would result in most of them moving them into competitive employment and staying in the workforce.

**Does your organization currently collaborate with lawyers/legal services/court programs? Who and how?**

Not directly. Many of our social enterprises do – primarily to address criminal justice system related issues such as court-mandated payments for child support, tickets, etc., and as advocates for criminal justice system reform.

**If I Ruled The World:** Everyone, everywhere who is willing and able to work would have a job, and the complementary supports to have a decent quality of life – housing, health, access to advancement and education. Companies would widely recognize that people who have turned their lives around can be among their very best employees, and would offer the same kind of quality management and attention to professional advancement to their frontline workforce that they offer their executives.
Statement of Services: Mariana Moore, Director, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa County

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:

Mariana Moore, Director, Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa County
info@cutpovertycc.org
(510) 234-1200, ext. 311
www.cutpovertycc.org

Organization Website and Mission:

Ensuring Opportunity Campaign to End Poverty in Contra Costa is a cross-sector initiative that engages local elected officials, social sector organizations, businesses, labor, local government, faith-based, academia and the philanthropic sector in a collective effort to eliminate poverty in our community.

Goals:
- Improve residents’ economic security and well-being
- Raise awareness of unfair policies that hurt local residents
- Bring diverse stakeholders together to create practical, lasting solutions

https://endpovertycc.org/

Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:

We improve residents’ economic security and well-being, raise awareness of unfair policies that hurt local residents, and bring diverse stakeholders together to create practical, lasting solutions.

For example:
- Minimum Wage: The Ensuring Opportunity Campaign is advocating for a statewide minimum wage increase to help ensure workers are paid fairly so they can make ends meet. El Cerrito became the first Contra Costa City to set a $15 minimum wage.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:

1. Link with, support and amplify existing efforts of key partners
2. Initiate and lead bold initiatives in collaboration with others
3. Advocate for effective policies at local, state & federal level
4. Share data & strategies with other communities
5. Ensure solutions are tailored to local needs and resources

Barriers and Challenges:
Housing: There are 8,252 people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa. 10% are veterans, 27% are families, 37% are children including transition age youth. Emergency room visits for the homeless average $18,500 per year. Incarceration costs in California amount to $47,000 per year and felons are 7 to 11 times more likely to experience homelessness either before or after prison.

Food: In Contra Costa County, only 64% of those eligible for CalFresh are enrolled in the program. Over 50% of CalFresh participants are 17 or under and nearly 19% are children 5 years and younger. To see how many households are potentially eligible for CalFresh in a particular city/area, please click here. To determine quickly if someone may be eligible for CalFresh and get help with enrollment, please see the [CalFresh Referral Form](#).

Economic security: Poverty in California is nearly one-third higher now than before the Great Recession. Poverty is more common among children than for the population as a whole. Unfortunately, the official poverty measure *understates* the extent of economic hardship in California. California’s high cost of living means that more people struggle to make ends meet than the official measure estimates, even after accounting for the poverty-reducing effect of public programs.
Statement of Services: Allison Pratt, Chief of Partnership and Strategy, Alameda County Community Food Bank

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:

Allison Pratt, Chief of Partnerships and Strategy
Alameda County Community Food Bank
7900 Edgewater Drive
Oakland, CA 94621
info@accfb.org

Organization Website and Mission:

Mission: Alameda County Community Food Bank passionately pursues a hunger-free community

Vision: Children, adults and seniors of Alameda County do not worry about where their next meal is coming from

http://www.accfb.org/about_us/

Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:
Through a network of 240 strategically placed member agencies - food pantries, soup kitchens, child-care centers, senior centers, after-school programs and other community-based organizations -- as well as our own direct-distribution programs, the Food Bank distributes enough food to provide 540,000 meals weekly.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:

Our systematic approach to alleviating hunger includes:

- One of California’s busiest – and most efficient – emergency food helplines
- A multilingual CalFresh (formerly known as food stamps) outreach program which serves as the blueprint for programs across the nation
- Dynamic hunger and nutrition education programs
- An innovative advocacy program that promotes policies to benefit low-income residents
Our Advocacy Priorities: In 2016, as dedicated leaders of the movement to end hunger, we will support policies that:

- **Support a budget that prioritizes the fight against poverty by investing funding in services that stabilize families**
  
  - Invest in Supplemental Security Income (SSI) to improve benefit adequacy
  - Repeal the CalWORKS Maximum Family Grant (SB 23 Mitchell)

- **Protect and strengthen food and nutrition programs that help to end hunger**
  
  - Implement the Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant Program statewide to expand benefits for healthier food purchases
  - Increase school breakfast participation by expanding After the Bell models
  - Strengthen the State Emergency Food Assistance Program
  - Expand the tax credit for donations to food banks

- **Ensure that full-time workers are able to feed, house and clothe themselves and their families**
  
  - Support a living wage, such that people working full time can to provide for their families.
    - SB 3 (Leno)

**Barriers and Challenges:**

1 in 3 children in Alameda County faces the threat of hunger. Every day in Alameda County thousands of mothers, fathers, grandmothers and grandfathers turn to an emergency food source to help them nourish their families. The Food Bank is currently serving 49,000 unduplicated individuals each week; 23% more than the 40,000 unduplicated weekly clients revealed in the 2006 study. However, this is only a partial picture of the increased need in the community. Many more people have needed to increase their frequency of visits to food pantries, soup kitchens, after-school programs, senior centers, shelters and other community agencies – thus our requests for emergency food referrals have escalated 47% in the past year and 98% since the outset of 2008. In 2009 alone, our Emergency Food Helpline referred food to 32,743 households composed of nearly 113,000 individuals. The Food Bank is serving 250,000 unduplicated individuals each year, or 1 in 6 Alameda County residents. The vast majority make multiple visits to one of our sites over the course of a year. Children make up the largest group of people receiving emergency food in Alameda County – that has been true through most of the Food Bank’s 25-year history – but this study reveals that demand among minors is escalating at a rate disproportional to the population in general. Seniors also remain particularly vulnerable to hunger. For low-income seniors, many of whom are already susceptible to chronic diseases and disabilities, a lack of access to nutritious food often triggers depression. Households that seek emergency food assistance are more likely than at any other point in the last decade to have at least one working household member. An increase in employment can be seen as a positive trend among food recipients, but the pay level of the work is the critical component; clients who do not earn a sustainable wage are still at risk of hunger, despite their efforts. Thus we have what would be, in different economic times, seemingly ambiguous data: more employed clients coupled with higher rates of food insecurity. As the Food Bank expands its efforts to distribute to swelling ranks of clients, these key findings offer (and advocate for) recommendations to end hunger in our community. One obvious path is to strengthen and improve access to federal food programs. The Food Stamp Program is critical to ending hunger, yet continues to be underutilized in Alameda County, even among households that regularly access emergency food.
**Statement of Services: Kari Rudd, Staff Attorney, Bay Area Legal Aid**

**Speaker/Agency/Contact Information:**
Kari Rudd, Staff Attorney at Bay Area Legal Aid  
1035 Market Street, 6th Fl., San Francisco, CA 94103

BayLegal’s mission is to provide meaningful access to the civil justice system through quality legal assistance regardless of a client’s location, language or disability.

**Describe the work of your organization to address (one or more of) the manifestations of poverty:**
Bay Area Legal Aid is the largest provider of free civil legal services in the Bay Area. We provide legal services to low-income people in the areas of housing, family law, domestic violence, immigration, consumer law, youth law, public benefits (including Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), CalFresh, CalWORKs, and General Assistance) and health access. We work directly with particular populations, including homeless youth, former foster youth, domestic violence and trafficking survivors, re-entry clients, behavioral healthcare patients, and veterans who are disproportionately impacted by poverty and homelessness.

**Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:**
Bay Area Legal Aid's consumer law project combines several complementary approaches to educate, empower and assist low-income consumers throughout the Bay Area. In collaboration with community partners including SparkPoint Contra Costa and SparkPoint Fremont, the San Mateo County Superior Court, and COPE Family Resource Center in Napa, the consumer project runs 8 to 9 legal clinics each month across five different locations. The purpose of these clinics is to educate participants about their rights related to debt collection, credit reporting, and the limited civil litigation process, and assist them with completing proper pleadings or letters to resolve debt or credit problems. The consumer unit works with low-income clients outside of the clinic setting to resolve identity theft, credit reporting errors, and other consumer law issues that do not require litigation. Finally, the consumer unit represents clients in defending debt collection actions by third-party debt buyers, as well as in affirmative litigation to target abusive practices.

**Barriers and Challenges:**
- The cost of living and lack of affordable housing in the Bay Area make it nearly impossible for consumers to build credit and repay consumer debts, especially after experiencing a hardship such as job loss, illness or injury.
- It is easy for plaintiffs in debt collection actions to obtain default judgments against consumers, including through the use of invalid service. Consumers often do not learn of these judgments until years later, when it is very difficult to challenge the judgment.
- Lack of high-quality financial services including bank accounts, credit cards, or prepaid cards for low-income people without a credit history, combined with an over-abundance of high-cost, predatory products such as payday loans and auto-title loans.
Does your organization currently collaborate with lawyers/legal services/court programs? Who and how?
We receive a court partnership grant from the San Mateo Superior Court to run weekly consumer law clinics in Redwood City. We have a strong pro bono program, and many pro bono attorneys and law student volunteers staff our clinics throughout the Bay Area. We participate in regular legal services meetings organized by the Federal Trade Commission in San Francisco and regularly collaborate and share with other agencies such as the East Bay Community Law Center, Housing and Economic Rights Advocates, Community Legal Services of East Palo Alto, and others.

If I Ruled The World:
Everyone would have a right to safe and habitable housing, regardless of their income.
Statement of Services: Steven Weiss, Regional Social Security & SSI Advocacy Coordinator, Bay Area Legal Aid

Speaker/Agency/Contact Information: Steven Weiss, Bay Area Legal Aid, Attorney, Regional Social Security & SSI Advocacy Coordinator, 1735 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, CA 94612

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Bay Area Legal Aid is the largest provider of free civil legal services in the Bay Area. We provide legal services to low-income people in the areas of housing, family law, domestic violence, immigration, consumer law, youth law, public benefits (including Social Security, Supplemental Security Income (SSI), CalFresh, CalWORKs, and General Assistance) and health access. We work directly with particular populations, including homeless youth, former foster youth, domestic violence and trafficking survivors, re-entry clients, behavioral healthcare patients, and veterans who are disproportionately impacted by poverty and homelessness.

Success, Best Practices, Model Approaches:
Alameda County's SSI Advocacy Trust is a successful model for helping to transition people from General Assistance to SSI, reduce poverty and stabilize housing. The program is modeled on the 2010 Health Consumer Alliance report "Investing in People to Save Counties Money: Best Practices for Moving People with Disabilities from General Assistance to SSI." http://healthconsumer.org/SSIAdvocacyBestPracticesRpt.pdf
The Alameda County project includes collaboration among the county Social Services Agency, Healthcare Services Agency, legal services providers and other community partners. It provides better access to and coordination of legal services, social services, case management, behavioral healthcare, primary care, and housing services. Key components of the Alameda County model, including funding for increased SSI advocacy and a housing subsidy for GA recipients who are applying for SSI, have been incorporated into the California "No Place Like Home" initiative, which was adopted in the 2016 budget.

Barriers and Challenges:
- Collaboration and coordination between cities, counties, and community partners
- Lack of adequate and affordable housing, transitional housing or residential treatment
- Lack of capacity to provide access to primary care, behavioral healthcare, and case management
- Lack of availability of payee services and financial services for low-income people
- Over-incarceration of people with disabilities; lack of coordination among diversion programs

Does your organization currently collaborate with lawyers/legal services/court programs? Who and how?
Yes.
We receive AB109 re-entry funding to provide legal services funding to re-entry clients in Alameda, Contra Costa and Santa Clara counties. http://www.innovationsinreentry.org/AB109; http://www.acgov.org/probation/realignment.htm; http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/2366/Services-Programs; https://www.sccgov.org/sites/reentry/Pages/Reentry-Services.aspx

In Alameda County we are funded to meet with clients at the county jail to complete pre-release applications for SSI and Social Security disability benefits, https://www.ssa.gov/ssi/spotlights/spot-prerelease.htm

We are also partners in the Alameda County and Santa Clara County Juvenile Mental Health Court or Juvenile Collaborative Court. https://www.acgov.org/probation/documents/ALACOYouthReentryBlueprint2010.pdf; http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/child_law/clp/artcollections/juvjst/juvmhcourts.authcheckdam.pdf

If I Ruled The World:
Invest in decent affordable housing, access to quality healthcare and guaranteed basic income for all
Each year United Way of the Bay Area teams up with the Bay Area General Counsel Group (BAGC) and local law firms to celebrate community giving and volunteering through our annual Koko Challenge. In 1987, to help firms build upon their community reputation, the BAGC issued a challenge in the form of a contest in which firms compete to contribute the most money and volunteer hours to the Bay Area community. Over the past 29 years, more than 50 Bay Area law firms have participated, contributing over $32 million to the local community and have set a standard of excellence for the rest of the business community.

2015 Koko Challenge winners for overall excellence:
Big Koko: Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP
Little Koko: Paul Hastings LLP
Baby Koko: Bryan Cave LLP

BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATION
- Firm visibility
- Recruitment and retention
- Strengthen client relationships
- Team building
- Give back to your community
- Easy giving options: employee payroll deductions, corporate gifts, volunteer engagement

HOW UNITED WAY HELPS YOU
Not only does the Koko Challenge result in much needed dollars and volunteer support for the community, it also provides a fun concept to your firm's employees to rally around and is a great platform for employee growth. Our experienced team will help you customize your giving program to match your organization’s unique philanthropic goals.

SUPPORT UNITED WAY PROGRAMS
SparkPoint Centers: These new and innovative centers bring together several service providers in one location to help struggling individuals and families navigate their own paths to financial stability.

211: Our 211 Call Centers around the Bay offer an easy-to-remember, toll-free information and referral helpline that connects Bay Area residents with local community services, such as food, shelter, counseling, employment assistance, child care and more.

Earn it! Keep it! Save it: With over 200 free tax preparation sites around the Bay Area, EKS files over 50,000 returns, bringing more than $57 million back into the hands of struggling households.

Matchbridge: Help connect youth, ages 16-21, to professional jobs and internships. Matchbridge recruits, coaches and supports youth throughout the job search process, building their resumes and job skills, ensuring our youth can succeed in the job market.

For more information about participating in the Koko Challenge, contact Francie Middleton at (415) 808-4396 or fmiddleton@uwba.org
2016 KOKO CHALLENGE
TIMELINE & CRITERIA

OVERVIEW

- **Process:** Law firms are challenged to have the greatest community impact based on monetary donations, volunteerism, and dedication to UWBA programs and the community. Firms will participate in a friendly competition within the following tiers based on company size:
  - Baby Koko (1-49 employees)
  - Little Koko (50-100 employees)
  - Big Koko (100+ employees)

- **Challenge Period:** September 1, 2016 – December 15, 2016
  - All pledges, volunteer hours, grants, and partnerships made prior to the challenge period but after the 2016 Challenge will count to the 2017-2018 Challenge.
This map displays the spatial pattern of distribution of opportunity by census tract based on Education, Economic and Mobility, and Housing and Neighborhood indicators.

Source: Data from Opportunity Mapping project (2010) in Bay area from Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, The Ohio State University.
SELF-SUFFICIENCY ANALYSIS, BAY AREA, CALIFORNIA

S1: SELECTED HEAD OF HOUSEHOLDS - Below Self-Sufficiency Standard

This map displays percentage of households headed by each of the target population with income below Self-Sufficiency Standard (SSS) for respective counties.

Date: Feb 3, 2015
Source: Data from Betsy Baum Block, Consultant to UWBA; ESRI

Cities
All target pop HHs
Percentage below SSS
15% or below
15% - 25%
25% - 35%
35% - 45%
Above 45%

RISE together
Our Commitment to End Poverty

INSIGHT
Center for Community Economic Development

haas institute
For a fair and inclusive society
### Basic Needs
- Ensure building blocks are in place: health care, child care, food, housing, financial services and technology access.
  - Increase access to basic needs

### Education
- Close education gap. More people graduate high school and are ready for college and/or 21st century careers.
  - Skills for high-growth sectors
  - College and training access
  - Achievement of critical milestones

### Jobs
- Develop a vibrant local economy that creates good jobs and offers pathways to employment.
  - Attract and retain employers
  - Ensure jobs with competitive pay and benefits
  - Create pathways to employment in well-paying growth careers

### 5 Critical Populations
- Female heads of household
- Families with young children
- Men and boys of color
- Immigrants
- Seniors

### Increase of:
- Families with housing, health care, child care and food
- Seniors who age in place
- People with bank accounts
- Savings
- Achievement of 3rd grade reading
- Increase in English fluency
- People with degrees
- High school graduation rates
- Jobs accessible to critical populations
- People securing living wage jobs

### Start Here to Cut Poverty
- @Rise_BayArea
- RiseTogetherBayArea.org

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**ROADMAP to cut BAY AREA POVERTY**

**A BETTER, MORE VIBRANT BAY AREA FOR ALL**

**OUR GOAL**

328,500 FAMILIES WILL REACH ECONOMIC SUCCESS

**CREATING PATHWAYS OUT OF POVERTY**

**FOCUS ON THREE KEY DRIVERS OF ECONOMIC SUCCESS**

**basic needs**
- Ensure building blocks are in place: health care, child care, food, housing, financial services and technology access.
  - Increase access to basic needs

**education**
- Close education gap. More people graduate high school and are ready for college and/or 21st century careers.
  - Skills for high-growth sectors
  - College and training access
  - Achievement of critical milestones

**jobs**
- Develop a vibrant local economy that creates good jobs and offers pathways to employment.
  - Attract and retain employers
  - Ensure jobs with competitive pay and benefits
  - Create pathways to employment in well-paying growth careers

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**CROSS-SECTOR INSTITUTIONS THAT ALIGN RESOURCES, PASS PUBLIC POLICIES AND CHANGE SYSTEMS**

**SOCIAL MOVEMENT**
- Passionate champions from all walks of life who shift public will and give, advocate and volunteer

**COLLECTIVE IMPACT**
- Cross-sector institutions that align resources, pass public policies and change systems

---

**@Rise_BayArea**
**RiseTogetherBayArea.org**
SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN THE BAY AREA (9 COUNTIES) (PRELIMINARY REPORT)

The Self-Sufficiency Standard measures the actual cost of living on a county-by-county basis, accounting for different family sizes, ages of children and local variation in costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th># OF HOUSEHOLDS BELOW STANDARD:*</th>
<th>% BELOW STANDARD:</th>
<th>% BELOW WITH 1 OR MORE WORKERS:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>562,398</td>
<td>29.1</td>
<td>86.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2014 ANNUAL INCOME COMPARISON (2 ADULTS, 2 CHILDREN)

- Federal poverty line
- CA minimum wage (2 jobs)
- Self-Sufficiency Income
- Median family income (2012)

FAMILIES WORK, BUT DON’T EARN ENOUGH
- Of the households that have incomes below the standard, 86.3% have one or more workers.
- A family of four (two adults, two children) would need to hold almost four full-time, minimum-wage jobs to achieve self-sufficiency.
- Among households below the standard, 6.6% reported receiving Public Assistance (TANF) and 17.6% reported receiving Food Stamps (SNAP).

EDUCATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% BELOW STANDARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than HS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High school graduates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Some college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College graduates</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Bay Area heads of household who did not complete high school are more than 5 times as likely as college graduates to have incomes below the standard.
- 2012 figures show 14.7% of Bay Area public high school students who started in 2008 dropped out.

ETHNICITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% BELOW STANDARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latino</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian &amp; Pacific Islander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- African Americans and Latinos have a disproportionate number of households with incomes below the standard.

HOUSEHOLD TYPE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% BELOW STANDARD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Single mothers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single fathers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Couple, with children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Households with children are more likely than households without children to live below the standard.
- Families headed by single women are more than twice as likely as two-parent households to have incomes below the standard.

*All analysis in this report excludes the 95,597 seniors (head of household is 65 or older) living in poverty in the 9-county Bay Area.

Source: Insight Center for Community Economic Development, 2011 and 2014 SSS.

Analysis conducted on data provided by Lisa Manzer and Diana Pearce at the University of Washington.