



sustainability

# Sustainability

**WE BELIEVE NONPROFITS MUST BE STRONG AND EFFECTIVE TO PROVIDE A VITAL SAFETY NET FOR THOSE IN NEED. CCF HELPS NONPROFITS BALANCE HIGH-QUALITY PROGRAMMING WITH THE FUNDRAISING NECESSARY TO COVER DAY-TO-DAY OVERHEAD. WHEN OUR NONPROFIT SECTOR IS HEALTHY, THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL ANGELENOS IMPROVES.**

Los Angeles County's 42,000 nonprofit organizations play a vital role in the lives of almost every L.A. resident. From shelters to symphonies, art museums to afterschool care, these organizations strengthen our culture and meet the most pressing needs of our communities.

But the environment in which these nonprofits work has gotten more complex over time. Charitable giving to local organizations is declining, and the county's economic growth has not reached the most vulnerable communities served by L.A. nonprofits. Need is rising, revenues are falling, and the strength of our nonprofit sector affects us all.

## THE WAY FORWARD

We are committed to ensuring the Los Angeles nonprofit community is strong and able to serve the needs of Angelenos. From our work with individual grantee partners to countywide efforts focused on increasing resources for L.A. nonprofits, CCF provides services, support and tools to sustain themselves and deepen their impact.

Improving the sustainability of L.A. nonprofits is a core goal of every grant we make. We fund organizations, not just projects. By providing core-operating grants, we ensure partners can cover salaries, overhead and other necessary day-to-day costs. We invest in sustainability beyond grant support, offering workshops and training in leadership development, fundraising, financial management and communications, so they can achieve their missions with greater efficiency and impact.

While we can't fund every worthy nonprofit, we offer a comprehensive suite of resources dedicated to helping organizations sustain, grow and thrive. We facilitate partnership and collaboration to make organizations more efficient and effective in realizing their missions.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- Los Angeles County is home to nearly **42,000** nonprofit organizations.
- Fewer than **1 in 4** nonprofits have cash reserves to cover more than six months of operations.
- L.A. received **25% fewer** foundation dollars than San Francisco, a metro area with half its population.

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Our **Planned Giving Toolkit** has been used throughout the country to help nonprofits and their boards maximize the effectiveness of their development strategies through easy-to-follow educational content and customizable donor outreach materials.

At the sector level, we work to increase the flow of resources to L.A.'s greatest needs. Using a wide range of tools and initiatives we empower advocates, build coalitions and work together to draw federal, state and private funding to address challenges and realize the potential of Los Angeles.

## NONPROFIT SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE

The **Nonprofit Sustainability Initiative** aims to increase efficiency and effectiveness, reduce duplication and facilitate partnerships in the nonprofit sector. Launched in 2012 in partnership with the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation and Weingart Foundation, and now supported by a dozen local foundations, this initiative has provided more than 60 organizations with more than \$2.7 million to assess capacity, support restructuring, integrate programs and share their lessons across the nonprofit sector.

## LA COUNTS

**LA Counts** is a free, open-source tool and a growing community of changemakers using open data to build, strengthen and transform Los Angeles County. Wielding the power of data through stories and visualizations, Angelenos are connected to our region's immense diversity, significant and ongoing needs and emerging opportunities for innovation. Join us to pursue advocacy for data and data for advocacy.

## LA n SYNC

**LA n Sync** is a civic initiative designed to spur innovation and attract funding to address the critical needs of Los Angeles County. Since 2013, the initiative has connected visionary leaders from the academic, governmental, nonprofit, business and philanthropic sectors to leverage our talent and resources to support L.A. organizations applying for federal, state, and private funding to address the critical needs of the region.

## AGENCY FUNDS

CCF's **Agency Funds** give nonprofits the ability to focus on their mission rather than spending time identifying and supervising investment managers. Through the fund CCF manages the organization's gift processing and planning, fund stewardship and endowment building, helping the nonprofit to achieve long-term financial sustainability.

## BE A PART OF THE SOLUTION

To learn how you can join with the California Community Foundation to create a more sustainable nonprofit sector, please contact Vice President **Ann Sewill** at [asewill@calfund.org](mailto:asewill@calfund.org), Director of Donor Relations **Tammy Johnson** at [tjohnson@calfund.org](mailto:tjohnson@calfund.org) or visit [calfund.org/sustainability](http://calfund.org/sustainability).

