

Community Economic Resilience Fund

L.A. HRTC

CERF LA HRTC PARTNERS BIWEEKLY MEETING

Summary Notes and Transcript

August 11th, 2023

[Meeting Recording](#)

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The Partners meeting began with introductions and announcement of the agenda. Some key points include:

- There was an announcement about a funding opportunity for tribal-led economic development projects.
- Updates were provided by the fiscal agent, California Community Foundation (CCF), regarding requests for proposals (RFPs) related to research consultation services.
- The winners of the Affinity Hub and Steering Committee elections were announced.
- It was mentioned that there is still a gap in representation from Spa Seven or East LA, and nominations for vacant seats will open soon.
- 10 affinity members have been elected, but there are still two seats available for academia and immigrants. The steering committee also has a deficit of five seats for resident workers, 1 for municipal partners, and 6 for labor, so an election will be held to fill those seats. There was a three-way tie for the twelfth seat on the CBO steering committee, so a runoff election will determine the winner.
- The voting process involves receiving unique tokens via email and casting votes through virtual ballots. Self-nominations are allowed for vacant seats, but only onboarded partners can run. For-profit organizations cannot run for affinity hub lead positions. Plans are in place to establish processes on how to deal with vacancies and decision-making within the steering committee going forward.
- Sharon from the Outreach and Engagement Committee suggests regular orientation meetings for new members to keep them up to date.
- Chioma mentions that she has been doing one-on-one presentations but will consider scheduling conflicts to potentially do group orientations in the future.
- The training and capacity building lead contract was discussed and a budget of \$75,000 is currently allocated for training community residents involved in CERF planning and decision-making. A google form was shared to get feedback from the HRTC.
<https://forms.gle/sk2H8aCaGuZjEvBp6>
- Tony asks if there is funding available for facilitators to be culturally aware during trainings. The CERF Director suggests incorporating this into the RFP and possibly upgrading funding with HRTC approval.
- Scarlet introduces the new CERF LA HRTC website, which provides information on tables, hubs, updates, resources, events, and ways to interact with the program.
- Hyphen asks about consolidating the partnership agreement with the sign-up form. The response explains that some organizations may not have completed all forms due to time constraints or lack of capacity.

- The transcript discusses the onboarding process and challenges faced due to technological barriers. The team has tried to resolve these issues but was unsuccessful in finding a simpler solution. They explain that they want partners to complete both the onboarding form and the CERF Collective partnership agreement, but integrating signatures is difficult with their current software. They mention that some partners have trouble accessing the partnership agreement letter and offer alternative methods for obtaining it.
- The conversation also touched on dissolved committees, upcoming elections, and future meetings of the steering committee. Finally, there is a discussion about advocating for more funding from the administration for the Catalyst program before an impending decision deadline.
- During the meeting, it was mentioned that there needs to be a more efficient way for members of HRTC to connect with each other outside of organized meetings. Luis was commended for taking the initiative in organizing discussions offline. There was also discussion about addressing the August 31 deadline for submitting an outline and strategies for filling gaps in part one of the regional plan. It was clarified that progress is more important at this point due to delays and changes in the election process. Tony requested to see the document prior to submission, and it was noted that any changes made would not affect its acceptance. S. The meeting ended by mentioning upcoming elections and encouraging members to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Transcript

05:09

All right, guys, I'm going to start letting folks in now.

06:01

Good morning, Alan. Scarlett. Charles. Jimmy. I will not be able to stay at the meeting today. I apologize, but I will have it recorded, and if you need anything from me, please let me know.

06:16

Okay?

06:17

Thank you, Stella.

06:19

All right. Sorry about this. We have a retreat, and I have to be good.

06:25

All good. We'll make sure we congratulate you well on this call, but thank you for the update.

06:29

All right, very good. Thank you so much.

06:32

Thank you.

06:33

Bye bye.

06:34

Bye bye.

07:05

Good morning, lahrtc members. New current impending give it a few more minutes for you guys to trickle in, and then we'll have some introductions, okay? Good morning, everyone. I always have to start by saying good morning to rhonda love, because she has just such a cool name and generally a pretty smile. I don't see her on here, though.

08:10

Good morning, Charles. How are you?

08:12

Oh, there you are. All right. How you doing there? We good? Very good. Very cool. Good to see you.

08:19

Good to see you, too.

08:23

Yeah, very good. Mr. Thank you very much. Just go down the agenda briefly. We're going to have the introduction of any new partners, which I failed to do last HRTC members. I apologize for that. We're going to have announcement about CERF tribal funding opportunity. Our fiscal agency going to give a few updates. We're going to have a lot of information about the election and the next steps for the third election and hopefully final. And then some of our usual updates with the process mapping and stakeholder updates you go to next. Sorry. If there are any new HRTC members on the call, please take a moment to introduce yourself. If you were on the last call and didn't get a chance to introduce yourself, also, please take a little bit of time and introduce yourself and your organization, and please don't be shy.

09:35

Well, good morning. My name is Vincent Samuel. I'm not live on screen, but I'm here on telephone. CEO of the west enders westmont task force.

09:49

Okay, welcome.

09:51

Thank you. Thank you.

09:53

All right, are there anyone else?

10:00

Hi. Sorry. I'm also not on camera because I'm currently on a road trip, but I wanted to introduce myself. I'm Sophie Pollock. I'm currently an incoming senior at USC, and I do a lot of work in the nonprofit field with substance abuse prevention. And, yeah, I'm really excited to be here. I haven't officially been selected for the committee yet, but I submitted my onboarding paperwork yesterday, so I'm excited to be here, and thank you for having me.

10:32

Glad to have you.

10:33

Thank you.

10:37

Anyone else? Don't be shy. Morning.

10:43

Jaime Garcia with advocates for human potential.

10:46

This is my first meeting, so I'm.

10:48

Looking forward to being part of the group. Thank you. Thank you. Great to meet you.

10:58

Anyone else? Okay, let's go ahead. You can advance the slide if you like. Thank you very much. Our interagency team, Edd, GoBiz and OPR gave out information about CERF tribal funding opportunity that will provide up to \$25 million for tribal led economic development, planning and implementation projects. The CERF team. We have been pretty unsuccessful in reaching our Native American brothers and sisters. Not from lack of trying, for sure, but thank you tony Simons, who yesterday kind of gave me a little insight into why that is that the Southern California region does not have, or very little, or just doesn't have any federally recognized Native American tribes in our region. So that could be the reason why we're having such a difficult time connecting and engaging them to serve program. So if there's anyone on this call who does have the enrolls with Native American tribes, please feel free to pass this information on to them.

12:12

And of course, if you need any assistance, feel free to reach out to us. It's somewhat last minute, but the word has been out about this. The proposal is due this upcoming Monday at 03:00 P.m.. So if you again have any enrolls with them, please make this a priority so they can get their proposals in time. Next.

12:40

Charles, can I just add one piece? What I was explaining was that the definition that the state is

using, California Native American Tribe, includes both federally registered and recognized tribes as well as those groups that are on the California list for so it's not necessarily one that's always used. So that's why we have to go to extra effort in order to make sure that we're actually including everybody. And I think that we're all committed to doing that, but there are tribes that are not on the federally recognized list. And so as a non Native, I don't feel appropriate for me to explain that piece. I just wanted to reach out that California for the grant is using a specific definition that has made it more challenging for Los Angeles County and Orange County because you don't have the same organizations, but there are others that exist.

13:45

It just makes it a little bit harder.

13:47

Okay, thank you for that clarification. I really appreciate that, Tony. So I'm going to pass the mic over to, I believe is it going to be Maria Garcia from our fiscal agent CCF. She has some updates for the HRTC.

14:06

Thank you, Charles, and good morning, everybody. My name is Maria Garcia. I'm a senior program officer with California Community Foundation. As you know, CCF is the fiscal administrator for the CERF Project here in Los Angeles County and has been supporting the work on the back end. We're happy to report that yesterday we published three requests for proposals that you can find online. I'll drop the link in the chat after my update. And the three requests for proposals are, I believe, for research consultation services. I'll briefly describe the three research opportunities and then again, just give you more information on how to apply and where to get additional information. There's going to be a bidders conference next week on August 16 at 03:00 P.m.. The first Research Opportunity Request for proposal is for a regional index and we're seeking a qualified consultant to develop a CERF regional index to profile the region's economic development environment and provide an economic development summary.

15:26

The second RFP is around industry clusters. Regional benchmark and accountability data tool. We're seeking a consultant to provide services that can help the HR to develop a countywide regional benchmark and accountability data tool with a dynamic geographic overlay of all nine subregions identified by the HRTC. And the third RFP is around conducting research and a data SWOT analysis, including partnership and gap analysis. You can find more information about these three different RFP opportunities on CCF's CERF website, not to be confused with Leede's CERF website. So I'm dropping that link in the chat now where you can view more information about these RFPs. You can also download the RFPs. There is just additional information that you can view in terms of eligibility. And then we're going to be providing a bidders conference next Wednesday, August 16 at 03:00 P.m. Where we'll discuss in detail each of the three RFP opportunities, provide information about eligibility, the project description, and just really do a deep dive into each of these opportunities for those individuals organizations that are interested in applying.

17:11

Again, that date for the bidders conference is next Wednesday, August 16 at 03:00 P.m.. And yeah, that's our update. So we'll be providing more information during that conference.

17:36

It looks like we have some questions. Maria, Luis is raising his hand. Go ahead, Luis. Yeah, I just wanted to see didn't email go out on this about the announcement of the contracts? Because I feel like that would be a very easy way to forward it out to folks who may be interested.

17:54

I believe an email either went out yesterday or will be going out today. It was going to be coming out of the LAEDC team.

18:05

Yes. Just to confirm, the email will be sent right after this meeting.

18:10

Thank you. Thank you Maria, for those updates. So I guess the fun part of our meeting, I have the honor to announce our winners for the Affinity Hub and Steering Committee elections. So I urge all of you to use that applause emote on your Zoom function. But here are the Affinity Hub lead election winners. So we have Kevin Harbor from BizFed Institute, brady Collins from Kiwa. Kelly Lo Bianco from the county of Los Angeles Department of Economic Opportunity. And number four is the youth affinity hub cheyenne Capello from the Los Angeles children's project. Previously, we had announced that the Brotherhood Crusade had been awarded for this Affinity Hub lead, but they had decided to step down from that position. And so the next runner up was the Los Angeles Children's Project. So thank you Cheyenne and the Los Angeles Children's Project for continuing to express your interest in this affinity hub position.

19:20

And for the families we have. Bobby Lee Davis II for dilette Family Foundation economic Development Tanua Thrashentuk, The Center Biolindustry homeless Veterans and Seniors linda Kelly, fathers and Mothers Who Care civic Engagement place based Coalitions We have Benjamin Torres from the Community Development Technology Center. Underemployed adults. We have Jessica Quintana from Central Cha. And lastly, we have sustainability, which is stella Pursua great alternatives. Greater Los Angeles. And next, we have our general steering committee election winners. So for the business seat we have Luis Portillo from the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership. For the education seat we have Dr. Mckeegen from Los Angeles Regional Consortium or Lark. And for the eleven CBO leader seats we have Libby Williams from Vermont Sloss and Economic Development Corporation, tony Simons from AICC, as well as Derek Steele from the Social Justice Learning Institute rudy Espinoza from Inclusive Action for the City veronica Padilla Kakoima.

20:33

Beautiful. Ricardo Mendoza from CRCD. Robert Saucero from Community Build. Zahira man from Slate. Z drew Mercy from AV Edge. Hay Pin Im from Faith and Community Empowerment. And lastly, Matt Horton from Milken Institute. So again, just a round of applause to everyone that we've announced here today. Great work. And we've seen a lot of these folks already been engaged,

very engaged in this process, and it's nice to see our Steering committee coming together. So I'll go ahead and pass on the torch to Charles.

21:16

Thank you for that, Alan, and congratulations again to all of our Affinity hub leads and Steering Committee members. Despite that the successful election up to this point, there are still a major gap in the Steering Committee. Spa Seven or East La. Has no representation in the affinity, hub or steering committee. So we encourage you guys to keep that in mind for the third and final, hopefully final election for your consideration when you're voting. We're also obviously encouraging individual stakeholders and organizations from Spa Seven to nominate themselves for that third and final election. And let's talk a little bit about that. So if you can go to the next slide. So for the third election, sorry, I say election and then my speaker comes. I don't think I'm said the other word. This upcoming Monday the 14th, the nomination window opens for the remaining vacant seats.

22:26

It'll open at 01:00 and the nomination period is for two days. So Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, individual stakeholders and organizations can nominate themselves up until 05:00. And after that we hand everything over to our election vendor, who hands it to their engineer to upload it into the system. And then the following Monday on the 21st, that third election will begin and it'll go through Tuesday at 03:00 where it closes, and shortly thereafter that we'll announce the winners of that, if you can go to the next slide. And just to recap, so election three, as you know there are twelve affinity hub areas total. Ten have identified, have elected HRTC members in there in those seats. The remaining two that do not are academia and immigrants. So we are encouraging the HRTC members to nominate themselves for those two areas. And keep in mind that each of those come with a steering committee seat.

23:39

But there's still a deficit in the general steering committee area, five for resident workers, so we have to have an election for that labor. We still need to fill those seats and it'll be six seats total. Municipal partners, I believe we had a winner and they stepped down. Alan can probably confirm that later on. But regardless, we have to have an election to fill that one seat there. And because it's CERFing, nothing seems to be very simple. Out of the twelve general CBO steering committee seats, the top eleven, the election was clean. We have the identified members in those seats. However, for the twelveTH there was a three way tie. So we're going to have a runoff to see who will wind up being the winner of that twelveTH seat. So everyone, just to recap, everyone who has voted for those elections will have to vote again.

24:45

Well, you don't have to, but we're encouraging you to vote again even if it's for the same people. Now our important dates going forward, you guys are familiar with this. Everything starts back from March 1 of this year. We just got past the August 1 deliverables for the governance structure. However, it's incomplete because of this election. So once we're done with everything on the 22nd we'll fill that in and hand it into the state. The CERF team and myself will continue working on our August 31 deliverable of the regional summary part one. A lot of work for us to do there. And then of course, June 30 of next year, the regional plan part two will be due.

25:32

Charles, before we move on, I see Tony has her hand up.

25:35

Oh, sorry. Go ahead Tony.

25:39

Thanks.

25:40

I'm wondering if we can have the runoff for the CBO seats first. That way anyone that doesn't make it on the steering committee through those seats might be able to run for one of the other positions. I think that in doing the affinity hubs and then allowing people that didn't make it to the affinity hubs to then move over to the steering committee, I thought that was a really nice inclusive process and I'm just wondering if we possibly can try that same model.

26:13

I'm not sure I understand you want to have the steering committee you're suggesting to have the steering committee runoff.

26:21

The runoff. That way if someone doesn't make it on the runoff for the CBO seats that they would have an opportunity to run for one of the other seats that are going to be up for the steering committee that we didn't fill.

26:34

I see your point. Let me put my thinking cap on. Well, we can think about that offline. There's a few challenges with that, mainly cost, because every election we have to pay for a new election. So there's that component to it, but if it's within the budget, then we can find a way to do it. But I don't want to try to just do it off the cuff right now just to make sure that we're in compliance and that we're not giving someone an opportunity who probably should not have it, but we can brainstorm on that later on.

27:14

I would appreciate that. I just felt like that was such a you could see that while not everybody that didn't win as the affinity hub lead, many moved over and I just felt like that was a way to in any organization we have active people and to really be sure that we're being inclusive to all the people that want to go forward. So I'd appreciate it if we thought about that and maybe it doesn't have to use that same form. It is only three people. Maybe there's a simpler way to do that. Anyways, I appreciate that.

27:43

Sure. I understand your concern, Tony, and it makes sense. Yeah, let us just take it in consideration and we'll make that determination when it's time. But it's actually probably a good time to start talking about this. So the steering committee is being set, so a lot of decisions are going

to start being shifted over to them. Keep that in mind as we move forward as well. Anyway, we can move to the next slide and actually, I think this is you, Alan, right?

28:18

Yep. Thank you, Charles. All right, so just a quick review. We've been kind of going over this as we've been going through these past couple elections, but just to clarify for our new partners as well. So who will be allowed to vote? So any onboarded partner who have an executed partnership agreement letter submitted with their onboarding form is allowed to one vote and that voter would be the registered voter indicated as the point of contact in the partnership agreement letter. So if you need to update that point of contact, the original point of contact listed in the partnership agreement letter must email CERF@laedc.org directly with that request. If the point of contact is no longer with the organization, just please have your new point of contact, email our team and resubmit your partnership agreement letter with that new point of contact and we'll go ahead and update your voter credentials.

29:15

So what will the voting process entail? So at the beginning of the election window, voters will be issued a unique token via email. And this token is essentially a link to access to virtual ballot. So you may cast your votes and you may vote. Just to clarify, we had some questions in the past couple of elections as well. So once you hit submit, vote for each individual vote, you'll see a pop up saying thank you for your vote. That means that your vote was submitted. You don't have to vote on every single category, you can just vote on the seat categories that you'd like to vote on. The only time that the ballot will completely close is if you cast every single vote for every single seat category. But that's not mandatory, so it's normal for your ballot to stay open. And of course our voting results will be shared after the voting window closes.

30:11

So in regards to the nomination process, so who will be allowed to self nominate for the vacant seats? Again, we just wanted to be very clear for this next election that's coming up. So of course you have to be onboarded to run for a seat. So again, with the partnership agreement letter which is submitted with the onboarding form, if you're not currently onboarded or if you are not sure, please reach out to us at CERF@laedc.org and we'll be able to check for you and provide instructions on how to onboard. And again, candidates who were not successful in securing a seat in the last elections are eligible to run in this election. So just want to reiterate that this opportunity will be open for folks who were not successful in the last elections and for the affinity hub lead candidates. We did want to specify that for profit organizations are restricted from running for these affinity hub lead positions.

31:11

So where do you self nominate for the vacant seats? So as the past elections that we've conducted, we'll go ahead and send out an email. This time it would be on Monday, August 14 by 01:00 p.m., that will include the nomination form and nominations will close on Wednesday on August 16 at 05:00 p.m.. Another point that I forgot to bring up in the previous slide about casting your vote. Please make sure if you have any issues receiving your link to reach out to us CERF@laedc.org. But before you do that, just please try to ensure that you check your spam folders for the election vendor email as sometimes it can kind of get lost there. I see a question from Haipin.

32:02

So just for clarity, let's just say someone did get elected on the steering committee last time, but they are interested in running for the affinity Hub lead. For the two positions open, you're saying they cannot run, is that true? And if it's true, why is that a rule?

32:30

I think the only conflict there is that the affinity hub lead comes with the position as well. And so because the affinity hub lead comes with the position as well and you're only able to hold one seat on the steering committee, I think that would kind of create that conflict. And let's say if someone on the steering committee that was already elected goes for the affinity hub lead and decides that they would like to become an affinity hub lead instead of a general steering committee seat that they were previously awarded, then we would essentially have another vacant seat. I hope that makes sense. APIn.

33:11

Yeah, that part is clear. But just like with in the recent situation with the Brotherhood crusade, the next candidate with the most votes got, I don't know, upgraded uplifted and appointed. So could that be a possibility?

33:33

Yeah, and let us get back to you on that following the meeting because I don't want to give a definite answer right now, but that's actually a good point that we can kind of talk about offline. Luis, I see your hands up. Yeah, I just recommend at some point, can we look at establishing a process on how to deal with Vacancies going forward, because I think we want to avoid trying to have an election every time something happens. So whether that's something, whether people can just self nominate and we discuss it at one of these meetings, or the steering committee fills it, or the affinity whatever, something, I think it would make sense to just not have to go through election time every time there's a vacancy.

34:15

I'm sorry, let me just jump in real fast. Luis, you're bringing up a good point. There weren't a lot of process put in place before this election, which is why a lot of things have been taking so long. But the LADC and CERF team will be giving recommendations. I'm sure the steering committee and maybe even some members of the affinity hub will already working out how to do things differently going forward. It's been a learning process for everyone, the CERF team and the La HRTC. So to your point, there should be some type of process of replacing members for having fill ins if someone's busy, for what consensus is actually we'll talk about that later on, but there needs to be some type of bylaws put in place going forward so we won't run into these issues going forward.

35:21

Thank you, Charles. And if we move forward to the next slide. So we did run a survey to identify a decision approval process for the steering committee. This was actually part of the state's project modification request. So one of these items was to identify a decision approval process for the steering committee and the following decision making process was voted on the most, which was

majority voting. So we have solidified the method in which the steering committee will make decisions and I'll go ahead and let Chioma elaborate on the post selection next steps.

36:05

Okay. Well, good morning everyone. So now that we have most of our affinity, ten out of twelve selected affinity hub leads and most of our steering committee, but not all next steps is setting up the framework and bylaws. And that will be done with the guidance of the new steering committee. As soon as we have all of our steering committee seated, we will work with the new steering committee members to select a time, a meeting time, and we will move forward with creating the framework along with the Steering Committee and making that known and present to the full body. The first Steering Committee meeting will happen after all the Steering Committee members are seated, after we have this next nomination and voting period. And so then also for the Affinity Hub leads, we've already received feedback from some of our winners of the Affinity Hub leads, like Mr.

37:11

Kevin harbor, who created well, not created, but provided us with a nice template for us to provide information to the Affinity Hub leads for their next steps. And so if any of the other leads have suggestions and feedback that they would like to provide, please do send it to CERF@laedc.org and we will take a look and get back to you on those steps. But please look forward to the information toolkits and for the emails coming from us to our new selected well, not selected, but voted on Affinity Hub leads and Steering Committee members and then process mapping. So process mapping is important for us. It's in our proposal and we are moving forward with this process. We've had our first meeting with the Mark USA, the selected vendor, and so we had a very productive meeting. We will have about three or four meetings moving forward in the next upcoming weeks.

38:15

And so we are working with the Mark to provide our full body a nice illustration and guidance on how the information will flow. And so we look forward to receiving that information in the upcoming weeks and for any of the new members who introduced themselves at the beginning of the meeting. If you need, which I'm pretty sure you might need a CERF one one, please reach out to me so I can get you caught up to speed, I should say, on where we are in the CERF process. And I'll be reaching out to some of our newly onboarded partners who I have not already met with. And I'll let I think alan yeah, thank you.

39:03

Chioma I see, Sharon, you have your hand up.

39:07

Good morning. I do. And one of the discussions that did come out of Outreach and Engagement this.

39:12

Week is we would like to request.

39:15

That LAEDC handle a structure scheduled regular orientation meetings every week for newly onboarded members so that we know that meeting happens on Thursdays at 02:00 or whatever it is. Because, folks, there's been so much effort for us to keep people up to date in the Outreach and Engagement Committee as they come on board. And I do get a lot of phone calls asking how this works. And Shioma, I want to send them all to you. So if we can get some structure around that. So if it's orientation, call videos on Tuesdays and Thursdays, whatever it is, because there's just so many people coming in that just are trying to catch up.

39:56

Thank you, Sharon, for that recommendation. And, yes, that was mentioned in the previous couple of on e committee meetings. And I will say in the past months, I have tried to do join quite a few members at one time, and that was pretty difficult. So I have been doing like one on 130 minutes zoom CERF one one presentation. If I can work out the schedule with multiple people at one time, then I would love to combine them and do them once a week. But I will see it usually has to do with the scheduling conflicts of the availability of the new partners. But, yes, if I can do them together, I will do that. But right now, I'm still doing them one one. But I'll see how I can set some structure. But that's mainly like a scheduling conflict. But I'll see moving forward. So thank you for the suggestion for that.

40:52

Yes.

40:54

All right. So moving on to our training and capacity building lead. So, since the tables will soon be convening, which is very exciting, and we're moving on forward, we really need to define what the scope of work looks like for that training and capacity lead. So, in the proposal, it does state that we have \$75,000 in the budget to provide training to strengthen the capacity of community residents, take part in CERF planning and decision making. So what we decided to do is we created a google form, and we'd like to solicit some of your ideas on what you envision the vendor for training and capacity building should provide to the affinity hub leads table, partner leads, and CBO micro grantees. It's a very generic, just one question form we wanted to just ask without specifying. I see. Tony, you had mentioned that can this training for new members be in multiple languages and then you don't see language on the form.

41:58

Feel free to include that in your answer. It should allow you to write a long paragraph for that question. And thank you, Scarlett, the form is now in the chat, so please feel free to click on that link and if you'd like, save it so you can jot your ideas down on that form later. And moving on to our usual stakeholder analysis. So, today's analysis is based on the demographics report that was created on August eighth, just to break this down for the new members. So, total number of organizations engaged means organizations that we have engaged but not necessarily successfully onboarded onto the HRTC. So we have 456 of those organizations. And the number of organizations officially onboarded, which is primarily the CERF collective partnership agreement letter, as well as the onboarding form, is 343. And finally, that last number of organizations not fully onboarded, is the difference between those numbers, which we have in red here, 113.

43:08

We're looking to lessen that 113 number and try to get all of our organizations that are engaged. To become onboarded. We did have a goal of 500 members and we've been making a lot of progress. So round of applause for everyone who's been contributing to that process. So for our geographic breakdown of HRTC members based on the service planning area that they indicated their organization was headquartered at, we're seeing similar trends. However, we do see fluctuations in the middle bars here. So, of course, we have Spa Four metro la as well as Spa Eight. South Bay Harbor at the top. Two. But we had increases in Spa Eight, which is the South Bay harbor area, as well as Spa Three, San Gabriel as well as Spa One, Antelope Valley and San Fernando. And for the number of each entity type within the Lahrtc. So just to provide some more context for our new partners, the state did mandate in the SFP certain entity types that they are expecting us to have balanced representation from.

44:27

So as you can see here, we have all the entity types listed and increases over the past two weeks we've seen are in employers, in business, education and training providers working with disinvested communities, economic development agencies, as well as environmental justice organizations. And with that said, I'll go ahead and let Scarlett introduce her new website that she worked very hard on.

44:56

Hey Alan, I believe Jermaine has his hand up. We can go ahead and allow him to take the floor.

45:02

Thanks guys. Just one quick point with the capacity building and training, so the feedback we're soliciting, I would just be mindful to really think about those not traditionally involved in these types of processes. Obviously the CERF team was on board after we had a lot of these discussions and so I took the liberty of helping work through that process. But we want to just really just get feedback from everybody to make sure that we are incorporating things in that RFP that's reflective of the needs of our community members not traditionally involved in this process. So while it may be a need for some major CBOs that have been invited into the Finiti hub or as a table lead, even some of the micro grantees right, but it's also those participants that are going to be compensated to participate in this project and then in the implementation phase as well.

45:56

So just think about those folks and our underserved individuals that are going to need to get caught up to speed and trained in how to engage and get their objectives and thoughts across in these types of conversations. So that's all I wanted to add.

46:12

Thanks.

46:16

Thank you so much Jermaine. Before I move forward, I believe Tony has her hand up.

46:22

Yeah, maybe I misunderstood the capacity building training. I completely agree with what Jermaine said and we need to make sure that's covered. Is there a different grant that's going to

assist Facilitators to be more culturally aware? A lot of times you might be very experienced in facilitating for your group. And it may mean that you may be less sensitive to how you deal with multiple groups that come from multiple perspectives age groups, race, ethnicity, economic development, people versus workforce people or someone. And I'm wondering if there is money to assist Facilitators to be that or is that the 75,000?

47:17

I think we just kind of help out, Tony. I think that's something we can build in there. Obviously there's not a ton of fund in there that's kind of money that was really brought forward as kind of like best practice, essentially, because we do have groups that are part of this HRTC that do provide this type of training. And so that was the figure that was brought up. I know that there's going to be some funds that essentially we'll need to be able to look at, and maybe we can potentially look at upgrading the funding that's here, but I think it's something we can roll into this particular RFP and see what we get back, right. It's no guarantee, but we can definitely look at that in terms of the bandwidth of the partner that we bring in. They should have the ability to do this type of work at that level that you mentioned as well, Tony.

48:12

And so we'll look at both pieces and then also look at know essentially getting approval from the HRTC to upgrade the funding that's available in this particular component to get a better vendor that can do even more in terms of training our community members. That's definitely a need that you brought up because the other piece is the language issue, right? You know that we're going to run into challenges there. And so you could be the greatest trainer on Earth, but if you can't make sure that you have folks coming to those trainings that can do that, can support in that way, that's going.

48:49

To be an issue. So thank you, Tony, for that.

48:55

Okay, thank you so much, Jermaine, for that clarification. And so we just want to go ahead and introduce our new CERF La HRTC website. Previously we've been using LEDC's website, so we really want to thank them for allowing us the space to use one of their pages, but it was a little bit restrictive in that we couldn't add organize information in a way that was just more digestible and easier for our partners and the public to understand. And so this new website is strictly your website? It is for our CERF HRTC members as well as the public to be able to go ahead and explore, learn a little bit about what the CERF program is, understand the different tables and the hub structure within our governance model, as well as be able to find the latest updates, past meeting minutes, resources, future events and also ways to interact with the CERF program.

49:58

I think we have maybe a few minutes if alan, do you mind pulling up the CERF website. I think it'd be great to just quickly showcase it. And I know we did have questions earlier about the research RFPs and whether that would be on our website as well. So I'll go ahead and showcase where our members can find that. So if you go underneath the subcommittees, we have all the subcommittees that have been working hard throughout the past year and a half for research and data. This is where you all will find the research RFPs that have been released today. You can go ahead and go

through the website. Specifically, this page gives you more information and details about our bidders conference that will be on August 16 as well as the different three research RFPs that we're currently looking to have proposals be submitted for as well as eligibility criteria and how to apply.

50:59

So this is currently live. We will be sending out an email specifically to our partners and the public in regards to the research RFPs. But if you do go through the website, you will go ahead and find that we've really tried to separate and provide more information regards to our governance model, what our roles and responsibilities are for each hub, meaning our Affinity Hub leads, our Table Partner leads, our Micro grantee recipients. This is all broken down through the website for your leisure to be able to go in and learn a little bit more about the CERF program and really understand the monstrosity of the work that we are trying to successfully complete through the work that's ahead. And so please go ahead and view the program if there is any feedback that you can provide. We're always happy to incorporate that as we move forward and we have more events and our Table Partner leads and Affinity Hub leads have their events.

52:02

We will go ahead and also have this on our website so everyone is up to date can go back and look at meeting recordings and meeting notes of the different types of interactions that we will be having. So that is our CERF website and we are going to be working today on linking our Leedc CERF page directly to the website so that our partners don't get confused about two different sites. Everything will be linked to this specific site moving forward and I believe Hypen has a hand up.

52:38

I'm just wondering, the partnership agreement, could that be somehow consolidated with this form? It seems like we're having a hard time chasing organizations. Is there a reason why when people sign on to say, hey, I want to be part of this, that it's not consolidated into one form when they sign up?

53:03

So we currently do have that one form for sign up. So if you do go down the website, at the end there's a join our collaborative and that link will take you directly to our form that we have been using to sign up our lahrtc potential partners. So that's kind of how we've been integrating, how we've now integrated it into the website. But when it comes to folks not signing on, I know that's a challenge that we've encountered, and a lot of times it's either they don't have the capacity to be partners within the program, or it's just hard to reach them and get them to complete the form. And that's kind of the most prominent challenge that we've been trying to cross over. I know Chioma has been working hard on just nudging and calling and emailing partners that are currently pending. A lot of it is just their time constraints, unfortunately.

54:02

So I guess maybe for clarification and it's just when people sign on and they don't sign up for the partnership agreement, what are they signing on for?

54:16

Carla, if you want me to speak on the onboarding stuff, yeah, so that's a great question. Haypen. So essentially that CERF Collective partnership agreement is the most important piece. We've had

plenty of organizations that for whatever reason, they didn't have time to fill out an onboarding form, but they sent us a CERF Collective partnership agreement letter, and that's the most important piece. That's what's validating you as a member. The onboarding form is for the purpose of data. So we know, for example, for our demographics reports that we have each week, so we know exactly what entity type the organization is. We can map them based on their headquarter, where they're located for spa. So that's essentially what the onboarding form provides versus the CERF Collective partnership agreement letter. And we have spoken about that being a barrier. We did try to resolve it with our new CRM HubSpot, but unfortunately the engineers were not able to provide a solution that was any simpler than what we already have in place.

55:27

I'm still confused in the sense of, I guess what I'm proposing and maybe you guys could give clarity and maybe you're going to answer that question, is that I'm thinking, oh, you know what? This looks interesting. I'm going to sign on and then I fill out this form and it says, Click here for another form that I need to sign on. I'm just wondering, could it be just a one long continuation of it so that you don't have to click on another document to sign on as a partner? That's what I guess I'm asking. And is there a reason why we have to keep it separate? Because the only thing I could think of is you just want to collect data of people who just kind of express some interest. Is that why we're keeping it separate? Because if our end goal is for them to sign on as a partnership, that's what really counts.

56:26

Then why not just do it all in one form?

56:29

Yeah, and I totally hear what you're saying, Haitin. So we're not technically trying to keep it separate. We're trying to keep it together because we really do want everyone to take both the onboarding form and submit the CERF Collective partnership agreement in one go. However, the barrier is more of just the technological barrier, especially with the signature. So for the signature, obviously, we can't really include it's difficult to include a signature using the Smart sheet, which is the program that we use for the form. So it's really just a technological barrier. Like I mentioned, we tried to resolve it with the CRM, seeing if that company could potentially engineer where we could have folks just take the onboarding form and then drag and drop their letterhead and do their digital signature in one go. But unfortunately, they weren't able to do that, which is why we've kind of stuck with the smart sheet.

57:30

Does that make sense?

57:32

Yeah, I'm hearing it's the technological barrier. All right.

57:36

Yeah, it's essentially a technological barrier, and we have identified that a lot of partners who are engaged, they do have trouble in getting that letter to us. But I'd also like to note that a lot of that 400 number that you saw earlier of the partners who are engaged but not onboarded. So when the team was first onboarded, we had essentially this list of partners or potential partners, and these

contacts were picked up off of previous meetings, so they essentially pulled the organization name and the email, if possible. And some of these are not necessarily people who have been really engaged with CERF. Some of them haven't been engaged in a while, but we still have them in our list and we're continuing to try to get them to onboard. I hope that makes sense.

58:27

As I did when I tried to click on it, I got an error message. So not sure. Maybe someone it says that they couldn't find my email in the Laced EDC my SharePoint directory, so maybe to check on that.

58:45

Okay.

58:45

Yeah, I think I had just updated the CERF Collective partnership agreement letter. Is that link is what you're referring to?

58:51

Yeah.

58:51

So I clicked on the template to sign whatever and for both for individual and organization, and it says that didn't work. We're sorry. And my email can't be found in the Laced's SharePoint directive. Please try again.

59:04

Okay, thank you. I appreciate you letting me know. Let me go ahead and fix those links with new ones, and then everyone should be able to access them again. But if there are any partners on here that are having trouble accessing the partnership agreement letter and would like to onboard today, feel free to send an email to CERF@laedc.org and we'll go ahead and send you the template by email as well. Did you have any other questions, Haypen, before we move on?

59:30

I'm good, thank you.

59:32

No worries. Yeah.

59:34

Thank you so much. Yeah, thank you so much. Alan, a lot of the issues that we do face are more on the technological side, not necessarily just us not wanting to create a more streamlined process. I think it would make our lives way easier if we were able to accomplish that. Unfortunately sometimes when it comes to the ways that the platforms we use to collect data and then also integrating that with other platforms such as DocuSign or ways to capture people's signature, sometimes these different platforms just do not integrate with each other. And that's why we've had some of these barriers with things such as our onboarding form and trying to streamline that. But I do appreciate

everyone's patience in this process. I do also want to say that I know there's in the past been issues in regards to being on our listserve and receiving our emails.

01:00:26

So what we did with the website as well, if you go all the way down to the bottom of the first home page, there is a subscription portal. So you can go ahead and just subscribe directly now to our new CRM listserve that we are. Everyone that was on our listserve is already currently transferred but we did want to separate that. We do know that we have public members of the public that don't necessarily want to be a partner but just want to stay up to date and know what's going on with the CERF program. So that allows them to also just subscribe to the program's updates without necessarily having to onboard directly. I believe. Hey Pin, do you still have your hand up if you have a question?

01:01:10

No, that was a mistake.

01:01:12

No worries. And I believe we have Luis this one.

01:01:17

I don't know if this is appropriate time. I can wait. It's talking about outreach regarding the decision by the administration for the program where they're going to decide the rest of the funding.

01:01:30

Yeah, we can maybe handle that towards the end so we can make sure that we finish on time. For partners who are time responsible.

01:01:36

Wait then.

01:01:37

Thank you. So our next meeting, HRTC meeting will be August 25 at 09:00 A.m.. That will be the same meeting we're holding now for our partners and if we can go to the next slide. So for next steps just again we will be doing an election to hold our or to fill our vacancies and run off. We will take into consideration some of the feedback that we did receive and make sure that we communicate any potential changes in the upcoming week. But we do encourage our members to just again check your emails, check your spam folder, as we do try to send us notifications to alert everyone of when the windows for nominations open close and election windows open close as well. We also next steps will be our subregional table selection criterion process. So for those that are new, there are still opportunities to engage in forms of funding for the program.

01:02:35

So we do have eight table partner opportunities as well as 90 micro grants that will be dispersed within the different service planning areas of the Alley County region. So the next steps that our steering committee will be really looking in and diving deep into will be what will that criteria and selection process be for the eight table partner leads? That will be an opportunity for funding as

well as the 90 micro grants, that will also be a separate opportunity for funding. So there's still a lot of opportunities for our HRTC members to really engage and be a part of the CERF program. So in the incoming meetings, we will be discussing these open items and communicating any changes or any updates to the whole body. And I believe that concludes our presentation for today. Again, you guys can please check out our new website. We will go ahead and update I believe this slide actually has the old website, so we'll update that moving forward, but we'll go ahead and close it out, and we have about two minutes for questions, I believe.

01:03:49

Hypen, is your hand up again? Yeah.

01:03:51

Just a real quick question. So are all the Outreach Committee and all those committees there no more I just want to yeah.

01:04:00

So those committees have completely dissolved now that the steering committee has been elected. The steering committee will now take on the torch to move the open items forward. Thank you. When will we ratify the steering committee? Will it be on the 25th after the final elections, or what's the plan? It was in our previous timeline when we voted before, but I know that things changed. Sharon, I believe we have some hands up if we can just go through one by one.

01:04:34

Sure.

01:04:35

Thank you. Yeah. Apologies. Hypen, are you okay with your question? Yes.

01:04:41

Sorry. I'll lower my hand. Thank you.

01:04:43

Okay, I believe we have Luis with San Gabriel Valley.

01:04:48

Yeah. Two questions. One, do we have a date as to when the first meeting of the steering committee is going to be taking place?

01:04:54

So that is dependent on the actual steering committee being fully finalized. We don't want to have meetings with vacant seats at the moment simply because we don't want to miss the opportunity to receive feedback from those that haven't been elected into their seat. So we're hoping that after this next election, we will then send out a poll for everyone to just ensure that they can attend specific days and find out a specific time frame that we can hold these meetings. But we do want to hold off until we have our steering committee seated.

01:05:29

Okay. And in light of that, can I recommend, if we can schedule just a kind of planning or strategic session? I'd like to see the administration is about to make their decision on the Catalyst program funding. The current proposal is for every region to get 26 million. Our proposal is more of a moderate one. Give everybody 10 million, divvy out the rest by population. That would give La County Region 63 million. That's a big difference in funding of things we could do. 63 versus 26. While the deadline for comments has passed, I think a lot of folks around this call do have connections and relationships with either GoBiz, whether OPR, whether labor, Workforce Development Agency. And I want to see what we can do to kind of leverage some of those relationships and have people get into the ear of the directors of those departments and say, hey, this needs to be fixed because otherwise we're going to keep talking amongst ourselves and we're essentially taking selling for half the money of what we could be getting.

01:06:27

So I want us to see, like, if we can just do even a 30 minutes call, just kind of do who has relationships with who and who can call who. For those who want to participate, I think that would be helpful, that we can kind of try to put some pressure on it. I know I've reached out to Tracy Hernandez from BizFed, who's going to be reaching out to Dee Myers as well as OPR, who she has relationships with. Other people could do the same. I think it would go a long way to helping our proposal hopefully get approved by the administration.

01:06:54

Yeah, I think, Charles, if you want to go ahead and respond, so yeah.

01:07:00

Thank you for that, Luis, and you've been a strong pioneer of trying to get the state's attention on this matter. Just so you guys know, August 23 is when the state is supposed to have updates on that Catalyst program, including feedback from the public comments. So there's that. But I highly encourage you guys because it's been a process in place. The CERF team, the four of us, when we first got together, we tried to put together a sheet for you guys to contact one another, but it was voted down by the HRTC where you didn't want to share contact information. So it kind of left these meetings for you guys to connect with one another. And if you want to connect with someone within the HRTC, you're kind of on your own to try to figure out how to track them down. Moving forward, I highly suggest you guys come up with a way that's really efficient where you can contact one another for the exact same reasons that you're talking about.

01:08:01

Luis, you don't want to have to wait for organized meetings or you shouldn't have to wait for organized meetings that the CERF team puts together for you to have these discussions. You're completely okay to do that offline amongst one another.

01:08:21

But if you guys have the list, can you just send out a list invite for, let's say pick a date Wednesday of next week? We're going to have a meeting on this to the whole HRTC member list and whoever wants to show up.

01:08:31

Can.

01:08:37

I we'll figure out a way to schedule something that makes sense for everyone trying to make an off the cuff decision right now.

01:08:45

Could I just say sooner rather than.

01:08:48

Later would yeah, I understand. I feel you. And thank you again for doing that, Louise.

01:08:54

Seriously.

01:08:54

I mean, that's great that you've been doing that. Tony, I don't know if you tony, do you have a question?

01:09:01

I do on a different topic. I'm wondering how we're planning to address the August 31 deadline, where we need to have an outline, identification of gaps and then strategies for filling the gaps for part one. I didn't know if there was some document that we're working on and I hadn't seen anything and would we be able to see it prior to going being submitted to the state?

01:09:24

Do you mean the gaps in the steering committee?

01:09:26

No, this has to do with the Odly enough. The regional plan in part one, by August 31, each HRTC is supposed to send in some format, an outline of what part one will look like, identification of gaps, how it's going to be implemented. And I just wondered what's practically there.

01:09:52

Yeah. So speaking with GoBiz, they're more concerned with progress at this point because we know that everything, especially the Los Angeles region, everything's been changed so many times and a lot of delays. I mean, this election, it was supposed to be one election, now it may turn to three and it's been proposed to possibly even four. So we just have to submit what.

01:10:16

We have when we have it.

01:10:18

Okay.

01:10:18

So if they're open, they certainly have.

01:10:22

A new tune from prior to we're.

01:10:26

Not making any changes no matter what. So that's very positive.

01:10:29

Okay.

01:10:29

It would be helpful to see that and be able to comment on it prior to it going. You know, maybe a lot of people don't like to do detailed work, but we do and so I'm just trying to keep up.

01:10:44

Thank you, Tony, I appreciate that. Appreciate the offer to have 2nd, 3rd pair of eyes on it. Someone's hand.

01:10:54

Sharon.

01:10:54

Sharon, your hand something. Sharon, I don't know if you just didn't lower your hand, but your hand is up.

01:11:03

No, I just been waiting because I spoke out of turn. Forgive me. Thank you, Scarlett, for catching that. Two things. We still have to amend our phasing plan, which has an error, and I want to make sure that we have a date by when we're agreeing to do that prior to the new plan that needs to be found. We definitely have to get that done. It is a concern. I also want to know if it is in the document, in the research contract, is it contract number three? That will be gathering and reporting out the community based organizational live data. Originally in the original proposals, we thought it was contract one, but I just kind of read through what's out there. Which of the research contracts will be summarizing and reporting out on the collected data? That the 90 CBOs gather.

01:12:00

I don't want to comment on the three research RFPs because CCF, our fiscal agent, they have a process of I think there's a legal process, actually, of how that information is released. So if Maria, if you're still on that call, maybe you can find a way to answer that question so I won't step into dangerous territory.

01:12:20

Yeah, the information is on the website.

01:12:22

But it's not there.

01:12:23

That's why I'm asking.

01:12:27

I think Maria jumped off the calls so when they release the RFPs, all the information will be available for anyone to see.

01:12:44

Yeah, they're on the website. I just read through it. That's why I was asking the question. So we don't know where our outreach community's data is going to flow, which means I'm going to encourage our members to participate in that call because it's critical that the lived experience data from the community flow into one of those contract research vendors, and it's just not clear on which one.

01:13:11

Thank you for that. We're eight minutes over. If there's any other important questions, feel free to ask now. All okay. Well, thank you guys very much. Again, we have that one more election coming up. The nomination period will start open on Monday, and once we get through it, we have a finalized governance structure and steering committee, and we can move forward. But thank you guys for the good work and reach out to us if.

01:13:43

You have any questions.

01:13:46

Thank you. Thank.