

Los Angeles: From Shared Vision to Tangible Change

The Fund for an Inclusive California (F4ICA) is a funding initiative co-designed and co-governed with grassroots leaders to advance community-driven housing justice efforts. Now in its eighth and final year, we have aligned funders to build and sustain a pooled fund that has moved \$17 million to support four regions and statewide formations since 2018.

The Fund is a unique force in the ecosystem. Our long-standing support for organizing proves what's possible in Los Angeles County with sustained, agile funding: shared vision, unprecedented progress toward community ownership goals, shifting public understanding of both the housing crisis and permanently affordable housing solutions.

These successes are not by chance, they are precisely what organizations have named as possibilities if we fund them collectively to win. With sustained support, there is so much more that can be done. This brief highlights their impact during the second phase of our work together, beginning in 2022. It underscores why bold, coordinated, and long-term investment is essential to achieving a thriving and just California for all.



STRATEGIC ACTIONS FOR A JUST ECONOMY (SAJE)

Los Angeles: A High-Stakes Landscape for Housing Justice

Los Angeles County is home to nearly 10 million residents and the most populous county in the United States, yet remains in the grip of a decades-long housing affordability crisis. Speculative real estate investment, chronic underfunding of affordable housing, and insufficient tenant protections have left communities living on low wages and communities of color increasingly vulnerable to rent hikes, eviction, harassment, and displacement.

At the same time, new threats are emerging: corporate grabs of fire-damaged property in Altadena following the Eaton Fires, housing instability tied to 2028 Olympics-driven development, intensifying raids and kidnapping of immigrant families, and a tightening public and philanthropic funding landscape. As pressures intensify, displacement is expanding beyond the City of Los Angeles into surrounding areas with fewer protections and less organizing infrastructure.

Yet, Los Angeles is also a place where community partners have built extraordinary alignment, ambition, and power. In the face of one of the country's most complex housing markets, organizations across the region have developed a shared vision for housing justice rooted in decommodification, tenant power, and permanent affordability. Their coordinated work has already reshaped what is politically possible in Los Angeles, and continues to influence housing justice strategy across California and the nation.



FOR A DEEPER DIVE, SEE THE [LOS ANGELES LEARNING BRIEF](#).

About Our
Phase II
Los Angeles
Partners



F4ICA’s nine partners work across intersectional issue areas, including workers rights and power, immigrant rights, economic justice, housing and tenant rights.

\$1.54M in grants in Phase II, for a total of **\$4.07M** since 2018.

1 County:
Los Angeles

9 Community Partners:
ACT-LA
Community Power Collective (CPC)
InnerCity Struggle
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance (KIWA)
LA Housing Futures Lab
LA Voice
Long Beach Residents Empowered (LiBRE)
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)
Social Justice Learning Institute

100% serving communities living on low-incomes

100% serving immigrants

7 Phase II Funders Include:

Amplify Fund
The California Endowment
Chan Zuckerberg Initiative
Heising-Simons Foundation
The James Irvine Foundation
San Francisco Foundation
Weingart Foundation

Phase II Impact Stories: Building
Power Across Los Angeles

Across Los Angeles County, F4ICA partners have turned sustained, flexible investment into a coordinated force for housing justice. What began as a shared vision has grown into a regional ecosystem capable of winning historic policy change, protecting communities in moments of crisis, and delivering real gains for tenants and working families. These stories show what becomes possible when organizations align around a common goal and have the resources to organize, defend, and build together.



LA HOUSING FUTURES LAB

From Shared Vision to Structural Wins

In 2019, community partners gathered at a regional retreat, supported by F4ICA, to name a shared “North Star” for housing justice in Los Angeles. That collective vision, created through trust and years of relationship, laid the groundwork for some of the most significant housing victories in the region’s history – the passage of Measures ULA and Measure A. Rather than fund groups one by one, F4ICA invested in an ecosystem that would be ready to create and seize moments for progress.

- THE LA HOUSING FUTURES LAB, which was born of the 2019 retreat, is now a coalition of more than 25 organizations aligned around decommodification, tenant power, and permanent affordability. This coalition developed the 2050 Roadmap, a plan to decommodify 20% of housing countywide, with F4ICA partners serving as co-chairs.
- This plan directly contributed to the 2022 passage of Measure ULA, a real estate transfer tax on high-value property sales that has generated over \$1 billion for affordable housing, tenant protections, and homelessness prevention. The campaign framed the debate to center the idea that the wealthiest should pay their fair share, and that housing is a human right, not a commodity. This broadened support beyond traditional housing circles and brought in labor allies.
- As real estate and business interests challenge Measure ULA, ACT-LA and partners continue to organize in coalition to protect the measure and ensure equitable, transparent implementation.
- Modeled on the success of Measure ULA, ACT-LA, LiBRE, and other partners helped pass Measure A in 2024, a county-wide measure estimated to generate roughly \$1 billion annually for housing, services, and homelessness prevention.

Organizing in a Time of Crisis and Backlash

When crisis strikes, prepared communities respond faster and protect more people. In years marked by devastating fires and escalating ICE targeting immigrants, F4ICA partners were ready because years of investment supported their work to built relationships, infrastructure, and trust needed to act. Their work reaches beyond housing to defend the right of communities to belong, resist displacement, and remain rooted in the face of mounting pressure.

- In response to ICE raids that swept the region, KIWA expanded rapid response, mutual aid, and Know Your Rights outreach while continuing to organize renters and workers for long-term systems change.
- Following the January 2025 Eaton Fires, SAJE produced research documenting the surge in corporate acquisition of fire-damaged property in Altadena, exposing how recovery can fuel speculation and displacement for long-term residents.
- KIWA serves on the Steering Committee of the LA United Front, a cross-sector coalition uniting labor, community, faith, and movement organizations to defend democratic participation across Los Angeles.
- By investing in these groups, F4ICA supports far more than housing campaigns, it strengthens the community infrastructure that keeps families safe, housed, and able to assert their rights amid fear and instability.



INNERCITY STRUGGLE



KOREATOWN IMMIGRANT WORKERS ALLIANCE (KIWA)

Winning Protections for Tenants and Working Communities

Los Angeles partners are delivering concrete wins that keep people in their homes and money in their pockets. Their strength comes from connecting tenant organizing to worker power, a defining feature of the LA ecosystem, where housing stability and economic justice are understood as inseparable. Through coordinated advocacy and deep base-building, partners are turning policy victories into everyday protections for the families most at risk of displacement.

- ✱ **ACT-LA, LIBRE**, and other partners helped pass Measure A in 2024, a countywide measure estimated to generate roughly \$1 billion annually for housing, services, and homelessness prevention.
- ✱ **INNERCITY STRUGGLE**, organizing in coalition, helped secure commitments to strengthen LA's Rent Stabilization Ordinance, equipping Eastside tenants to engage directly with elected officials.
- ✱ **COMMUNITY POWER COLLECTIVE** prevented 40 families from eviction, recovered \$35,000 in illegal rent increases, and engaged 168 tenants in Know Your Rights and collective casework, even amid ICE raids and community fear.
- ✱ As a key member of the Stay Housed LA coalition, **SOCIAL JUSTICE LEARNING INSTITUTE** helped secure the City Council vote to extend the coalition's contract, ensuring uninterrupted tenant legal services. These efforts also helped direct over \$288 million for affordable housing and \$102 million for homelessness prevention through Measure ULA.
- ✱ **LIBRE** led a successful budget campaign that secured \$2 million to establish and expand the city's Right to Counsel program, guaranteeing tenants legal representation in eviction proceedings.
- ✱ Partners like **ACT-LA** and **ACCE LA** connect worker and union organizing to housing justice, reflecting a distinctly LA approach where tenant stability and economic dignity advance together.



A Call to Build What's Next

Together, we have proven what is possible when funders listen, co-create, and trust community partners and their solutions. In the current political and funding context these lessons matter all the more.

As we step into the concluding year of an 8-year initiative, in a challenging funding landscape, we recommit to serving as an advocate for and partner to the housing justice movement. Common Counsel Foundation is committed to supporting communities to build trust, relational infrastructure, and grow their power and influence for housing justice.

For funders committed to a just and vibrant California, this is a moment to learn from what has worked and help carry it forward. We invite funders to join us in conversation and action on how we can sustain this vital movement infrastructure.

Reach out: F4ICA@CommonCounsel.org