



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER**


**Agenda Number:**

**Clerk of the Board of Supervisors**  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

**Submitted on:**  
**(COB Stamp)**

**Department Name:** Community Services  
**Department No.:** 057  
**Agenda Date:** April 1, 2025  
**Placement:** Administrative Agenda  
**Estimated Time:** N/A  
**Continued Item:** No  
**If Yes, date from:** N/A  
**Vote Required:** Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director(s): Jesús Armas, Community Services Director   
Contact Info: Sarah York Rubin, Executive Director, Office of Arts and Culture  
805-568-3992  
**SUBJECT:** County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program Award Disbursement  
Recommendations.

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize Fund for Santa Barbara, Inc. ("The Fund") to disburse the County of Santa Barbara's Racial Equity Grant Program funds to selected applicants (Attachment A) through June 30, 2026 and in accordance with the Regranting Agreement between the County and The Fund, executed on October 15, 2024; and
- b) Receive and file an interim report (Attachment B) from The Fund regarding its administration of the County's Racial Equity Grant Program and grant award recommendations; and
- c) Determine that the recommended actions are not a project subject to the California Environmental Quality Act under CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(5), because they consist of administrative activities that will not result in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

**Summary Text:**

This item is before the Board of Supervisors to approve and authorize The Fund to enter into contracts disbursing Racial Equity Grant funds to the eight recommended grant applicants listed in Attachment A. The funding available for this program is \$275,000, which was appropriated by the Board during the FY 24-25 Budget Hearings.

The County of Santa Barbara Racial Equity Grant Program is aimed at effecting the culture, policy, and systems changes necessary to advance racial equity and justice. The program provides funding to invest in and strengthen organizations that actively support anti-discrimination, as well as communities marginalized by power structures.

**Background:**

At the June 11, 2024 budget hearing, the Board unanimously authorized a \$275,000 appropriation of equity funds to be disbursed through a fourth grant-making cycle administered by The Fund. On October 15, 2024, the Board executed the contract with The Fund to administer the grant program (Attachment C). The contract included the condition that final award recommendations be presented to the Board for final approval prior to The Fund entering into contracts with selected grantees.

The Fund released a request for proposals on October 18, 2024, and offered a corresponding workshop. The applications were received and reviewed by The Fund's Grant Making Subcommittee, comprised of diverse community members with different backgrounds. Their recommendations were approved by The Fund's Board of Directors on February 10, 2025. Upon Board of Supervisors approval, The Fund will enter into grant agreements with the eight selected recipients that outline the authorized usage of funds (Attachment A). Grant award amounts range from \$10,000 to \$71,579, and the activity period will be for one year. All funding must be disbursed no later than June 30, 2026.

The Fund receives \$41,250 for administering the grant program, which is deducted from the \$275,000 in equity funds. The contract funding is disbursed in three payments. The first payment of \$18,563, issued on December 12, 2024, supported initial grant program activities. With Board approval, \$252,312 will be disbursed, including \$233,750 in grant funds and \$18,562 in administrative fees. The final payment of \$4,125 will be issued upon submission of the final report, including grantee reports.

**Organizations Recommended for Funding:**

For the Racial Equity Grant Program, \$233,750 in funding was available to grantees, and the maximum request amount was \$100,000. Eighteen organizations submitted applications, requesting a total of \$1,101,541. Attachment A contains the list of all applicants and projects, including those not recommended for funding.

For the current cycle, eight organizations were recommended for grant awards by The Fund. These include: 805 UndocuFund, Barbareno Chumash Tribal Council (BCTC), Collective Cultures Creating Change Lompoc (C4), Gateway Educational Services, Healing Justice Santa Barbara (HJSB), Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, Santa Barbara, NAACP Santa Maria-Lompoc 1072, and The Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara: The Healing Space.

ORGANIZATION	AMOUNT REQUESTED	AMOUNT RECOMMENDED	USE OF GRANT FUNDS
805 UndocuFund	\$50,000	\$10,000	Funding will support short-term, in-kind, non-cash emergency disaster relief for undocumented communities in Santa Barbara County.
Barbareno Chumash Tribal Council (BCTC)	\$85,500	\$14,400	Funding will support the annual three-day Crossing Event, where members from all Chumash bands come together to paddle, pray, sing, gather, heal, and honor our sacred island of Limuw. This event serves as a unifying experience for all Chumash bands.
Collective Cultures Creating Change Lompoc (C4)	\$56,400	\$22,000	Funding will support the expansion of the Self-healing Communities Project which is designed to engage communities, build leadership and self-determination through project management, cultural events (Juneteenth), gatherings, translation services to support language equity, and bring community awareness
Gateway Educational Services	\$86,020	\$71,579	Funding will support key initiatives including the Parents of Black Students Advocacy Council, anti-racism assemblies, empowerment of black students, and an annual Black Leadership Summit to ensure program sustainability.
Healing Justice Santa Barbara (HJSB)	\$75,000	\$10,000	Funding will support general operating costs to ensure the sustainability of HJSB's core efforts including: advocating for community safety, celebrating Black culture, empowering youth, and the Black/African American Cultural Resource Center.
Martin Luther King Jr. Committee, Santa Barbara	\$55,000	\$55,000	Funding will support Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee's programs expansion, student interns and contract services by hiring a part-time administrative assistant that will strengthen community involvement.
NAACP Santa Maria-Lompoc 1072	\$30,000	\$30,000	Funding will partially support an annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration, two annual Black History Month Celebrations, veterans, and

			culturally competent programs in schools addressing systemic racism.
The Regents of the University of California, Santa Barbara: The Healing Space	\$98,481	\$20,771	Funding will increase capacity to grow the next generation of culturally-affirming clinicians and expand community-building programs and research focused on Black healing and liberation.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: Yes

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Funding Source	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Total
General Fund	\$275,000			\$275,000
State				
Federal				
Fees				
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$275,000</b>			

**Staffing Impacts:**

This will have no additional staffing impact.

**Special Instructions:**

Please send a copy of the minute order to Eder Gaona-Macedo at [egaona@fundforsantabarbara.org](mailto:egaona@fundforsantabarbara.org) and Sarah York Rubin at [srubin@countyofsb.org](mailto:srubin@countyofsb.org).

**Attachments:****Attachment A** – Racial Equity Grant Recommendations**Attachment B** – Interim Report from The Fund for Santa Barbara**Attachment C** – Executed Contract with The Fund for Santa Barbara**Authored by:**

Sarah York Rubin, Exec. Director, County Office of Arts &amp; Culture

Hannah Rubalcava, Grants &amp; Contracts Manager, County Office of Arts &amp; Culture