



# BAY AREA WORKFORCE FUNDING COLLABORATIVE: FUNDING INNOVATION

Innovative Programmatic and Policy Responses to Poverty Conference,  
San Francisco, August 18, 2014

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SAN  
FRANCISCO  
FOUNDATION

## HISTORICAL CONTEXT

### SHIFTING POLICIES TOWARD THE POOR AND WORKING POOR

- 1990's Welfare Reform
  - Time Limits on Access to Benefits
  - Focus on Employment
  
- New Workforce Development Legislation – JTPA to WIA
  - Services for out-of-work adults shift away from training as a 'first option'
  - Focus shifts to job search

### Trio of voices converge

#### Workforce development

- Increase in part-time, low-wage work and its growing permanence in the labor market

#### Economic equity policy

- Wage stagnation

#### Welfare/poverty activists

- Fewer opportunities to access well-paying entry-level jobs

## **Sector strategies for Economic and Workforce Mobility**

### **Self-Sufficiency Standard vs federal poverty levels**

- women's income levels
- planning for financial independence
- career development as an integral part of planning process
- family self-sustaining wage

### **Policy Advocates focus on regional solutions with national implications**

- Bay Area: National Economic Development and Law Center

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## SELF-SUFFICIENCY CALCULATOR

Alameda County:

Represents Self-Sufficiency  
for one adult, three children

<b>Self-Sufficiency Standard</b>	
<b>Expense Type</b>	<b>Monthly Cost</b>
Housing	\$2,013
Child Care	\$1,864
Food	\$909
Transportation	\$151
Health Care	\$513
Miscellaneous	\$545
Taxes	\$1,611
Earned Income Tax Credit	\$0
Child Care Tax Credit	(\$100)
Child Tax Credit	(\$250)
<b>Self-Sufficiency Wage</b>	
Hourly Per Adult	\$41.23
Monthly	\$7,256
Annually	\$87,070
<b>Emergency Savings Fund</b>	
Monthly Contribution	\$293

## Regional Footprint

The Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative funds community colleges in the 5 Bay Area Counties:

- San Francisco
- Alameda
- Contra Costa
- San Mateo
- Marin



### Bay Area Workforce Funding Collaborative

- Formed in 2004 – first collaborative in the country focused on funding sector strategies
- Philanthropic and Corporate Funder Partnership
- Dual Focus: Economic Equity and Systems Change
- Over \$10 million in funding innovations in workforce development
- Impact on national level for sector strategies through regional collaboration
- Impact on state-level policy for workforce development and sector-focused career pathway training and education

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION

- Convene regional thought leaders and funders in workforce development, economic, education and racial equity to discuss regional poverty, education, wage and occupational data
- Identify opportunities to effect change
- Learn regional best practices in sector approaches to workforce development and education
- Align funding to impact change – fund innovative practices that can be sustained – include public and philanthropic funds to maximize impact
  - Recent changes in the Workforce Investment Act – now Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act - focus on sectors/work-based learning
- Fund policy changes in education equity, economic equity and workforce development



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