

LSTFC Bank Grant Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 5, 2019

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Held in person at:

State Bar of California, 180 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA

State Bar of California, 845 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA

NOTES AND ACTION SUMMARY

The meeting was called to order at 9:16 a.m.

I. ROLL CALL

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Amin Al-Sarraf (LA)

James Meeker (LA)

Richard Reinis (LA)

Kim Savage (SF)

ADVISORS

Judge Brad Seligman (SF)

STATE BAR STAFF

Doan Nguyen (SF)

Christine Holmes (SF)

Erica Carroll (LA)

Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

II. CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present in LA or SF.

III. DISCUSS AND APPROVE BANK COMMUNITY STABILIZATION AND REINVESTMENT (BCSR) GRANTS

A. Review and Discuss 2020-2022 BCSR Applications

a. Overview of Bank Community Stabilization and Reinvestment Grant Funding

Program Supervisor, Doan Nguyen provided an overview of the history of the Bank Community Stabilization and Reinvestment Grant funding, including the first four grant distributions. This included

the \$40.8 million that funded 128 community redevelopment and foreclosure prevention projects. The LSTFC is set to distribute \$6.5 million of the remaining \$10.5 million in the current round funding.

Staff provided an overview of the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the current distribution. Programs were encouraged to partner with community organizations and the amount programs could request was based on the number of partnerships in their proposals. Projects consisting of two partners are eligible up to \$175,000 per year, and projects consisting of five partners are eligible for up to \$400,000 per year. Also, staff explained that for this round of RFPs, proposed services must be provided statewide or regionally.

Thirty five applications were received, requesting a total of \$27.26 million. Twenty seven of the applications were for community redevelopment legal assistance projects and eight applications were for foreclosure prevention legal assistance projects. A brief overview of how the application review process was provided. The Bank Grant Committee divided into three working groups, consisting of two members of the Committee and one staff member. Each team reviewed 11 or 12 applications and used a guide based on the criteria in the RFP to rate the proposals. The working groups then discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each proposal and ranked the strong applications as “High” recommendations for funding, followed by “Medium” and “Low.” An initial low and high range of funding for each proposal was assigned based on factors including the amount requested, the potential impact of cuts on the project, prior funding history and the strength of the proposed partnerships was also shared among the working groups.

The Committee discussed the preliminary findings in the California Justice Gap Study the State Bar and NORC at the University of Chicago conducted, and how to consider these findings when determining grant awards. Senior Program Analyst, Erica Carroll and Dr. James Meeker briefly described the data collected for the study and some of the challenges with the data sets.

Doan shared that LSTFC is also distributing \$20 million to programs to provide eviction defense or other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant rental disputes through formula grants and a similar RFP process. This is one-time funding through the EAF that will need to be spent down by June 31, 2021. While the focus on of the grants are different, the amount of funding that will go towards housing projects would be taken into consideration as the Committee discussed all the proposals.

The Committee discussed that proposals with a rural component would be given preference but it was not a requirement. Dr. Meeker then shared how the definition for rural was determined for the RFP and that funded projects will need to be given further guidance about how to track activities in actual rural areas. He further explained why it is problematic to do so only at the county level. The Committee discussed the Foreclosure Prevention proposals the working groups had ranked ‘high.’ The Committee discussed the strengths of these proposals and considered the low and high ranges for funding before making a decision.

Next the Committee reviewed the Community Redevelopment proposals working down the list of the proposals ranked as 'high.' The Committee again discussed the strengths of these proposals and considered the low and high ranges for funding before making a decision.

The Committee discussed all proposals in the 'Medium' category and identified four strong proposals of the 11 listed in this category to recommend funding which included California Advocated for Nursing Home Reform, Family Violence Appellate Project, Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County, and Public Advocates.

Finally, the Committee discussed all the proposals in the 'Low' category and ultimately decided not to recommend funding for any proposals in this category.

Because partnerships were an important aspect of all the proposals, the Committee decided that when programs revise their budgets, they should reduce the subgrants to partners proportionally to the recommended funding amount.

B. Approve Recommended 2020-2022 BCSR Awards

Amin Al-Sarraf moved to approve the proposals at the funding amounts as recorded in the attached list of recommendations, Richard Reinis, seconded, and the Committee unanimously approved by roll call vote. (See Attachment for Recommendations)

It is noted that Dr. Jim Meeker abstained from voting on projects where Public Law Center is a subgrantee.

IV. NEXT STEPS FOR BANK GRANTS COMMITTEE

A. Discussion of 2020-2022 BCSR Applications Requiring Additional Program Follow-up

Staff will inform all the programs that the Committee recommended to fund and ask programs to submit revised applications and budgets based on the recommended grant amount.

B. Potential scheduling of November 22 Committee Meeting to Finalize Award Recommendations

If there are any substantive issues with the revised applications, they will be presented to the Committee at the next Bank Grant Committee meeting scheduled for November 22, 2019.

C. Review Expenditures, Outcomes and Evaluations for BCSR Grants 2018-2020

The Committee was informed of the upcoming staff effort to review and compile all the outcome and evaluation data collected for the BCSR Grants into a final report. A lot of the evaluation data is in narrative form and staff requested Dr. Meeker's assistance with this effort. Dr. Meeker agreed to assist.

D. Calendar of Bank Grants Committee Meeting for 2020

The Committee agreed to table this agenda until the current distribution is finalized.

V. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

ATTACHMENT

2020 Bank Grant Recommendations

2020 Bank Grant Committee Recommendations

2020 Bank Grant Applications													
	Organization	Funding Program	Project Title	Total RFP Request	Award Per Year	Previous Bank Grant Award	Substantive Area(s)	Constituency	Geographic Area(s)	Total FTEs Per Year	Subgrantee Organizations	Subgrantee Amount	Bank Grant Committee Recommended Amount
1	California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Senior Equity Protection	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$130,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Low-income seniors (62+); Spanish-speakers	Alameda, Los Angeles, Monterey, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Francisco	0.3-0.4 FTE Senior Staff Attorney; 0.5 FTE Program Manager; 0.3-0.4 FTE Outreach/Education Coordinator	Legal Assistance for Seniors; Legal Service for Seniors	\$65k/Yr 1, \$68k/Yr 2, \$72k/Yr 3; LSS: \$50k/Yr 1, \$52k/Yr 2, \$55k/Yr 3	\$ 300,000
2	California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Foreclosure Prevention	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$275,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Homeowners 50+ (incl. women, people of color, individuals w/ disabilities, immigrants and LEP), and young & low-income owners who have inherited	Statewide	0.37-0.65 FTE Attorney; 0.05 FTE Foreclosure Supervisor; 0.10 - 0.25 FTE Foreclosure Paralegal; 0.15 - 0.25 FTE Foreclosure Coordinator	Housing & Economic Rights Advocates (HERA)	\$87.5k/year	\$ 450,000
3	Community Legal Aid SoCal	Community Redevelopment Grant	Housing Element Accountability Initiative	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$250,000/year	Affordable housing	Low-income	LA; OC	0.60 FTE Attorney; 0.21 FTE Paralegal; 0.07 Legal Secretary	The Kennedy Commission	\$75k/year	\$ 250,000
4	East Bay Community Law Center	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Northern California Foreclosure Prevention Collaborative	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$175,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Low-income homeowners, communities of color, older adults, natural disaster victims	Alameda, Contra Costa, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Sonoma	0.67-0.75 FTE Attorney; 0.2 Program Manager; 0.05-0.1 Data Scientist	Bay Area Legal Aid; Legal Aid of Sonoma County	BALA: \$95k/year; LASC: \$30k/year	\$ 500,000
5	Family Violence Appellate Project	Community Redevelopment Grant	Stabilizing Communities Through Housing and Employment Justice for Domestic Violence Survivors, Focusing on Native American and Rural Communities	\$ 863,058	\$ 287,686	\$100,000/year	Housing and employment	DV survivors	Statewide	1.11 FTE Attorney; 0.02 FTE Paralegal; 0.03 FTE Other Staff	Legal Aid at Work; National Indian Justice Center; California Partnership to End DV	\$100k/year; \$30k/year; \$15k/year	\$ 300,000
6	Inner City Law Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	Affordable Housing Strategies and Advocacy	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$190,000/year	Affordable housing	Low-income	Alameda; Contra Costa; Fresno; Kern; LA; Medera; Merced; Riverside; Sacramento; SD; Tulara	1 FTE Attorney; 0.30 FTE Policy Advocate	ACCE Institute; Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability	\$130k/year	\$ 650,000
7	Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights	Community Redevelopment Grant	Collaboration for Transformative Community Redevelopment: Building Equitable Ownership of Land, Labor, Capital and Power	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$150,000/year	Transactional assistance to small businesses	Low-and moderate-income people of color, predominantly small business owners, farmers, and tenants from Black, Latinx, and Asian communities	Statewide	0.60 - 0.88 FTE Attorney; 0.10 - 0.30 FTE Paralegal	Sustainable Economies Law Center; Asian Pacific Environmental Network	\$95k/year; \$50k/year	\$ 450,000
8	Legal Aid at Work	Community Redevelopment Grant	Network Against Wage Theft	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$120,000/year	Wage theft	Women, immigrants	Statewide	1.65 FTE Attorney; 0.50 FTE Paralegal	Center for Workers' Rights; Watsonville Law Center; Legal Aid Society of San Bernardino; Centro Laboral de Graton	\$75k/year; \$10k/year; \$10k/year; \$10k/year	\$ 900,000
9	Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Central Coast Foreclosure Prevention Program	\$ 456,000	\$175,000/Yr 2 & 3	\$115,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Seniors, LEP, and other low-income individuals at risk of foreclosure	Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura	0.13-0.5 FTE Attorney; 0.25-0.5 FTE Paralegal	San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation	\$60k/year	\$ 300,000
10	Legal Aid of Sonoma County	Community Redevelopment Grant	North Bay Regional Housing Preservation Project	\$ 905,001	\$ 301,667	\$175,000/year	Affordable housing and tenants rights	Tenants of color, seniors, and people with disabilities	Statewide: Northern California, Bay Area	0.23 - 1.98 FTE Attorney; 0 - 0.35 FTE Paralegal; 1.44 - 1.90 FTE Other Staff	Bay Area Organizing Committee; Legal Aid of Marin; Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California; North Bay Organizing Project	\$53,563/year 2 & 3; \$25k/year; \$71.5k/year 2 & 3; \$65k/year 2 & 3	\$ 500,000
11	OneJustice	Community Redevelopment Grant	Inland Empire Community Redevelopment Pro Bono Project	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$125,000/year	Transactional assistance to small businesses	Rural small business owners	Riverside; San Bernardino	1.09 - 1.40 FTE Attorney; 0.06 - 0.10 FTE Other Staff	Bet Tzedek; Legal Aid of San Bernardino; Inland Empire Latino Lawyers Association; Catholic Charities of San Bernardino & Riverside Counties	141/year	\$ 800,000
12	Public Advocates Inc.	Community Redevelopment Grant	Bay Area Regional Community Redevelopment Collaboration	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$200,000/year	Affordable housing tenant rights	Low or extremely low-income renter households	Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma	0.49 FTE Attorney; 0.17 FTE Other Staff	Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto; East Bay Community Law Center; Tenants Together; Urban Habitat	\$100k/year; \$100k/year; \$45k/year; \$45k/year	\$ 400,000
13	Public Counsel	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Southern California Foreclosure Prevention Collaborative	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$225,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Elderly, individuals w/ disabilities, monolingual Spanish, low-income homeowners and people of color	Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego	1-1.1 FTE Attorneys; 0.1-0.2 Directing Attorney; 0.10-0.16 Paralegals	Bet Tzedek; Public Law Center; Elder Law & Advocacy; Inland Counties Legal Services	\$114.7k/year; \$70.3k/year; \$40.7k/year; \$29.6k/year	\$ 700,000
												TOTAL	\$ 6,500,000
14	Advancing Justice-Los Angeles	Community Redevelopment Grant	Reforming the Nail Salon Industry	\$ 648,645	\$ 216,215	\$150,000/year	Employment	Nail salon technicians	Alameda, LA, OC, SF, San Mateo, Santa Clara	1.2 FTE Attorneys	California Healthy Nail Salon Collaborative; Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Asian Law Caucus	\$20k/year; \$20k/year	Not recommended for funding
15	Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Central Valley-East Bay Homeowner Assistance Program	\$ 975,000	\$ 325,000	\$100,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Immigrant, elder and LEP homeowners, potential homeowners, and tenants	Alameda, Contra Costa, Merced, San Joaquin, Solano, Stanislaus	1 FTE Attorney; .025 FTE Managing Attorney	Lao Family Community Empowerment; The Bridge Community Center; Filipino Advocates for Justice	\$206.4k/year, didn't specify how much to each subgrantee	Not recommended for funding
16	Central California Legal Services	Community Redevelopment Grant	Technical Assistance Affordable Housing	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$275,000/year	Fair housing	Low-income with focus on Latino and Hmong	Fresno; Kings; Merced; Tulare	1-2 FTE Attorney	California Coalition for Rural Housing; California Housing Partnership	\$60k/year; \$60k/year	Not recommended for funding
17	Child Care Law Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	Eliminating Child Care Deserts and Creating Opportunities for Families	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$160,000/year	Affordable child care programs	Women of color below 400%FPL	Statewide	0.15 FTE Attorney; 0.35 FTE Paralegal	Public Counsel	\$87.5k/year	Not recommended for funding
18	Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund	Community Redevelopment Grant	Inclusive Emergency Planning in Schools	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$170,000/year	School emergency planning	Disabled students	Statewide	0.55 FTE Attorney; 0.05 FTE Other Staff	California Foundation for Independent Living Centers	\$35k/year	Not recommended for funding
19	Family Violence Law Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	A Roof of One's Own Project	\$ 1,199,319	\$ 399,773	\$75,000/year	Homelessness prevention	DV survivors	Statewide	1.10 FTE Attorney; 0.02 Other Staff	Building Futures with Women and Children; California Partnership to End DV; Family Violence Appellate Project; National Alliance for Safe Housing	\$5k/year; \$141k/year; \$67k/year; \$10k/year	Not recommended for funding
20	Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law	Community Redevelopment Grant	The Protection and Preservation of Wealth Assets and Income in Dissolution Cases	\$ 328,338	\$ 109,446	\$34,320/year	Family law	Older family law litgants in marriages of 10+ years	LA	0.52 FTE Attorney; 0.08 FTE; 0.14 FTE Other Staff	Advancing Justice - LA; CA Womens' Law Center; Community Legal Aid SoCa; ICLS; LAFLA; Legal Aid San Bernardino; LA Center for Law and Justice; NLS; Sojourn; SD Volunteer Lawyer Program	\$0	Not recommended for funding
21	Immigrant Legal Resource Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	Immigrant Community Education and Empowerment in San Joaquin Valley	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$120,000/year	Immigration	Immigrants in San Joaquin; low-income farmwaorkers	Fresno; Kern; Kings; Madera; Merced; San Joaquin; Stanislaus; Tulare	?	Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative; Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indigena Oaxaqueno; El Quinto Sol de America; Empowering Marginalized Asian Communities	\$230k/year	Not recommended for funding
22	Inland Counties Legal Services	Community Redevelopment Grant	Nonprofit Legal Assistance Project (NLAP)	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$275,000/year	Transactional assistance to nonprofits	Low-income communities who would benefit from nonprofits	Riverside; San Bernardino	0.95 FTE Attorney; 0.25 FTE Other Staff	Community Partners	\$24k/year	Not recommended for funding
23	Justice & Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco	Community Redevelopment Grant	Know Your Rights: Intact Families, Stable Communities	\$ 745,452	\$ 248,484	\$25,000/year	Immigration	Immigrant communities	Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus, Tulare	0.55 FTE Attorney; 0.50 Other Staff	Watsonville Law Center; Central Valley Immigrant Integration Collaborative	\$76k/year; \$75k/year	Not recommended for funding
24	Justice in Aging	Community Redevelopment Grant	Senior Housing Advocacy Coalition	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$150,000/year	Affordable housing	Seniors	Statewide	0.56 FTE Attorney; 0.16 FTE Other Staff	Bet Tzedek; Legal Assistance for Seniors	\$75k/year; \$75k/year	Not recommended for funding
25	Learning Rights Law Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	Healthy Homes Education Outreach Project	\$ 880,215	\$ 293,405	\$175,000/year	Lead poisoning and early education interventions	Low-income families with children living in multi-family homes	Regional: Central Coast, Southwestern California	0.08 - 0.30 FTE Attorney; 0.16 FTE Paralegal; 0.66 FTE Other Staff	Healthy Homes; Inquilinos Unidos; Coalition for Economic Survival	\$60k/year; \$65k/year; \$65k/year	Not recommended for funding
26	Legal Access Alameda	Community Redevelopment Grant	Community and Business Resiliency - "Start Small California"	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$120,000/year	Transactional assistance to small businesses	Low-income early-stage small business owners	Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara	0.14 - 0.35 FTE Attorney; 1.04 -2.04 FTE Paralegal; 0.20 FTE Other Staff (1st yr only)	Start Small Think Big	\$52,87k/year	Not recommended for funding
27	Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	Community Redevelopment Grant	LAFLA-THRIVE BCSR Community Redevelopment Partnership	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$250,000/year	Community organizing, affordable housing	Low-income members of community land trusts and potential new CLTs	Los Angeles, Orange	1 FTE Attorney; 0.1 FTE Managing Attorney; 0.2-0.5 FTE Paralegal	THRIVE	\$45k/Yrs 1 & 2; \$65k/Yr 3	Not recommended for funding
28	Legal Aid Society of San Diego	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	Foreclosure Prevention Program	\$ 750,000	\$ 250,000	\$275,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Low-to-middle-income homeowners, elderly, LEP, living in rural areas	Imperial, San Diego	2.09 FTE Attorney; 0.24 FTE Accounting Staff	Elder Law and Advocacy, Media Arts Center San Diego	\$50k/year (\$25k/year each)	Not recommended for funding
29	Legal Services for Children	Community Redevelopment Grant	Equitable Access to Education and Opportunity	\$ 604,755	\$ 201,585	\$25,000/year	School discipline practices	Students, parents/caregivers in school districts with high rate of expulsion and racial disparity	Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, San Fancisco, San Maateo, Solano	0.75 FTE Attorney; 0.18 FTE Paralegal; 0.49 FTE Other Staff	San Mateo County Bar Association; Coleman Advocates for Youth	\$0	Not recommended for funding

	Organization	Funding Program	Project Title	Total RFP Request	Award Per Year	Previous Bank Grant Award	Substantive Area(s)	Constituency	Geographic Area(s)	Total FTEs Per Year	Subgrantee Organizations	Subgrantee Amount	Bank Grant Committee Recommended Amount
30	National Center for Youth Law	Community Redevelopment Grant	Community Redevelopment Through Transforming Educational Experiences of California's Most Vulnerable Youth	\$ 1,200,000	\$ 400,000	\$150,000/year	Education	System-involved students (foster care and juvenile justice system)	Northern California, Bay Area, Central Coast, Central Valley, Southwestern California	1.17 - 1.42 FTE Attorney; 1.33 FTE Other Staff	John Burton Advocates for Youth; Public Council; Law Foundation of Silicon Valley: Legal Advocates for Children & Youth Program; California Collaborative for Youth	\$10k/year each	Not recommended for funding
31	National Health Law Program	Community Redevelopment Grant	Maximizing Health Insurance to Avoid Medical Debt	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$36,222/year	Health Insurance/medical debt	Californians eligible for Medi-Cal and/or Medicare Savings Programs, and CovCA with Advanced Premium Tax Credits	Statewide	0.88 FTE Attorney; 0.05 FTE Other Staff	Justice in Aging	\$75k/year	Not recommended for funding
32	National Housing Law Project	Foreclosure Prevention Grant	California Foreclosure Prevention Collaborative	\$ 975,000	\$ 325,000	\$200,000/year	Foreclosure prevention	Senior, LEP, and rural homeowners	Statewide	0.54 FTE Attorneys; 0.23 Tech/Web/Comm Support	UCI Consumer Law Clinic; Public Counsel; Public Law Center; Bet Tzedek	\$115k/year; \$50k/year; \$10k/year; \$50k/year	Not recommended for funding
33	Public Law Center	Community Redevelopment Grant	Orange & San Diego Counties Low-Income Entrepreneurs Project	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$220,000/year	Small business entrepreneurship	Low-income communities in Orange/SD, special attention to immigrants, refugees, women, vets, military	Orange, San Diego	0.7 FTE Attorney; 0.15 FTE Directing Attorney; 0.2 FTE Paralegal	San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Inc.	\$75k/year	Not recommended for funding
34	Western Center on Law and Poverty	Community Redevelopment Grant	California Support Center Collaborative: Increasing Affordable Housing and Protecting the Rights of Tenants	\$ 975,000	\$ 325,000	\$200,000/year	Affordable housing	Cost-burdened renters in urban and rural communities (disproportionately people of color)	Statewide	0.3 FTE Attorneys and Advocates; 0.03 FTE Senior Paralegal; 0.03 Program Support Staff	National Housing Law Project; The Public Interest Law Project; California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation	\$229.1k/year (approx. \$76.4k/year each)	Not recommended for funding
35	Worksafe, Inc.	Community Redevelopment Grant	Sacramento Worker Advancement Project	\$ 525,000	\$ 175,000	\$175,000/year	Workers' rights	Low-income and immigrant workers of color	Sacramento	1.09 FTE Attorneys; 0.15 FTE other	Center for Workers' Rights	\$75k/year	Not recommended for funding