

# **Liberty Hill Foundation** 2019 Impact Report

CHANGE the RULES CHANGE the NARRATIVE CHANGE the GAME

# **CHANGE. NOT CHARITY.**



## Liberty Hill is the Home for Progressive Los Angeles

- We fuel grassroots organizing
- We support activists fighting for change
- We prioritize building power in communities impacted by systemic oppression

### We

are a convener and facilitator that brings unusual allies together to affect change. We give donor-activists opportunities to engage beyond their financial commitment.

We fund and support grassroots organizations leading social justice campaigns.

We train the next generation of leaders to represent their communities within movement campaigns and government. help organizations build capacity for future success.

"Liberty Hill is my passport to Los Angeles. I'm so happy that this group of dynamic, engaged and intelligent people are all working to make this a better place." – Donor-Activist Jane Peebles

# **LIBERTY HILL FOUNDATION**

### **OUR VISION**

Liberty Hill envisions a society in which all people have a powerful voice, including those currently shut out of our democracy, people cut off from opportunities because they are poor, because of their skin color, because of their gender or sexual orientation, because of where they live, or where they were born.

We will not rest until society provides justice and equality for all.



### **OUR MISSION**

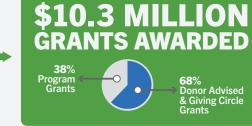
Liberty Hill is a laboratory for social change philanthropy. We leverage the power of community organizers, donor activists and allies to advance social justice through strategic investment in grants, leadership training and campaigns.

# **BY THE NUMBERS: 2019**

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More than **2,000** organizers, advocates, and donor-activists activated.

Launched **4** government partnerships totaling over **\$2 million**.

# **HOW LIBERTY HILL POWERS CHANGE**

As a **foundation**, we provide critical funding for grassroots organizations leading social justice campaigns and policy initiatives to address racial and economic disparities in our region.

As a leading **nonprofit** convener and facilitator, Liberty Hill brings unusual allies together to fuel the type of systemic change that has the potential to positively impact the lives of millions of Angelenos.

Our **Wally Marks Leadership Institute** helps our community partners build capacity for future success and prepares local emerging leaders to sit on boards and commissions to represent the interests of their communities.

**Strengthen Our** 

Communities

**Several Strategies to** 

Liberty Hill helps grassroots organizers in Los Angeles achieve justice and equity by building power in communities most impacted by systemic oppression.

We focus our efforts on Los Angeles County because we understand that what happens in L.A. influences the nation.

Liberty Hill has championed and funded the region's changemakers, visionaries, and fighters for justice for more than 40 years. Our current Agenda for a Just Future aims to eliminate neighborhood oil drilling, fight for a roof over every head, and end youth incarceration as we know it.

Liberty Hill provides its grantee partners with three key resources critical to success: Grants, Training, and Campaign Support.

Through a combination of grantmaking, leadership training, and advocacy campaigns, we support the organizers tackling injustice on the ground. We've stood alongside communities impacted by systemic oppression as an ally in the fight for change, worked closely with the organizers driving this work, and provided seed funding to innovative grassroots social change organizations while continuing to support the anchor organizations that form the backbone of communities across Los Angeles.



84% of our Fund for Change grantees are led by women of color.



"Get active. Get involved. Tell your friends. And let's keep making progress." – Donor-Activist Sylvia Patton I am so pleased to share the Liberty Hill Foundation 2019 Impact Report. Like you, my passion for justice and love of Los Angeles run deep.

This past year, I was so inspired by the many victories we saw emerge out of our Agenda for a Just Future and the movements to end youth incarceration as we know it, fight for a roof over every head and eliminate toxic neighborhood oil drilling. Our grantees and community partners never gave up the fight for justice and progress, and our dedicated donor-activists and supporters never gave up their belief in our work and mission to build a more just L.A.



It is because of your support and the hard work of activists and organizers on the ground that Liberty Hill was able to play such

an important role in powering the victories that are changing the narrative around youth incarceration, changing the rules for vulnerable tenants, and changing the game to eliminate toxic oil drilling near our homes and schools. Through our grant awards and our leadership institute, we also continue to support LGBTQ equality, workers' rights, immigrant rights, and other critical power-building efforts to achieve equity and justice.

As you will see in this Impact Report, 2019 brought us important new renter protections in the Los Angeles region; it saw enactment of the historic L.A. County Sustainability Plan; and, in 2019 we helped steer more than \$100 million in state and local funds toward youth development and diversion programs and away from a harmful and broken punishment system.

We've done none of that alone, of course.

It has been the incredible partnerships between our staff, board, grantees, government, foundations and donor activists that made 2019 such a successful year for Liberty Hill. We know that the work of justice takes time and commitment; strategy and power; donors and activists; visionaries, leaders, organizers, and communities.

You are truly what makes us the Home for Progressive Los Angeles.

As you review our work over the past year, I hope you recognize that we know this kind of progress would not be possible without the commitment and tenacity of our dedicated grantees and community partners. Los Angeles is a better place because of all the people, organizations, and institutions Liberty Hill partnered with to achieve these amazing victories in 2019.

And this is just the beginning. With your continued support we can push forward, build momentum and keep the fight for progress going until we secure the just future for which we are all fighting.

In Solidarity,

Show Bordonith

Shane Murphy Goldsmith President/CEO Liberty Hill Foundation

# **THE AGENDA FOR A JUST FUTURE**

In 2017, Liberty Hill Foundation launched the Agenda for a Just Future to fight for our youth, our health, and our homes. While Los Angeles has always served as a nationwide beacon of social progress, our region faces huge challenges. We commit to take on those challenges by:

### ENDING YOUTH INCARCERATION AS WE KNOW IT

More young people are arrested and incarcerated in Los Angeles County than anywhere else in the United States.

### FIGHTING FOR A ROOF OVER EVERY HEAD

Los Angeles has more homeless people living on the streets than any region in the nation and one of the country's most unaffordable housing markets.

### ELIMINATING NEIGHBORHOOD OIL DRILLING

Los Angeles is the country's largest urban oil field.

Los Angeles Can Do Better We know these are not easy fights to win. But we are making progress. This past year, in communities across L.A. County, organizers, activists, and every day local residents secured major victories on everything from rent control to youth incarceration.

### They never gave up the fight and neither will we.

With our partners, we earned victories that are helping to change the narrative around youth incarceration, change the rules for tenants who have been pushed out by the current system, and change the game for residents living near toxic oil drilling sites. Liberty Hill is working with government and activists to achieve our bold *Agenda for A Just Future*. Liberty Hill launched four government partnerships totaling over \$2M in FY19:

- Ready to Rise
- emPower
- Countywide Sustainability Plan partnership
- L.A. County Tenant Outreach & Education Initiative

"My involvement with Liberty Hill has given me a rich education on how to be smart with philanthropy." – Donor-Activist Jeff Beall



# **THREE YEARS OF PROGRESSIVE CHANGE**

We made major progress on our Agenda for a Just Future goals this year by collaborating with our grantee partners to build community power. Our collective efforts resulted in:

ANNOUNCED closure of four youth jails, including one of the nation's largest juvenile halls	<b>CLOSED</b> the largest youth jail in the nation, Challenger Memorial Center; working to repur- pose into vocational training center	WON \$5M in new state resources for CA Youth Reinvestment Fund	PASSED New Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Plan, allocating tens of millions for preven- tion efforts instead of punishment	<b>ESTABLISHED</b> the nation's first civilian oversight commission for a probation department
WON two long-term rent control and eviction policies: L.A. County & Inglewood	WON statewide Tenant Protection Act, capping rents for 7 million+ renters	WON unprecedented eviction protec- tions and legal services in L.A. City & County	PASSED policy requiring rental assistance in Long Beach	R
PASSED L.A. County Sustainability Plan, the most ambitious in the nation, focused on equity and envi- ronmental justice	SECURED closure of Jefferson oil Drill Site & L.A. City oil wells at AllenCo site	LAUNCHED emPOWER pro- gram to connect residents in low income commu- nities of color to energy rebates		

Each and every milestone achieved as part of the Agenda for a Just Future is due to the efforts of the dedicated community organizations, advocates, activists, and civic leaders who have worked so hard to make change possible. Thanks to their hard work and tenacity we have made immeasurable progress toward our goal of creating a more just and equal Los Angeles for all. While there is still much work to be done, through our continued partnership we will persist in forging new paths to justice in the years to come.

### The Road to Rent Control in L.A.

CHANGING THE RULES

For decades, hundreds of thousands of tenants in unincorporated L.A. County had virtually no protection against exorbitant rent increases and unfair evictions, which fundamentally undermined their housing stability. The movement for change faced fierce, unrelenting, and well-funded opposition from the corporate landlord lobby. Thanks to the power of Liberty Hill-supported and tenant-led organizing and a growing housing justice movement across the state, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors approved a motion for permanent rent stabilization in Unincorporated L.A. County, while the state passed an historic anti-rent-gouging bill.

More than 400,000 tenants who live in unincorporated L.A. will now enjoy:

- Regulated rents on apartments and multi-family units built before 1995
- Fair eviction protections for all rental units
- A diverse and representative rent board
- An online rent registry to monitor rents throughout the county

Adequate relocation funding if tenants are evicted through no fault of their own East L.A., became a key figure in the local battle for rent control. Despite multiple attempts by her landlord to evict her and her family after increasing their rent more than \$500, Carolina remains in her home in East L.A. today due to the efforts of Unincorporated Tenants United, which Liberty Hill helped coordinate. They worked tirelessly to organize and empower a collective of tenants, including Carolina, to stand up for their rights.

Carolina's fight is emblematic of the struggle of thousands of tenants across the region.

"They told me I couldn't fight back. But then I got help from Union de Vecinos, the Los Angeles Tenants Union, and the Los Angeles Center for Community Law and Action. I found out that I wasn't alone. That this was happening all around. Others told me that without rent control I had no legal protections, but these organizations encouraged me to fight and to change the law. The support I got gave me the strength to organize my building and fight back."

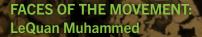
On the morning of the vote, Carolina spoke at a press conference hosted by tenants-rights champion Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, where she told her story to dozens of media outlets and supporters crowded on the steps of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. She emphasized that this fight was not just about her individual battle, but the fight for fair rents and housing across L.A. County.

"Without renter protections my landlord could continue to drive me into court and destroy my life and my family's life. I knew my community needed rent control for stability. I wasn't fighting for myself anymore, I was fighting on behalf of my entire community."

### "Never doubt the power of sharing your story."

-Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, District 3

# **CHANGING THE NARRATIVE**



One of the rising stars of the Youth Justice movement, LeQuan Muhammed has emerged as a voice for his local community and a shining example of the power of positivity and the promise of youth.

Growing up in South Central Los Angeles, LeQuan faced many of the systemic challenges and dangerous pitfalls young Black and Brown men are subjected to on a regular basis. He witnessed firsthand the impact of community violence. He heard the gunshots, walked past the yellow tape, and attended the funerals of friends gone too soon. His interactions with law enforcement left him feeling fearful and angry about the state of relations between the community and the police.

But once LeQuan was connected with the team at the Social Justice Learning Institute—a Liberty

### From Youth Incarceration to Youth Development

Liberty Hill's work to change the narrative around youth incarceration and change the system for thousands of high potential youth took center stage this past year with the launch of several new initiatives and partnerships that are helping to achieve our goal of creating the largest youth development system in the country. In partnership and in support of our front-line organizers, we advocated for and secured more than \$100 million in County and State funding that, rather than being spent on punitive and ineffective incarceration programs, will be directed toward community-centered youth development services in Los Angeles County.

Hill grant recipient and partner—he found his voice and a renewed sense of purpose. Now, he's fighting to change the narrative for young people of color across Los Angeles. He was instrumental in fighting for the recent passage of Proposition 47, which reclassified certain non-violent felony convictions to misdemeanors, freeing up people with low-level offenses to find jobs and integrate back into society more effectively. It also freed LeQuan's own father from incarceration, giving him an opportunity at a fresh start.

Recently, President Obama honored LeQuan with a special letter acknowledging his efforts and encouraging him to continue the fight for the lives and futures of Black and Brown youth across Los Angeles and the country.

"I'm ready to dedicate the rest of my life to social justice and commit myself to this work."

-LeQuan Muhammed

### Activists Move the Needle On Environmental Justice Fights

For Liberty Hill, environmental justice is a cornerstone of social justice. For low income and communities of color, the dangers of exposure to environmental hazards that increase cancer risk and other health consequences are most severe. This past year, activists won major victories in the fight to change the game for local residents and end toxic oil drilling near our homes and schools. Among the successes, officials announced the permanent closure of the Jefferson oil drilling site in South L.A. This was a huge victory for a community that has been fighting for years to remove this toxic presence from their neighborhood.

YOUTH



# **CHANGING THE GAME**

FACES OF THE MOVEMENT: Nalleli Cobo This past year, the youth climate movement sprang into action in a major way. With coordinated climate protests across the globe and increased civic engagement here at home, today's youth are leading the way toward the environmental justice victories of tomorrow. One of these rising stars is Liberty Hill Leader to Watch Nalleli Cobo, a fierce environmental activist who was highlighted on CNN this year for her work to end neighborhood oil drilling. She spoke at the 2019 L.A. Climate March alongside fellow youth activist Greta Thunberg and encouraged more youth to get involved with the movement.

Nalleli's personal battle with pollution first came to our attention five years ago after she was severely sickened by toxic airborne chemicals from an urban oil drilling facility across the street from her South Los Angeles home. At the young age of 13, she joined a concerned group of neighbors and began her foray into community organizing with the goal of putting a permanent stop to the drilling. She eventually succeeded in suspending oil extraction at the site. Now Nalleli is an important player in the movement to end oil drilling across L.A. and a national voice for youth fighting for environmental justice.

# WALLY MARKS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Launched in 2010 and named in memory of longtime Liberty Hill donor-activist and Board member Wally Marks, the Wally Marks Leadership Institute (WMLI) provides invaluable leadership development, peer-learning, coaching, and skills-based trainings to grassroots social justice organizations. WMLI is built on the principle that in order to achieve racial and economic justice, we must invest in community-based organizations and movement leaders. Over the past decade, we have trained more than 1,000 individuals representing more than 80 social justice organizations.

While many foundations, including Liberty Hill, support specific campaigns for social justice, WMLI takes this support a step further and directs resources toward the training, organizational infrastructure, and leadership development that are crucial to sustaining community organizations for the long haul. Through WMLI, we help community organizations strengthen various aspects of their work – for example, how to expand membership bases, develop and execute fundraising plans, engage media to lift up members' personal stories, recruit visionary board members, and build the infrastructure and strategic discipline needed for effective community organizing, advocacy, and sustainability. In 2019, we dramatically expanded the reach of WMLI. Through the Ready to Rise Initiative, the County of Los Angeles dedicated \$2.8 million in order for Liberty Hill and our partners to provide leadership development trainings, coaching, and peer-learning opportunities to 49 youth-serving organizations. As part of our initiative to fight for a roof over every head, WMLI also provided specialized training to several grassroots tenant unions and housing organizing groups to sharpen their outreach, leverage communication tools, and fine tune their campaigns.

Through the Liberty Hill Commissions Training Program we launched in 2013, WMLI continues to develop emerging local leaders. This program ensures that the region's Boards and Commissions have representation from strong community voices who will advocate for equitable policies and decisions on behalf of all of our communities. The program has helped place at least 43 community activists on city, county, and statewide commissions.

In 2020, we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Leadership Institute.

"I applied for the Commissions program because I felt limited in my ability to truly advance equity for youth in Los Angeles. The program taught me the practical skills needed to engage in commissions work, but more importantly, it empowered me to own my expertise and utilize my knowledge effectively to advance equity for youth."

Leanndra Martinez
2019 WMLI Commissions Training Graduate
Intake Specialist, First Place for Youth

# **PARTNERSHIPS LEAD THE WAY TO PROGRESS**

### This past year Liberty Hill expanded our partnerships

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### **Obama Foundation Partnership Launches**

Our work with the Obama Foundation got off to a rousing start with the announcement of Liberty Hill as a backbone partner for the Los Angeles County My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Impact Community Initiative, which includes 15 community and government partners. Our work is focused on building the power of youth organizing in L.A. County to end youth incarceration as we know it and expand successful youth development programs. We also joined President Obama, along with youth leaders and activists from across the country, to celebrate progress and encourage young people of color to keep striving for systems level changes at The Obama Foundation's first national MBK Rising! convening in Oakland.



### Climate and Energy Funders Tour: From the Well to the Wheel

Liberty Hill played a leadership role in the annual meeting of the national Climate and Energy Funders conference. We hosted a bus tour that provided an opportunity for 40 funders to explore challenges and innovations around energy and the environment in Los Angeles. We also planned and moderated several panel sessions that highlighted the cutting-edge work of community organizations, research institutes and L.A. elected officials who are advancing solutions to address the climate crisis. The tour, conducted on a 100% electric bus provided by BYD, explored the fossil fuel life cycle, showing urban oil drilling sites next to homes and schools, as well as the massive oil refinery complex in Wilmington, and the region's network of freeways and goods movement corridors, which contribute to both health and climate problems.



# LIBERTY HILL HAPPENINGS IN 2019

Philanthropy Summit Brings Donor Activists Together To Discuss Solutions

Liberty Hill held our first ever Summit for Progressive Philanthropy in 2019, with a keynote address by Bryan Stevenson, author of the best-selling book and film Just Mercy. The sold-out event brought our expanding community of donor-activists, foundation and community leaders, and policymakers together to pool our energy and ideas on how we can use our collective power to advocate for grassroots social change in L.A.

"We have to get closer to the parts of our communities that are suffering. We have to wrap our arms around people in order to facilitate change. It is in proximity that we find our power."

-Author Bryan Stevenson

### Our Movement, Our Moment: The 37th Annual Upton Sinclair Dinner Lights Up L.A

For 37 years, Liberty Hill's Upton Sinclair Awards Dinner has been the premier gathering for those at the epicenter of progress and justice in Los Angeles. This past year, we honored three dynamic leaders and organizing icons who have paved the way for progress in our community—former Liberty Hill executive director Torie Osborn, Senator Holly J. Mitchell, and political director of SEIU Local 2015, Board Co-Chair Jared Rivera. With more than 800 attendees, we raised more than \$587,000!



### Change L.A. Inspires Next Generation of Donor Activists

Change L.A. 2019 was a huge success thanks in part to Liberty Hill Champion Wendy Chang, who graciously opened her home to L.A.'s progressive movers and shakers for a lively discussion on recent success and the work to come on our Agenda for a Just Future goals. We also launched our Changemakers Giving Level for donor-activists who commit to giving at least \$1,200 annually in support of our mission to build a more just L.A.





### Youth Activists Lead Summit to Re-Imagine Justice System

Liberty Hill recently teamed up with the Los Angeles County Division of Youth Diversion and Development and the Los Angeles County My Brother's Keeper Initiative, along with other funders and county partners, to host the first L.A. County Youth Development Summit. This unique convening brought together more than 500 individuals, including elected officials, nonprofit leaders, researchers and youth, to address questions about the kind of support that youth need to reach their full potential, consider how our current systems are falling short, and discuss strategies for creating the largest youth development and pre-arrest diversion system in the country.

"What I really hope people take away from this event is humbleness, understanding and empathy as we continue this work."

– Justus Jones Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network (AIYN)

### L.A. County Sustainability Plan

In a major step forward, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to approve the first-ever L.A. County Sustainability Plan that Liberty Hill helped create. The plan includes recommendations for creating a sustainable economy and lifestyle by developing locally-sourced water, high-road jobs, healthy food, urban parks, affordable housing and transit, and eventually a fossil fuel-free economy. We engaged more than 135 nonprofits and nearly 400 residents in some of the most polluted communities of L.A. to help set the priorities and provide recommendations for the plan. We also provided funds to community-based organizations to lend their policy expertise and knowledge to help shape this unprecedented policy proposal.

Special thanks to our community partners: Communities for a Better Environment, Day One, East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Pacoima Beautiful, and SCOPE.

### Priced Out, Pushed Out, Locked Out

Liberty Hill Foundation published Priced Out, Pushed Out, Locked Out: How Permanent Tenant Protections Can Help Communities Prevent Homelessness and Resist Displacement in LA County with allies at Public Counsel, UCLA School of Law, Eastside LEADS and Unincorporated Tenants United. Priced Out combines statistical analysis with first-hand stories from tenants across unincorporated L.A. County and concludes with a series of policy recommendations, such as permanent rent stabilization, just cause eviction protection, and a Universal Right to Counsel for tenants. This report helped us win major victories in 2019.



### Liberty Hill Honors Our Champions

Our annual Champions Dinner is a special thank you for Donor-Activists who have committed at least \$10,000 annually to Liberty Hill's mission. Attendees shared moving personal stories of what brought them to this work and why they remain committed to its success through Liberty Hill. It was wonderful to bring so many of our most dedicated supporters together for a night of camaraderie, lively discussion, and an update on recent progress.

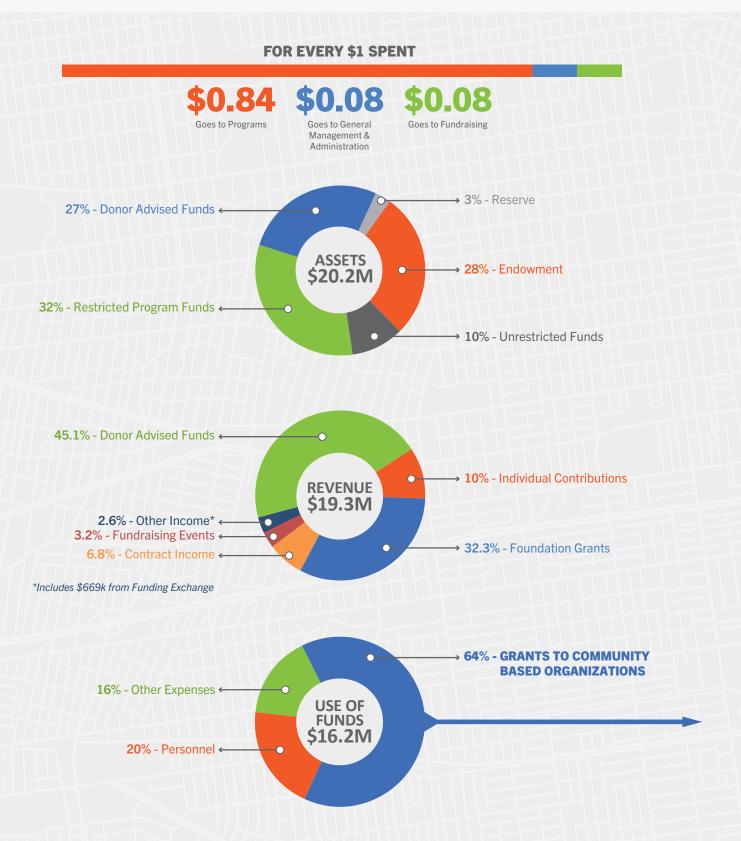


### Leadership Appreciation Brunch & Forum

The 2019 Forum featured a spirited debate between two of the country's leading progressive voices—Deepak Bhargava, Distinguished Lecturer in Urban Studies at the School of Labor and Urban Studies at the City University of New York (CUNY) and Dorian Warren, President of Community Change and Community Change Action and Co-Chair of the Economic Security Project. They led the attendees through a lively discussion on strategies for winning and governing in the current political landscape and discussed harnessing the enthusiasm and urgency of the moment to make substantive changes during the 2020 election cycle.



# **OUR FINANCIAL STRENGTH...**



A copy of Liberty Hill's complete, audited financial statements is available by contacting the Liberty Hill Foundation at 6420 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90048 323-556-7200, or online at www.libertyhill.org.

# ...GENERATES COMMUNITY POWER



Liberty Hill fueled progress by supporting our grantees in leading many powerful campaigns for racial and economic justice, resulting in 30+ victories, including:

- Legalized street vendors
- Established AirBnB regulations to protect workers and housing
- Los Angeles Unified School District funded 30 Community Schools
- Cancellation of \$1.7B contract to replace L.A. County Men's Central Jail
- Won Long Beach Measure WW to curb sexual harassment and reduce workloads for 3,000 hotel housekeepers
- Announced L.A. City Green New Deal

- Settled lawsuit to prevent seizure of homeless property
- \$2.4M Back Pay Settlement for workers against Playa Vista Car Wash
- People's Plan adopted by L.A. City, for the community plans in South L.A.

Our grantee partners now have more than **100,000** active members.

Liberty Hill works in collaboration with many organizations and individuals who spearheaded these campaigns and led the way toward these transformative victories. We are deeply grateful for the partnerships we have with our program grantees.

### ACCE Institute

Active San Gabriel Valley All of Us or None/ A New Way of Life **Anti-Eviction Mapping Project** The Anti-Recidivism Coalition Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network Asian Pacific Islander Equality -Los Angeles **California Healthy Nail Salon** Collaborative **California Immigrant Youth** Justice Alliance **Californians for Justice Education Fund** Children's Defense Fund - CA **CLEAN Carwash Initiative Coalition for Economic Survival Coalition for Educational Justice Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights** of Los Angeles **Community Asset Development Re-Defining Education Community Coalition** 

**Communities for a Better Environment Community Health Councils** Day One **Dignity and Power Now East Los Angeles Community** Corporation East Yard Communities for **Environmental Justice** Esperanza Community Housing Corporation **Garment Worker Center** Gender Justice I A **Genders & Sexualities Alliance** Network Gente Organizada Holman United Methodist Church Homies Unidos Housing Long Beach **Inner City Law Center InnerCity Struggle** Khmer Girls in Action

Korean Immigrant Workers Advocates of Southern California Korean Resource Center LA Voice Labor Community Strategy Center LeadersUp Long Beach Residents Empowered (LiBRE) Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy Los Angeles Black Worker Center Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade, Inc. Los Angeles Center for Community Law and Action Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN) Los Angeles LGBT Center **Million Voters Action Fund New America Foundation** Pacoima Beautiful **People Organized for Westside** 

Pilipino Workers Center of Southern California Physicians for Social Responsibility -Los Angeles Pomona Economic Opportunity Center **Redeemer Community Partnership Restaurant Opportunities Center of** Los Angeles Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples Social Justice Learning Institute Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE) Strategic Concepts in Organizing and Policy Education (SCOPE) T.R.U.S.T South L.A. Union de Vecinos **Urban Peace Institute** Warehouse Worker Resource Center Youth Forward Youth Justice Coalition

"What is the legacy you want to leave behind? Liberty Hill gives me the opportunity to leave a legacy I can be proud of." – Donor-Activist Sam Ho

Renewal (POWER)

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### **Ready To Rise**

In 2019, we launched a public-private partnership called Ready to Rise: Expanding Opportunities for All L.A. County Youth. The partnership between L.A. County Probation, Liberty Hill Foundation and the California Community Foundation has awarded \$12.5 million to 49 L.A. based nonprofits providing community-based youth development services. Nonprofits were awarded oneyear grants, ranging from \$50,000 to \$150,000.

This collaboration expands opportunities and resources for programs that keep youth out of the criminal justice system and help those in the system successfully transition back into the community. Organizations are receiving training and capacity-building support – expanding on the 10-year legacy and learning of Liberty Hill's Wally Marks Leadership Institute – to strengthen their programmatic and organizational effectiveness as well as address issues of racial equity within the justice system.

"This is about prioritizing racial equity. We are building the nation's largest youth development system, starting with the organizations that serve our highest need youth and ensuring these organizations have the means to secure their own futures in the process."

Shane Murphy Goldsmith
President/CEO
Liberty Hill Foundation

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### Our Kids, Our Future Pooled Fund

Led by Liberty Hill in partnership with California Funders for Boys and Men of Color-Southern California and the Los Angeles County Center for Strategic Partnerships, the Our Kids, Our Future Pooled Fund supports community organizing, advocacy, research and evaluation, capacity building, piloting innovative youth development programs, communications and narrative change, and leadership development. Our strategy is to Shrink, Close, and Invest. As we shrink the number of arrests and close youth jails and prisons, we will free up public funds to invest in the development and support of youth living in low-income neighborhoods and communities of color that have been affected by systemic oppression. To date we have convened more than 25 foundations, raised more than \$4 million dollars for organizing and advocacy, and aligned an additional \$3.5 million with the Center's help to align private funding with public sector dollars to support youth development activities.

### emPOWER Program Connects Residents to Energy Rebates

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In February Liberty Hill launched the emPOWER program, a county-wide outreach initiative focused on decreasing the demand for fossil fuels and supporting a just transition toward a generative economy. The program connects communities of color and low-income residents to more than 60 moneyand energy-saving programs, including ratepayer incentives, energy efficiency upgrades, solar and clean vehicle rebates, and much more. Liberty Hill has joined eight community partners with ties to the communities of South L.A., Boyle Heights, East L.A., Pomona, El Monte, Commerce, Bell, Bell Gardens, South Gate, Pacoima, and West and North Long Beach to make Los Angeles a greener and more sustainable place for all.

Liberty Hill

# **SUPPORTING THE MISSION, POWERING THE VISION**

Liberty Hill's **Home for Progressive Los Angeles** is a community filled with progressive philanthropists who want to see L.A. fulfill its potential as a beacon of equity and justice for all.

Our donor-activists are the backbone of our work at Liberty Hill, enabling us to provide the resources and support needed for grassroots organizations to scale up and win! Together, we help power the on-the-ground victories that have changed policies and lives across Los Angeles.



# Thank you to our donor-activists for their support this year!

### Donor-Activists Team Up with Youth To #UnlockJustice!

Liberty Hill donor-activists from across Los Angeles turned their energy into action this past year by sending letters and postcards to elected officials to encourage support for the state youth reinvestment grant to fund local youth development and diversion services. Our donors even organized their own kids—who brought more than 50 of their friends together for a student-led Postcard Party—encouraging elected officials to support alternatives to incarceration for youth. Together, they sent hundreds of postcards to elected officials and \$37 million dollars was approved!



# **BOARD AND STAFF**



# Liberty Hill Leaderhip

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS Officers:** Amelia Williamson Board Co-Chair Founder, AWA Consults **Jared Rivera** Board Co-Chair Political Director, SEIU Local 2015 Shana Weiss Vice Chair Community Activist Mark Smith Treasurer VP & Senior Lead Relationship Manager, Bank of the West **Angel Roberson-Daniels** Secretary Executive Director, The Angell Foundation Sarah Pillsbury **Board Emeritus** Principal, Sanford-Pillsbury Productions Mary Ann Braubach Documentary Filmmaker/Film Producer Jon Christensen Adjunct Assistant Professor, UCLA Institute of the Environment & Sustainability Marta Ferro President, Starfish Impact, Inc. **Paul Hernandez** Chief Strategy Officer, Fenton Communications Paula Litt Community Activist John Manulis President, Forward Fortune Doe Mayer Professor, USC School of Cinematic Arts Melinda Newman Executive Editor, Billboard Magazine Tim Silard President, Rosenberg Foundation Mitchell Singer Principal, Singer Philanthropy

### **CO-FOUNDERS**

Larry Janss Win McCormack Anne Mendel Sarah Pillsbury

### LEADERSHIP

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"I'm thinking about my legacy. When I wrote Liberty Hill into my will it was a defining moment, because although I'm not a wealthy person, I realized there are so many ways to give." – Donor-Activist Torie Osborn



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