

CEO Report February 23, 2022

1. I participated County Meeting Regarding ARPA funds on Jan. 31. The County's agenda stated *"Our hope is to strengthen our relationships with the nonprofit sector to collaboratively improve the quality of life of our residents. This roundtable will serve as a sounding board and will help develop a framework for recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) regarding the use of funds set aside from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). To establish the Roundtable, the County of Riverside has extended an invitation to 30 key nonprofit partners. As part of its response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Roundtable's purpose is twofold; to strengthen the collaboration between the county and the nonprofit sector, as well as to support the expansion of its financial capacity to meet present challenges and reimagine a better future."* The funding recommendations are expected to be forwarded to the BOS in June/July of this year. Breakout sessions were conducted to allow for greater input from those who participated. The next meeting is scheduled to take place on March 8.
2. I participated in the Funders Alliance Collaborative Grantmaking committee (February 3) and General meeting (Feb. 9). The primary topic for the General meeting was update on restructuring, Discussion on "pooled funding" which included the recent redistricting project. The Inland Empire Community Foundation provided a presentation of their organization and focused on their Policy Making agenda which they have received some grants to advance this work.
3. I participated in the Riverside County Health System's Health Equity Collaborative convening on Feb. 2nd and 3rd. The two-day virtual event included several speakers who provided information of programs addressing inequity in our region.
4. I provided a Letter of Support to Lift To Rise. You can [access to review here.](#)
5. Board Chair Pye, Stephanie and I met with Vince Battaglia on February 15 to find out how his renovation plans are proceeding. We learned that COVID caused him some disruptions which delayed his project several months. Instead of completing his project in December, he anticipates it being June or July. Also, Mr. Battaglia notified us that he is currently in escrow to purchase the Spectrum building located on Cook and adjacent to his building located in our joint complex. The building will alleviate the parking issue he faced with the City of Palm Desert. In addition to making some major upgrades to the building to have it look like his other two building, he plans to add solar and utilize the battery equipment in the building to be more energy efficient.
6. I had several meetings to explore a partnership with Riverside County Public health to administer two grants for them. The Tobacco grant would continue the work started in 2021, but with a more limited scope and reduced funding. On this topic. I was informed by Trini Arredondo that the Indio City Council approved the Tobacco Retail permit on Feb. 16. The decision was influenced by Trini's efforts during the grant period.
The second grant, the Nutrition and Health outreach was previously administered by the DHCD but they are no longer able to continue to administer the program since they are focusing on two specific Strategic Goals that are not in line with this program. Therefore, the County is seeking a partnership with RAP.
7. Staff Activities:
 - RAP staff and I conducted the Board Orientation process for our newest board member Karina.
 - Mireya and I met with a representative of OnBoard, a board management software. Per the Executive Committee, we will explore other software alternatives to improve staff efficiency on preparing and accessing agendas and meetings and to improve board experience during meetings.
 - We welcomed a new team member, Sandy Garcia on February 22. Sandy is our new book keeper, under the supervision of Nora who will be able to focus on Grants by having help.
 - I was notified by Palm Springs Life Editor in Chief Steven Biller that I will be among 3 "women who will be recognized for excelling professionally and as leaders and role models. I was selected as this year's Community/Nonprofit Leader. Honorees will be featured in the May 2022 issue of *Palm Springs Life* and feted at an awards luncheon on Thursday, May 26, at The Ritz-Carlton, Rancho Mirage."