



INTELLIGENT



INCLUSIVE



IMPACTFUL

# BizFed Institute

Defining the Voice of Business

The BizFed Institute is a sponsored project of Community Partners

## ANNUAL REPORT 2016

# OUR MISSION

The BizFed Institute educates, engages, equips and measures consensus solutions from civically minded, nonprofit, academic, and regional thought leaders for the purpose of building strong communities throughout California.

 Our VISION is to equip decision makers with comprehensive expertise and resources to impact change to build and sustain strong communities in this new economy.

The Institute was founded as a complement to BizFed and has grown in scope and impact over the last five years.

**Unlikely partners** from both public and private stakeholders take a **fearless approach** to mature problem solving by acknowledging that silos don't work. Age-old obstacles must be addressed by the very sides that hold them dear. And smart thinking alone isn't enough.

**Systematically benchmarking, organizing, and empowering the strongest advocates** is essential for adopting better public policy. In a proven way of removing bureaucracy, we get buy in from employers large and small to be the difference in effectiveness.

As a collective, we emphasize economic *growth*, educational *excellence*, and environmental *responsibility*.

**Biz  
Fed**Institute

Defining the Voice of Business

To get involved or donate to BizFed Institute's mission, please contact Helen Hua, Executive Director, at (323) 889-4345 or [helen.hua@bizfedinstitute.org](mailto:helen.hua@bizfedinstitute.org).

6055 E. Washington Blvd., Ste. 260, Commerce, CA 90040

# INTELLIGENT

The Institute is a credible clearinghouse for addressing and understanding policies that create jobs and alleviate poverty so every Californian has an opportunity to succeed.



**Biz Fed Institute**

Defining the Voice of Business

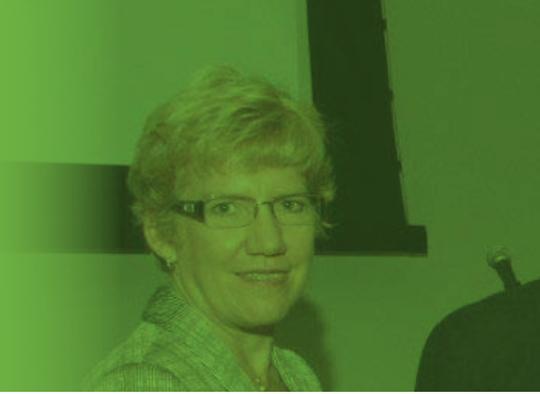
# INCLUSIVE

By careful purpose and design, thought leaders naturally opposed in their approaches to new economy challenges are convened to dig for untapped solutions.

# IMPACTFUL

The Institute works to understand and promote policies that uncover common ground, enabling innovation and economic growth to advance and protect the prosperity of our region.





## OUR IMPACT

### PROACTIVE ENGAGEMENT

- ▲ Housing forum resulted in consensus among diverse stakeholders to speed permitting and combat NIMBYism to deliver affordable and workforce housing
- ▲ Brought drought solutions to business community in advance of new state water rules to ensure reliable water supply
- ▲ Early focus on economic potential of hydraulic fracturing informed market adoption of California's cap-and-trade program

### COLLABORATION & ACCOUNTABILITY

- ▲ Convened Southern California's top water stakeholders with engaged elected officials and business leaders to collaborate on water reliability solutions
- ▲ Held state government accountable on California-Mexico Trade Office concept, resulting in Governor's memorandum of understanding to strengthen trade
- ▲ Worked with key health policy experts to educate small businesses on Affordable Care Act implementation and opportunities





## SOLUTIONS TO ACTION

- ▲ Connecting local employers to regional educational institutions to close the skills gap and provide experiential learning at scale
- ▲ Built consensus among diverse water stakeholders on need for statewide water bond and delivered that solution to advocacy groups for action
- ▲ Convened local government procurement experts to help small businesses navigate process for securing new contract opportunities
- ▲ Roundtable of top contracting leaders advanced best practices that inspired new small/minority/veteran-owned business utilization goals for LA County
- ▲ Export development mission to Colombia resulted in new international trade opportunities for LA-area businesses



# OUR REACH

DELIVERING SOLUTIONS TO CALIFORNIA'S  
LEADERS AND INFLUENCERS



**2,548**

business and community leaders



**612**

elected officials



**589**

print, radio,  
and television  
reporters and  
editors



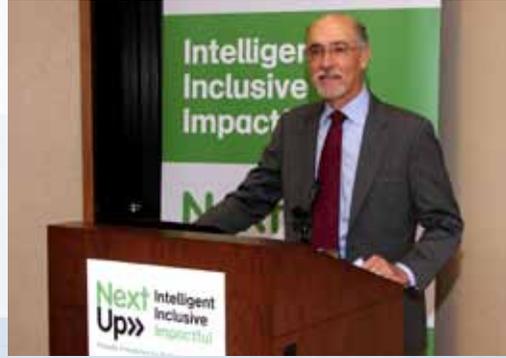
**H**ow many times have you been at a conference where the conversation goes in circles and doesn't progress the issue? Stakeholders agreeing with each other and not challenging the status quo?

The BizFed Institute focuses on convening a diverse group of experts in their fields, decision makers, and thought leaders from all sides of an issue to activate real change. We challenge ourselves to ensure we are never "preaching to the choir" and encourage debate between competing ideals around a host of impactful issues.

The facts and data produced by the BizFed Institute are easily accessible resources to be utilized in civic engagement across all sectors.



*For resources and materials from previous events, visit [bizfedinstitute.org](http://bizfedinstitute.org).*



# CASE STUDY

## CLEAN WATER FOR LIFE AND BUSINESS

1

Top experts from diverse and competing points of view convene to tackle California's water challenge



2

Engaged business leaders and elected officials challenge the experts and each other



3

Spirited discussion grounded in facts drives toward consensus

5

BizFed Institute delivers solution to diverse outside groups to drive advocacy in Sacramento



4

Consensus Solution: California needs a \$7.5 billion statewide water bond to fund vital projects, including groundwater recycle and capture



*Spirited discussions among panelists, including Steve Fleischli, Director and Senior Attorney, Natural Resources Defense Council, and Mark Pestrella, Chief Deputy Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, resulted in a consensus to push for a statewide water bond.*



- ▲ **Housing LA—From Talk to Action:** Delivering real solutions to California's housing affordability crisis.

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- ▲ **Silicon Beach vs. Silicon Valley:** Exploring lessons, contrasts, challenges, and synergies to strengthen California's innovation economy.

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- ▲ **Pushing "Reset" on Public Education:** Changing the paradigm to ensure both traditional public schools and public charter schools are delivering workforce readiness.

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- ▲ **The Future of Utilities:** Critical thinking on public policy challenges and opportunities to ensure effective and reliable utilities infrastructure for the current and future economy.

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- ▲ **Clean Water for Life and Business:** Brainstorming next steps to ensure the quality and reliability for California's long-term water supply.

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- ▲ **Immigration Policy and California's Economy:** Exploring solutions to ensure the most effective and innovative workforce for California's future.

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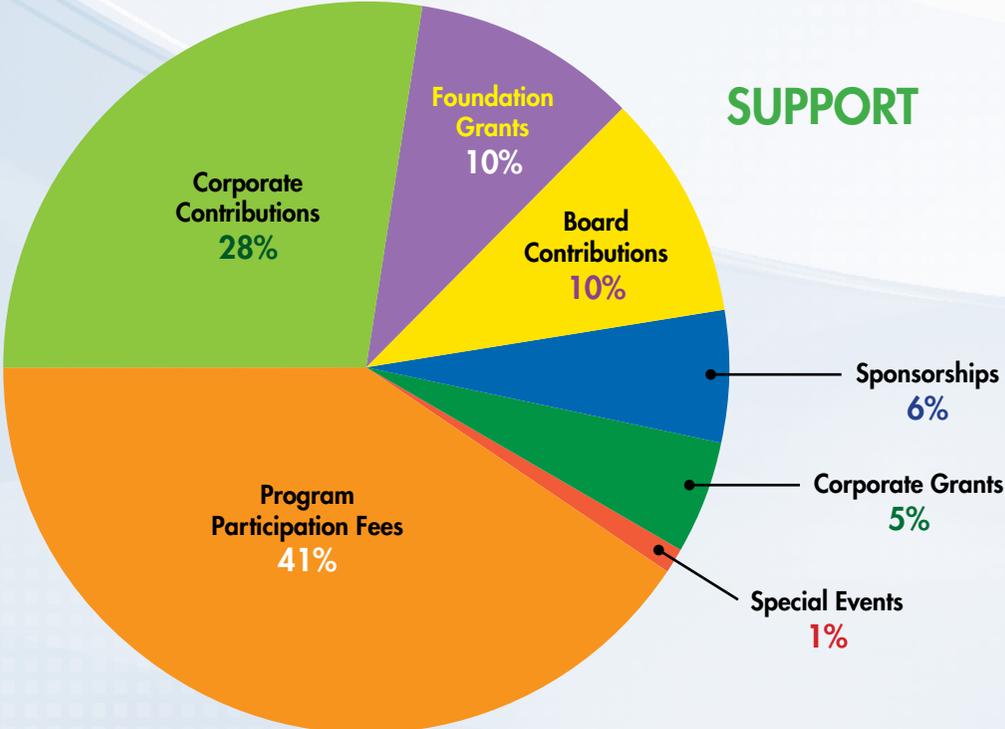
- ▲ **Launching partner of the California Policy Impact Project (C-PIP):** Surveying and measuring real world impacts of employers' implementation of newly enacted public policies.

*What's on **your** radar? What are the biggest issues affecting our economy?*

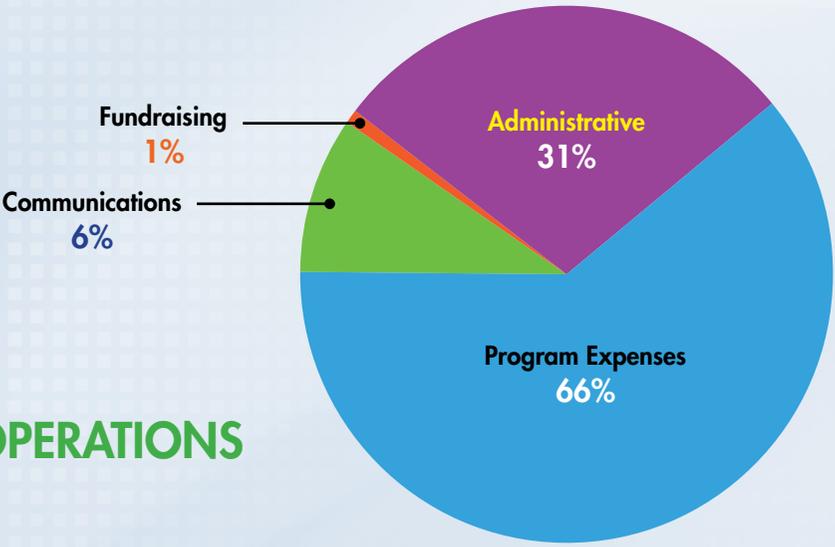


# SUPPORT & OPERATIONS

## SUPPORT



## OPERATIONS



# BizFedInstitute

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To get involved or donate to BizFed Institute's mission,  
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or [helen.hua@bizfedinstitute.org](mailto:helen.hua@bizfedinstitute.org).

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