



## Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute

*Nominations  
for the 2017  
cohort due  
11-18-16*

### What is the BCLI?

The Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute (BCLI) is a 6-month leadership program that supports, prepares, and places people of color and other underrepresented community members on targeted, publically appointed municipal boards and commissions, neighborhood associations and organizational boards that serve, influence and advance equity in South Sacramento.

### Program Model: "Seats First"

The BCLI recruits members to fill specific seats on key boards and commissions that have existing or potential influence over one or more of our core equity areas of housing, health, transportation, youth, education, and land use.

### Why Boards and Commissions?

Boards and commissions are often key decision making bodies on important equity issues, such as transit development and land use. Supporting people of color, youth and underrepresented communities to be a part of that process from the inside, advocating for their communities and a broader equity agenda, increases our chances of achieving significant change in our region.

### Who Participates in the BCLI?

Each cohort includes:

- Individuals who are active and engaged in their communities and organizations who are ready to advocate at a new level of change through policy and decision making.
- Candidates who are already in the appointment process for a board or commission.
- Newly seated board members and commissioners from the South Sacramento area who have been selected for their potential to advance equity in the region.
- Both adults and youth as young as 14 years old that live, work, or go to school in the South Sacramento Building Healthy Communities service area. For boundaries visit <http://sacbhc.org/about-us/>



South Sacramento Building Healthy Communities  
4625 44<sup>th</sup> Street  
Sacramento, CA  
<http://sacbhc.org/>

# Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute

## Get Plugged In!

As part of the BCLI, we ask cohort members to engage in a local community group or campaign so they can actively build their skills in between sessions. This engagement also helps build the network of support for the cohort as they seat board and commission seats.

For more information, contact: Katie Valenzuela Garcia at [katie@vgconsulting.org](mailto:katie@vgconsulting.org)

## The South Sacramento Building Healthy Communities

Our mission is to make where we live a healthier place for our residents. We're doing this by improving employment opportunities, education, housing, neighborhood safety, unhealthy environmental conditions, access to healthy foods and more.

As part of the California Endowment's 10-year, \$1 billion plan, we're helping to build healthy communities because the community is where health happens and that is where change begins.

For more information visit <http://sacbhc.org/>

## Setting the Agenda, Creating Change

The BCLI trains and places qualified candidates from diverse populations onto decision making bodies in the South Sacramento region. Our new leaders have the technical skills, political knowledge, and community support to advance a regional agenda for social justice. Our alumni serve as the next generation of appointed and elected officials who are representative of, and accountable to, the region's communities of color and other underrepresented populations.

## Training Approach

BCLI cohort members engage in a rich curriculum that results in individual transformation and collective, regional action. Members meet face-to-face and complete online assignments, including readings and multimedia resources, from February through July for a total of 80 hours. Our professional development model includes three core curriculum components. They are:

- **Knowledge Foundations**  
*Cohort members learn about the core issue areas through applied Knowledge Integration Sessions of housing, health, youth, education, transportation, and land use.*
- **Technical Skills**  
*Cohort members develop the technical skills required by commissioners such as Robert's Rules of Order and understanding financial statements.*
- **Political Skills**  
*Cohort members fine-tune their political skills through interactive trainings that cover topics such as communications, structural racialization, issue framing, and leadership styles.*

## "Just in Time" Mentoring

Graduates serving on boards and commissions have access to "just in time mentoring" through the Advisory Committee, and the promise of expedited consultations that support them in making informed, equitable decisions related to housing, land use, transportation, youth, education, and health. Experts who are a part of the Advisory Committee agree to be available for quick phone or email exchanges – or even impromptu brown-bag briefings.

## Alumni Program

The BCLI offers a rich alumni program that supports graduates of our institute and serves as a network of progressive commissioners in the region actively engaging to change the system from the inside out. Alumni play a key role in the BCLI by nominating, interviewing, and selecting incoming cohort members in following years. They also will help develop and facilitate curriculum, and provide mentorship support to new advocate commissioners.

For more information about the Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute in Sacramento, contact Katie Valenzuela Garcia at [katie@vgconsulting.org](mailto:katie@vgconsulting.org) or visit <http://sacbhc.org/>

The Boards and Commissions Leadership Institute was originally created by Urban Habitat in Oakland, CA. Learn more at [www.urbanhabitat.org](http://www.urbanhabitat.org)