

IMPACT REPORT 2013



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THE ONLY RESEARCH AND ACTION INSTITUTE
IN SAN DIEGO DEDICATED TO ECONOMIC JUSTICE



CPISanDiego



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Notes from the field:



“Over a hundred people showed up at this year’s evening budget hearing where we advocated for equity of infrastructure investments in our older, poorer neighborhoods. Many thanks to the Community Budget Alliance and CPI. This evening meeting would not have happened without their advocacy.”

- Anna Daniels, Library Organizing Project



“CPI’s Driven to Despair study did something very special for taxi drivers. It gave us a voice through research. Thank you CPI for educating the public and policy makers about our long hours, little wages and retaliation. I myself was retaliated against. This study helped me tell my story.”

- Abebe Antallo, Taxi driver for 7 years



“I gained so much practical experience and knowledge from the Students for Economic Justice program and so many connections to the organizing community in San Diego. Knowledge certainly is power and I feel much more empowered to speak on behalf of these issues and to change other people’s minds.”

-Janine Davis, Student for Economic Justice 2013

A letter from the Executive Director:

Dear Friends -

As 2013 comes to a close, I can't help but feel so proud of CPI and our supporters for all that we have accomplished over the past year. This has undoubtedly been a year of political surprises and challenges, but it has also been one of great opportunities and successes. With all the progress we have made in building local momentum for fair wages and equity in San Diego, CPI certainly has much to celebrate.

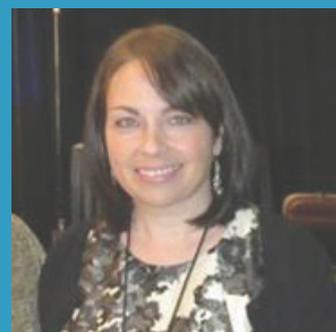
This year, we and our partners, through the Community Budget Alliance, convinced the city of San Diego to adopt equity factors into their decision making around infrastructure investment, making sure all neighborhoods get a fair shake. Neighborhoods also benefited from the creation of a registry to track foreclosures and hold banks accountable for upkeep. We published a study of the taxi industry in San Diego, *Driven to Despair*, revealing serious issues with driver wages and working conditions, public safety, and the regulatory system. We were proud to be part of the successful effort for high quality career opportunities on public construction projects in San Diego and the Southwestern Community College District. And we contributed to a strong future for the region by training eight more talented young organizers from our 2013 Students for Economic Justice program.

Overall, our progress in 2013 shows what can happen when we join together to overcome obstacles and focus on what is most important: building a San Diego that works for everyone. We are entering 2014 confident that we have set the stage for another new year of accomplishments with our supporters and friends who make the work we do possible.

Thank you for all your support.

Sincerely,

Clare Crawford



2013 Impact



Developing leaders committed to economic justice:

- *The interns have gone on to work for local campaigns and community organizations to continue their development as the next generation of organizers.
- *Our new boards & commissions work helped two women of color participate in city government. One is now a commissioner, the other is a board member. Over 50 new leaders also developed their skills in our community advocacy training session this year.



Improving Low Wage Work:

- *In partnership with SDSU, we produced the ground-breaking "Driven to Despair" report which documented the shockingly low pay, long work weeks, lack of health coverage, and under-maintained vehicles of more than 300 local taxi drivers. As the basis for reform efforts, the report prompted city officials to appoint a task force made up of community advocates and academics, including a CPI board member, to study policy changes.



Increasing access to good jobs:

- *In partnership with the San Diego Building and Construction Trades Council, CPI successfully helped advocate for the passage of the Prevailing Wage at the City and a Community Benefits Agreement at Southwestern College that will both provide fair wages, health care benefits, and apprenticeship opportunities to generations of local construction workers.

Promoting equity for neglected communities:

- *The Property Value Protection Ordinance that we jointly proposed with the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) went into effect, creating a City registry to track foreclosed homes and hold the banks accountable that let those homes go into disrepair.
- *The Community Budget Alliance, a group of over 40 community groups led by CPI, won a City Council policy in 2013 that prioritizes infrastructure projects that create jobs and equity for underserved communities. Over 1,000 community members participated in the CBA this year and most of the CBA's recommended projects and priorities were included in the 2014 proposed budget.

Major Funders

The vast majority of CPI's funding — 84% — comes from foundations.

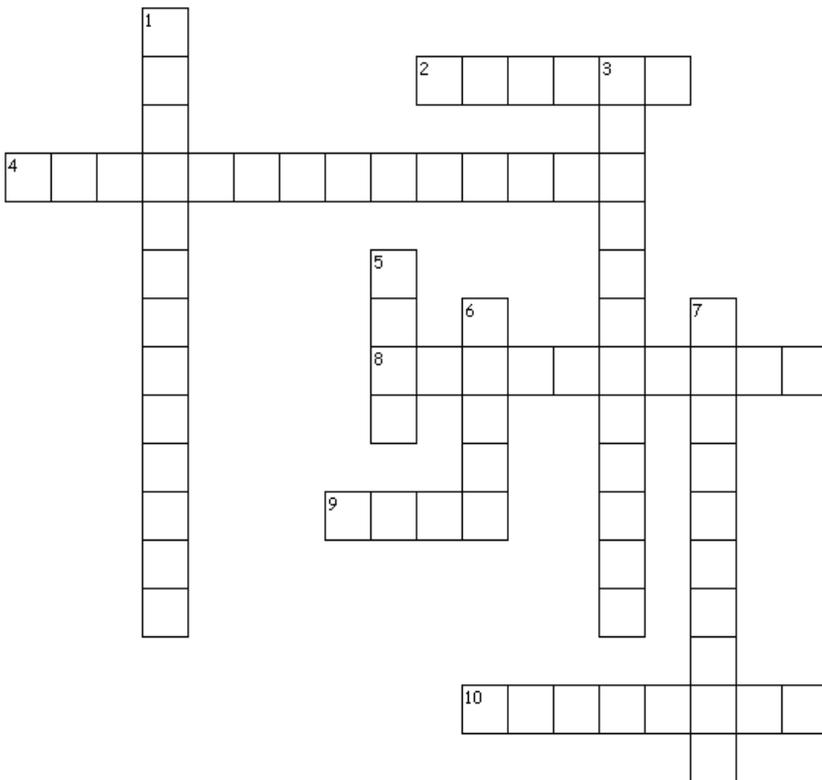
The California Endowment
James Irvine Foundation
Tides Foundation
Ford Foundation
Weingart Foundation

California Wellness Foundation
Marguerite Casey Foundation
Foundation to Promote Open Society
Unitarian Universalist Veatch Program at Shelter Rock
Leichtag Foundation



Congratulations to CPI Organizer Trinh Le! She received the New Organizing Institute's 2013 "Most Valuable Organizer" Award at Roots Camp for her work with the Community Budget Alliance.

2013 Crossword Puzzle



Across

- 2. Not equality but _____
- 4. San Diego city council will prioritize _____ in underserved neighborhoods.
- 8. Construction workers on city projects will be paid a _____ wage.
- 9. Nearly one in _____ children in the county live in poverty
- 10. More than half of CA's _____ workers are on public aid

Down

- 1. The name of CPI's executive director
- 3. This service was restored by City Council after a lawsuit.
- 5. The initials for our foreclosure ordinance
- 6. Almost 90% of licensed taxi drivers in San Diego are "_____ drivers."
- 7. The keynote speaker at our 2013 gala



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Want the answers to the crossword puzzle?

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