

Survey of Community Based Organizations in Sacramento County

Summary of Survey Responses | October 2024

Survey Description & Methodology

The County of Sacramento, in collaboration with the Institute for Social Research (ISR) at Sacramento State University, conducted a landscape study of local community-based organizations (CBOs). The purpose of this study was to explore County and CBO partner relationships, target contracting-related barriers, and gain actionable knowledge on how to support the capacity-building of CBOs to expand services and deepen impact in high-need communities.



ISR gathered insights through an online survey from a broad range of CBOs who provide services and operate in Sacramento County. ISR worked with the County to compile a list of 292 CBOs from Sacramento County contacts, then ISR worked with ten “backbone” organizations which work extensively with Sacramento County CBOs in order to recruit respondents from their networks.

The survey was open for six weeks (March-April 2024) with the aim of collecting responses from as many Sacramento County CBOs as possible. Surveys were completed by organizational leadership. A total of 158 surveys were used in the following summary, after removing the incomplete and duplicate surveys. These results reflect the answers of those CBOs responding, and do not represent all CBOs in the County. See the section on CBO description below to learn more about the organizations responding to the survey. A few comments from the survey are included below.

“Community-based organizations like ours play a **crucial** role in Sacramento County by providing **targeted, culturally competent services** that bridge gaps in mainstream service provision. They foster **local trust, understand community-specific needs, and respond quickly to crises.**” – CBO

“Community-based organizations should be **consulted regularly** by Sacramento County. CBOs provide **critical networks, outreach, and engagement** with communities often **overlooked and underserved by government entities, including the County.**” – CBO

“**We can be great partners.** It just takes the right **vision, leadership and collaboration** and of course **resources** to make us successful.” – CBO

Acknowledgements

The County and ISR are incredibly thankful to the study participants who generously contributed their time and experiences to this project. Special thanks to the organizations that shared valuable insights and recommendations through Key Informant Interviews, Focus Groups, and the CBO Survey. To protect participant privacy and encourage candid feedback, all participant feedback remains confidential, and participating organizations' identifiable information was not disclosed to the County.

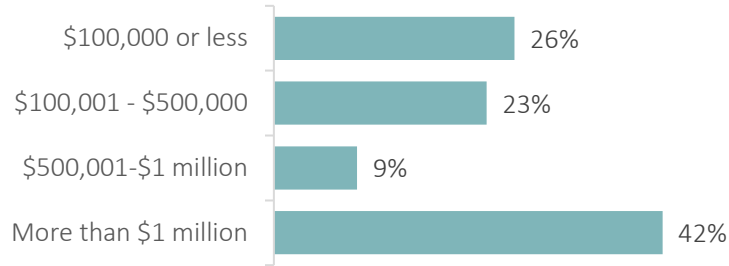
CBOs who participated in the Survey were given a choice to enter their information in a separate form for the purposes of survey acknowledgement, to receive summary findings, and/or to receive other communications from the County. Survey responses cannot be linked to this volunteered identifying information. Below is a list of organizations who have agreed to be acknowledged for their participation in the Sacramento County CBO Survey:

- A.B.L.E Community Development Foundation
- Agency on Aging Area 4
- Arab Community Center for Integration Services
- Asian Pacific Community Counseling
- Bridge Network
- California Immigrant Policy Center
- CHICKS IN CRISIS INC
- Children's Law Center of CA
- Civic Thread
- CLASSY INC
- Community Fruit
- Community HealthWorks
- Cordova Community Council
- Directors of Volunteers in Agencies Sacramento
- Dreamers of Ukraine
- Education Justice Academy
- Filipino Community of Sacramento and Vicinity
- First Step Housing, dba First Step Communities
- Foothill Farms Community
- Girls on the Run of Greater Sacramento
- Golden Rule Services, Inc.
- Hmong Innovating Politics
- Holding Space
- Hope Centers United dba Folsom's Hope
- Jakes Journey Home
- Justice2Jobs Coalition
- League of Women Voters Sacramento County
- Leap Ahead
- NAMI Sacramento
- Nations Finest
- Nehemiah Community Foundation
- North Highlands Christian Food Ministry
- PRO Youth and Families
- Rebuilding Together Sacramento
- Sacramento Food Policy Council
- Sacramento LGBT Community Center
- Safe Black Space
- seeMYchild
- Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center
- The Cove
- The HAWK Institute
- Waking the Village
- Welcome Home Housing, Inc
- Women of Color On the Move
- Yes2Kollege Educational Resources, Inc.
- YMCA of Superior California
- Youth Forward

CBO's Experience with Funders

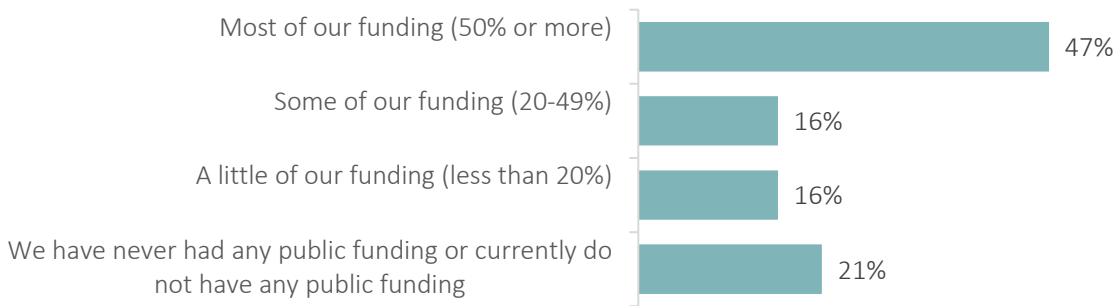
Annual Budget of CBOs Responding to Survey. Figure 1

Question: What is your organization's average annual budget? (If applicable to your organization, do not include your fiscal agent's/sponsor's budget.) (n=140)



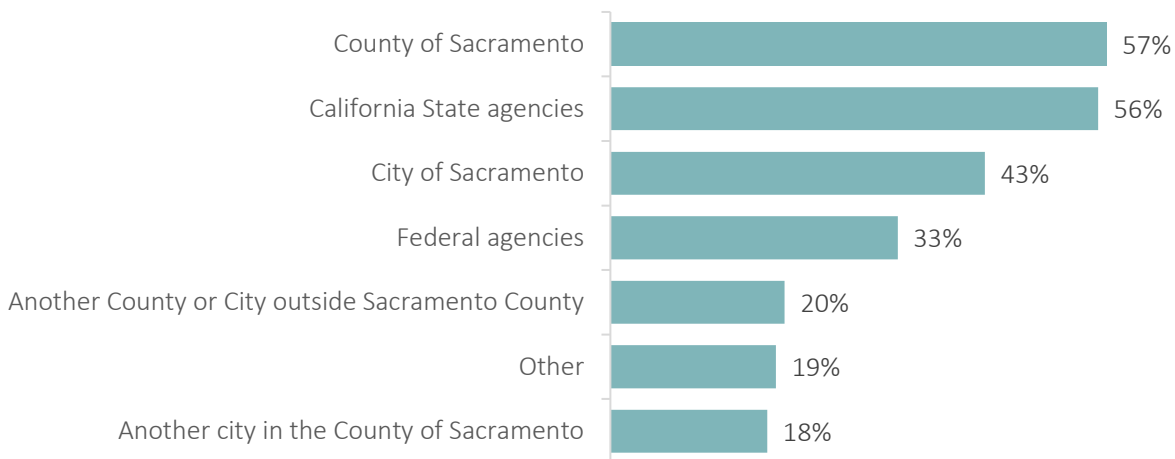
CBO Reliance on Public Funders. Figure 2

Question: What percent of your organization's most recent annual budget came from public grants and/or contracts (i.e., coming from any type of government source - state, county, city, federal, etc.)? (n=143)



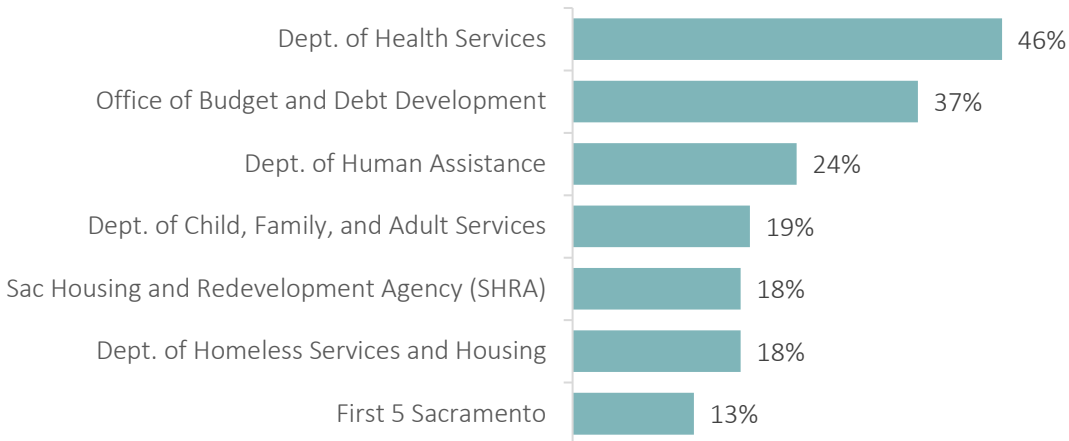
CBO's Experience with Public Funders. Figure 3

Question: Which government entities have you received funding (e.g., contracts, grants, etc.) from in the past three years? Select all that apply. (n=120)



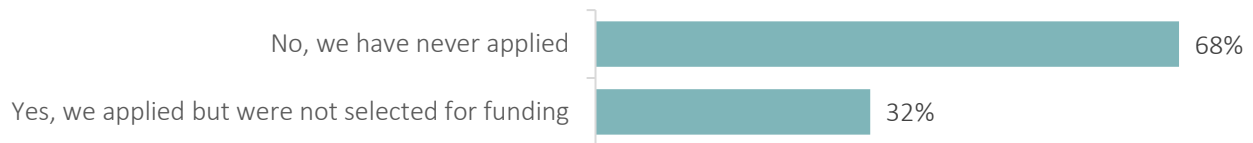
Experience with Sacramento County Funding Agencies. Figure 4

Question: Which of the following County of Sacramento departments/agencies has your organization received funding from in the past three years? Select all that apply. (n=68)



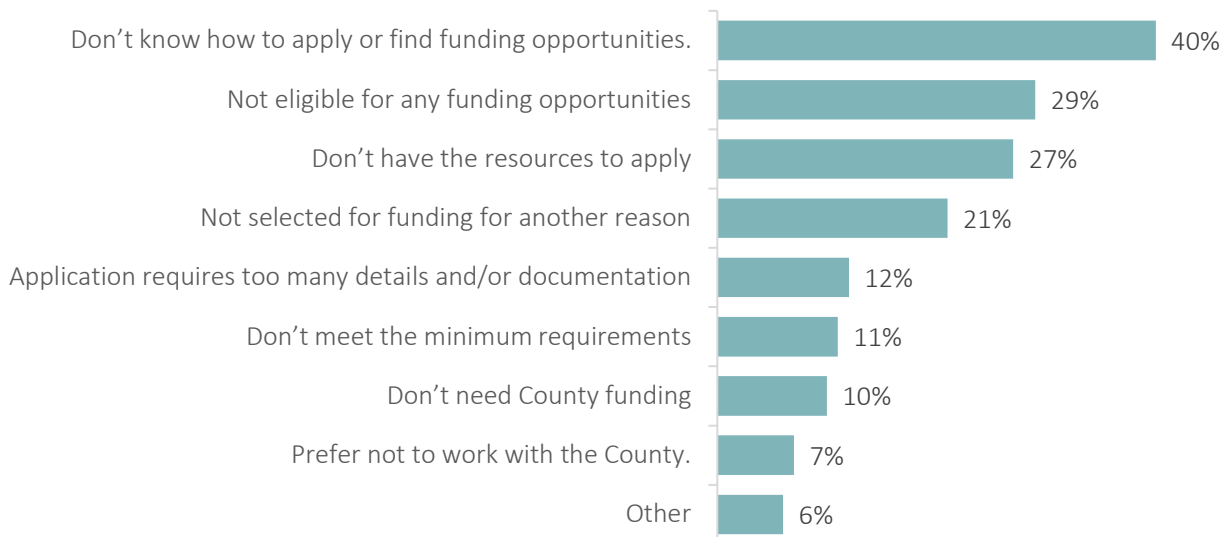
CBOs without County Funding | History of Applying to Sacramento County. Figure 5

Question: Asked of organizations who are not receiving funding from Sacramento County: Has your organization ever applied for funding (e.g., contracts, grants, etc.) from Sacramento County? (n=63)



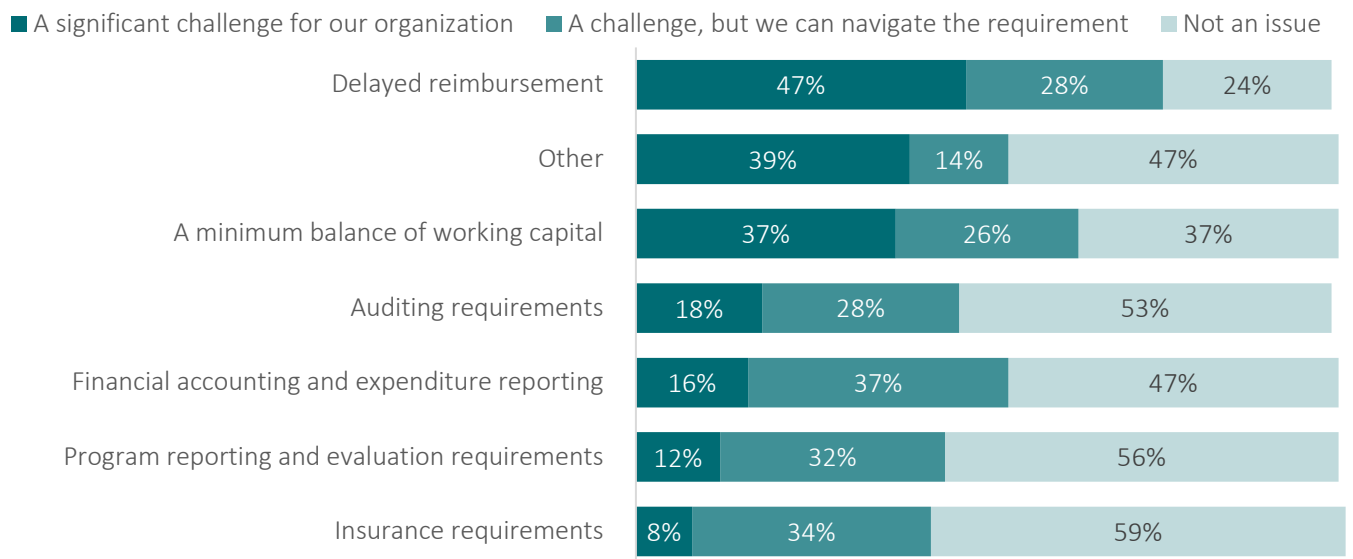
Reasons for Not Receiving Sacramento County Funding. Figure 6

Question asked of organizations who are not receiving funding from Sacramento County: What are the reasons your organization has not received funding e.g., contracts, grants, etc.) from Sacramento County? Select all that apply. (n=73)



Identified Challenges with Funding Requirements. Figure 7

Question: Some funding, especially public (i.e., government) sources of funding, come with specific requirements for organizations. Please indicate below if your organization has encountered challenges with any of the following funding requirements, and how your organization was able to address it. (n is between 104 and 135 for each response)

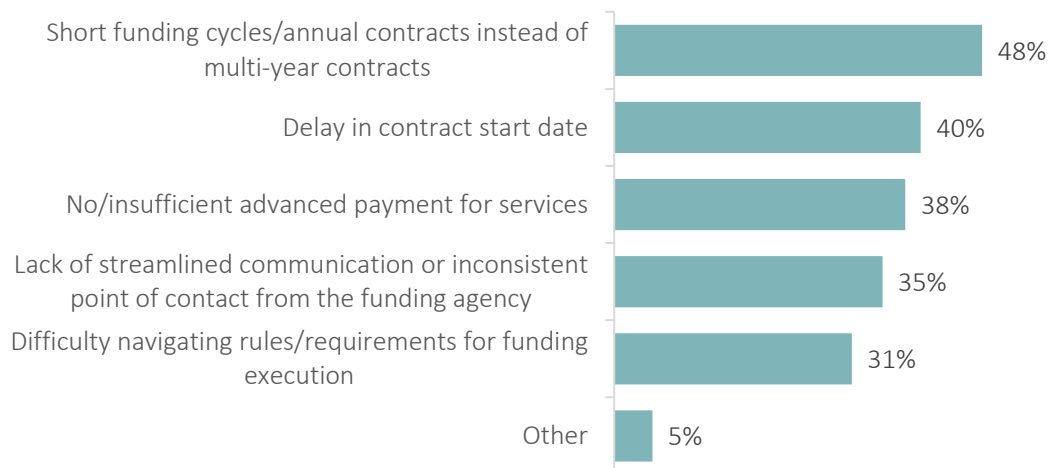


Other requirements reported as challenges:

- Staffing
- Unable to meet application deadlines
- Lack of information about funding opportunities
- Maintaining an office in Sacramento County
- Issues with state audits and restriction of grant award
- Mismatch between organization and funding requirements due to scope or programming
- Contracting issues including presenting budget details, covering deliverable costs, modifying contract details, and speed of execution

Identified Challenges with Funding/Contract Process. Figure 8

Question: Once approved to receive funding, has your organization experienced any of the following other issues? Select all that apply. (n=122)



CBO Capacity Building Experience & Needs

Using Sacramento County-based Capacity Building Resources. Figure 9

Question: Has your organization used Sacramento County-based organizations, agencies, consultants, or philanthropies to support its capacity building (e.g., leadership development, fundraising, fiscal management, etc.)? (n=135)



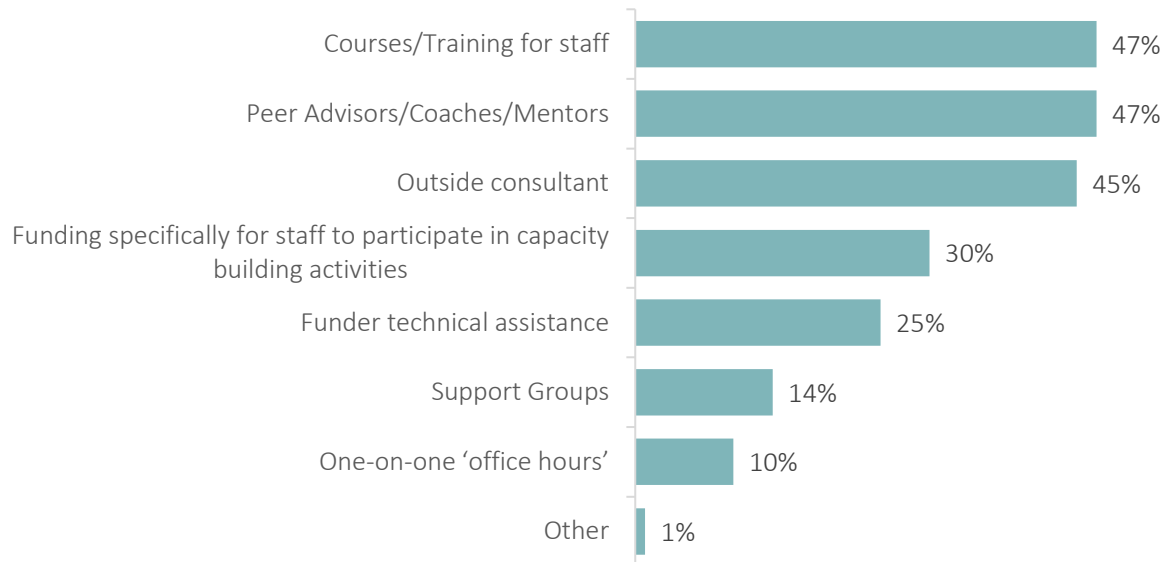
Experience with Capacity Building Support. Figure 10

Question: In which areas of capacity building has your organization received support during the past three years? Select all that apply. (n=130)



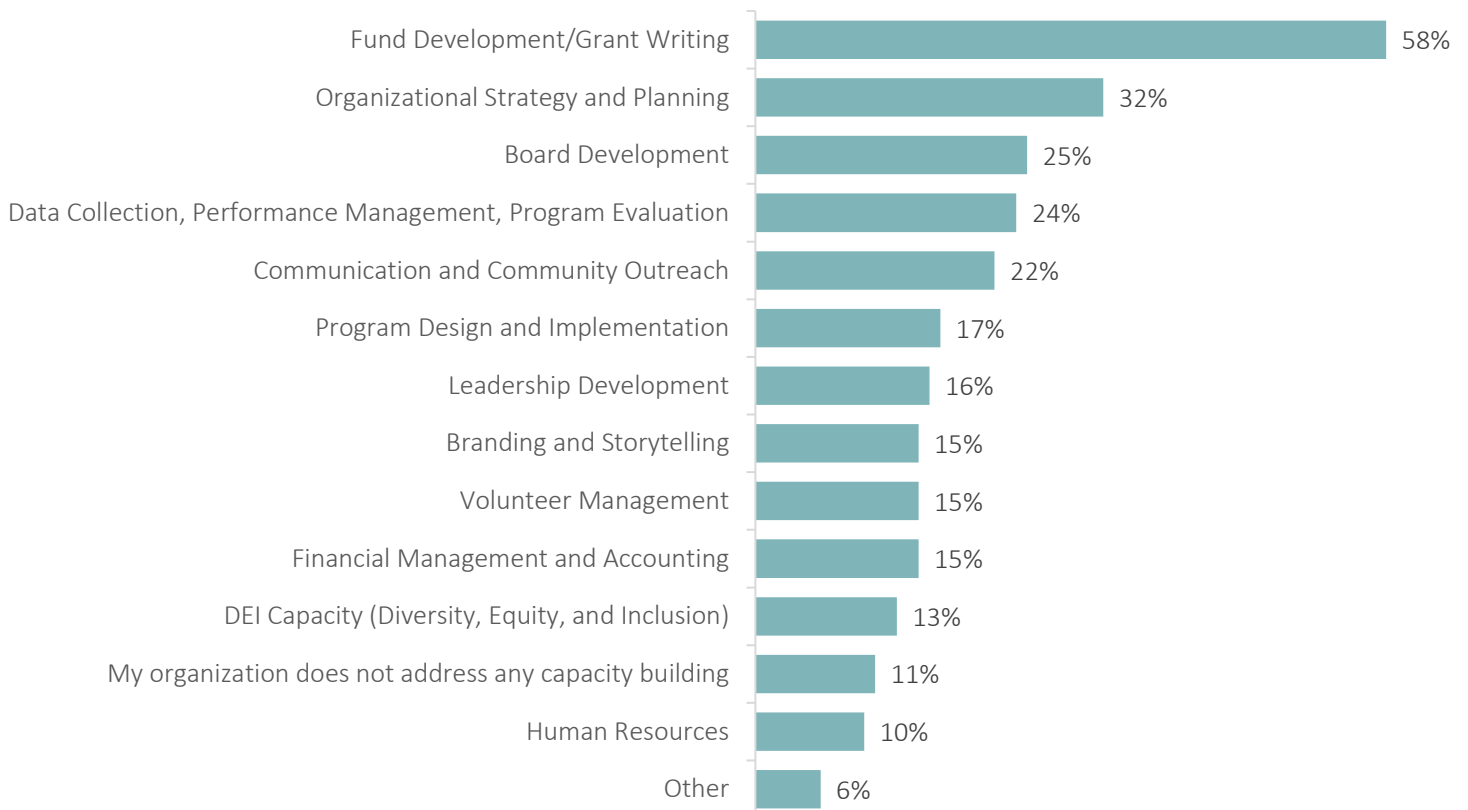
Delivery Method of Capacity Building. Figure 11

Question: How did your organization receive this support? Select all that apply. (n=73)



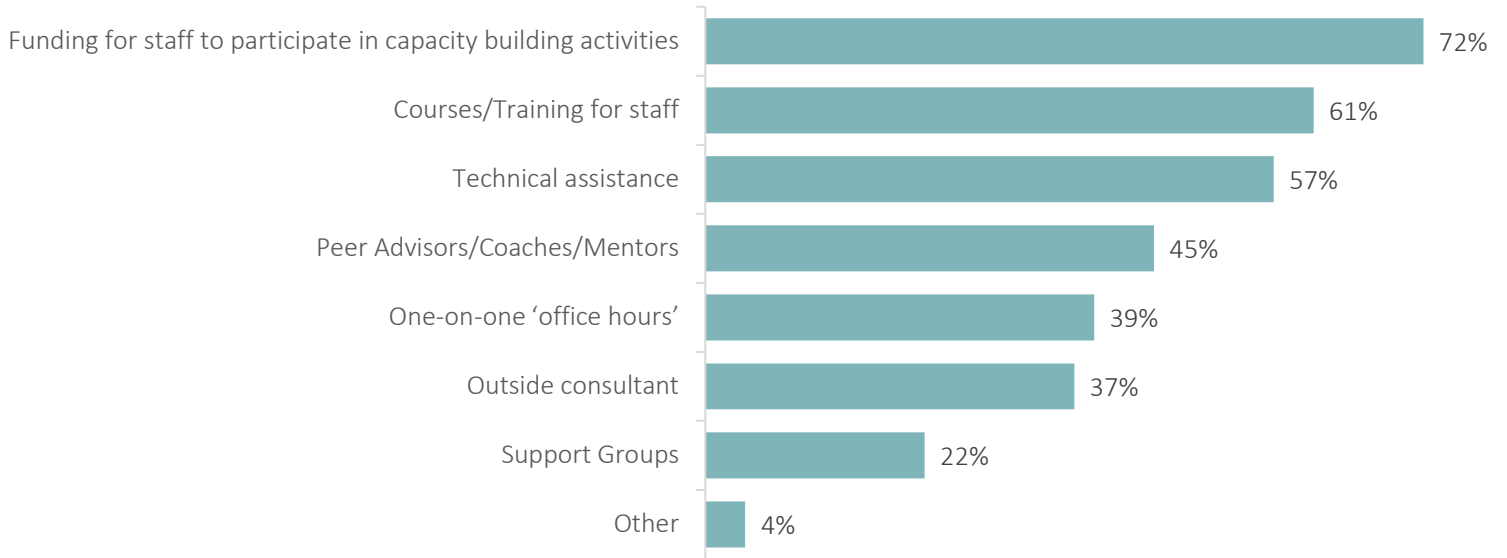
Top Priorities for CBO Capacity Building. Figure 12

Question: What are the top three areas of capacity building your organization wants to address, currently or in the near future? Select the three most important areas. (n=131)



Best Methods for CBO Capacity Building. Figure 13

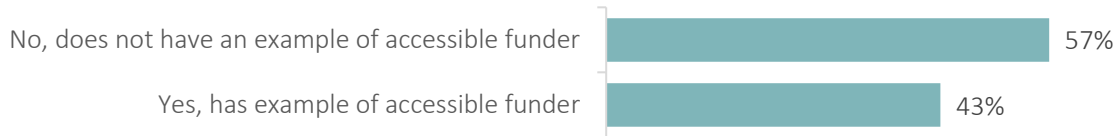
Question: If your organization was to receive support to engage in these areas of capacity building, what are the best ways Sacramento County-based organizations, agencies, or philanthropies could provide support? Select all that apply. (n=115)



CBO Preferred Partners & Networks

CBOs Interaction with Accessible Funding Process. Figure 14

Question: Do you have an example of an organization, philanthropy, or government agency, who notably made the funding process accessible and simple to navigate for your organization? (n=138)

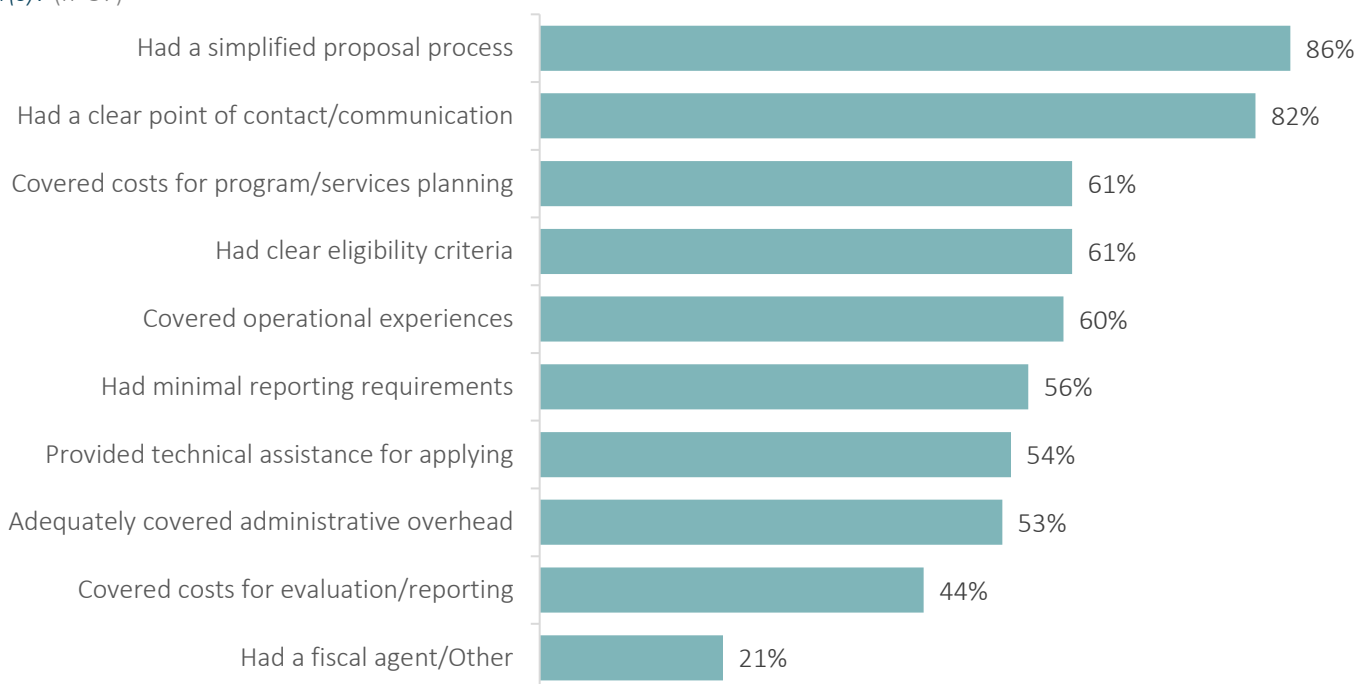


Examples of accessible funders identified by CBO respondents:

Foundations	Local Government/ Public Funders	Organizations	Other Public Funding
The California Endowment	City of Rancho Cordova	Pro Youth & Families	CA Black Freedom Fund
Sierra Health Foundation	City of Elk Grove	Sac Youth Works	Cal OES
Sacramento Regional Community Foundation	City of Sacramento	Soroptimist-Davis	CalCRG
Sutter Health Foundation	First 5 Sacramento	Sunrise Rotary	CalVIP
Kaiser	Placer County	Valley Vision	Dept of Rehabilitation
Placer Community Foundation	SACOG	Everytown	DHCS
CA Wellness Foundation	SETA	Hope and Heal Fund	HUD
Annie E. Casey Foundation	SMUD	Meals on Wheels	Dept. of Homeland Security
Blue Shield Foundation		Breathe CA	
Wells Fargo Foundation		Covered CA	
Japanese American Community Foundation			

CBOs Experience with Accessible Funders. Figure 15

Question: What aspects of the funding made this process accessible and simple to navigate when partnering with this (these) funder(s)? (n=57)



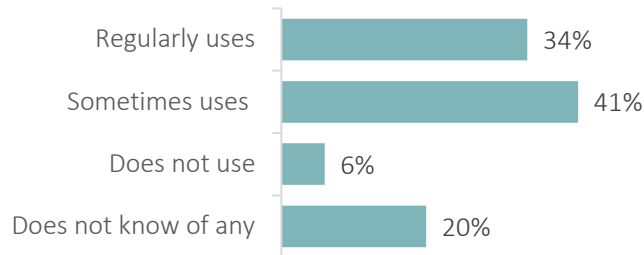
Important Qualities of a Good Community Partner. Figure 16

Question: In thinking about expanding your organization's community impact, what would make a good community partner (e.g., Backbone Organization)? Select the three most important qualities. (n=130)



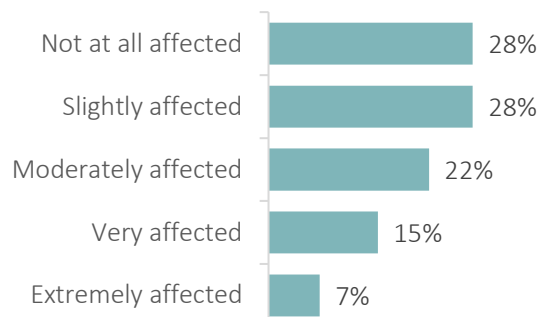
CBOs' Use of Networks. Figure 17

Question: How often does your organization use formal/informal networks and coalitions to discover or access existing capacity-building supports, resources, or technical assistance within Sacramento County? (n=128)



Reliance on Networks. Figure 18

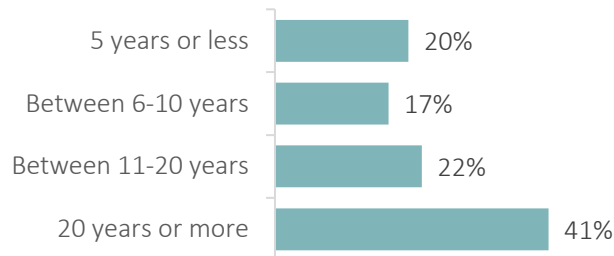
Question: Please answer to the best of your ability. Without your formal/informal networks and coalitions, how do think your organization's ability to operate in the community would be affected? (n=94)



Description of CBOs Participating in the Survey

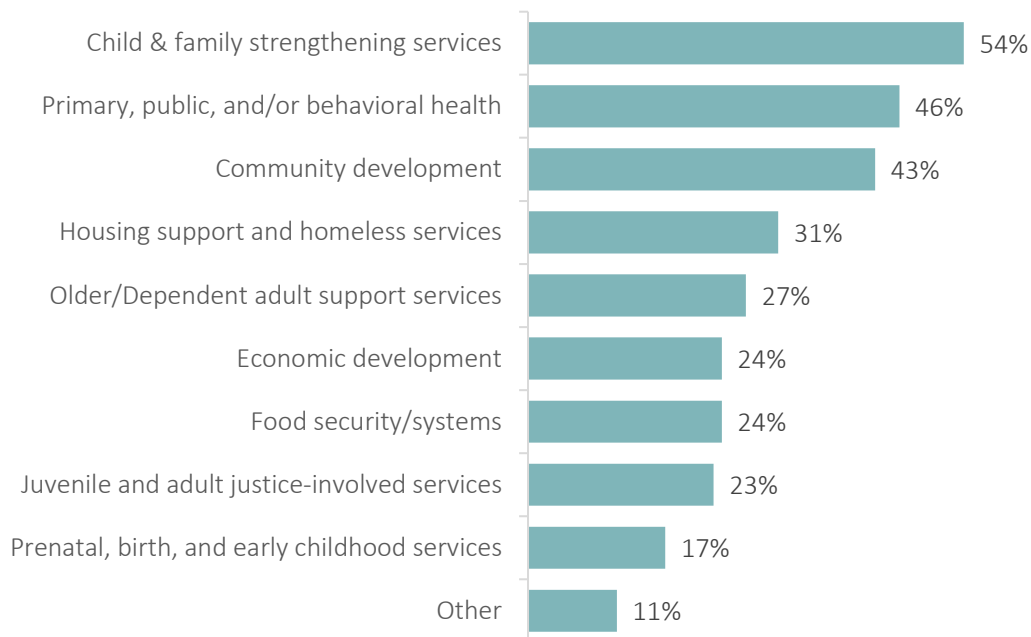
Length of Time Serving Sacramento County. Figure 19

Question: About how many years has your organization actively served communities within Sacramento County? (n=158)



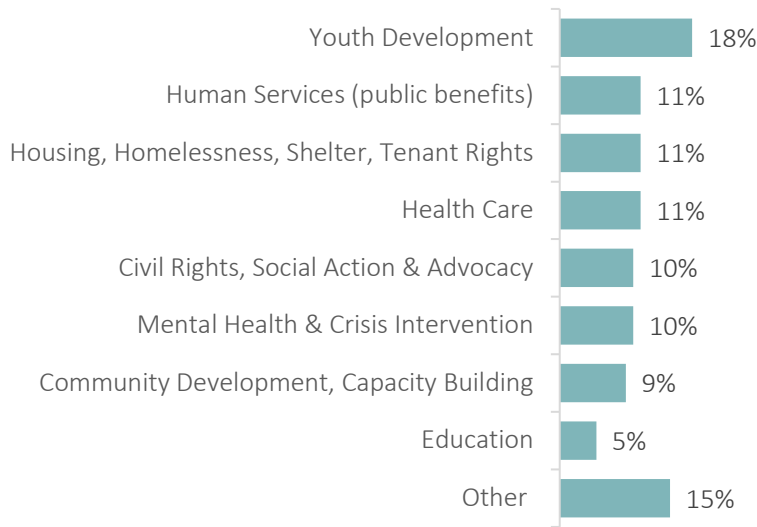
CBO Services Delivered in Sacramento County. Figure 20

Question: What types of services does your organization provide in Sacramento County? Check all that apply. (n=157)



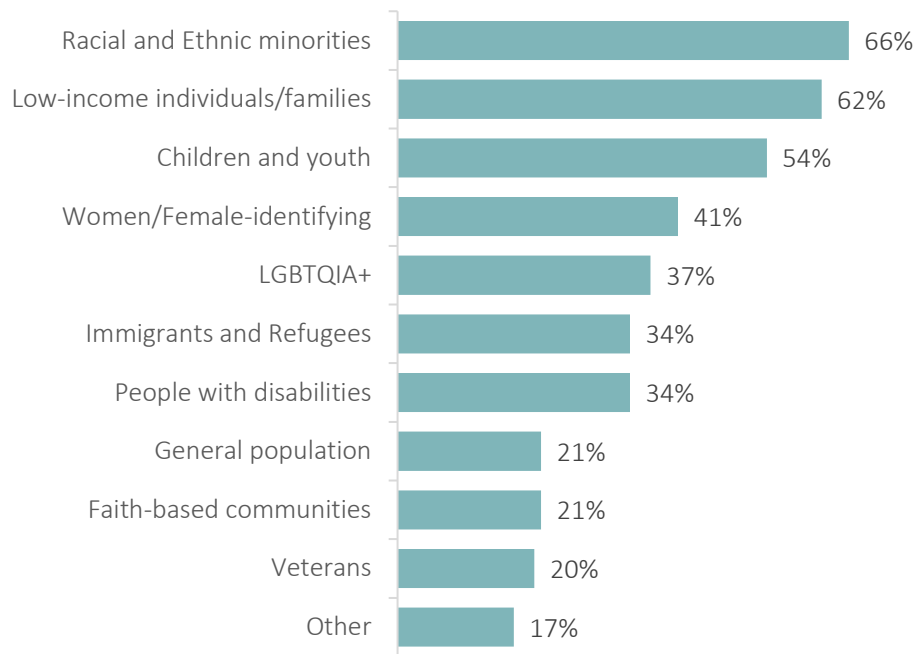
CBOs Primary Mission. Figure 21

Question: Which of the following is the primary mission of your organization? Check the one option that best represents your organization's focus. (n=157)



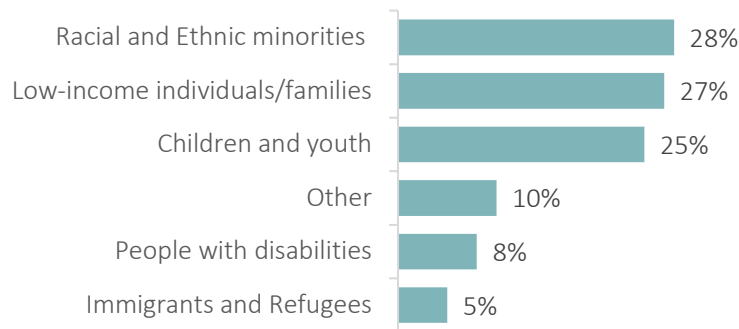
All Populations Served by CBO. Figure 22

Question: Which populations does your organization serve in Sacramento County? Check all that apply. (n=157)



Priority Population Served. Figure 23

Question: Of the populations you chose in the question above, which population does your organization's mission primarily aim to serve in Sacramento County? Check the one option that best represents the population you aim to serve. (n=100)



Organization Diversity and Serving the BIPOC Community. Figure 24

Question: BIPOC is defined as black, indigenous, and/or people of color. We're interested in how local CBOs both serve BIPOC populations and also reflect these populations. Which of the following statements are currently true about your organization? Check all that apply. (n=146)

