

Little Tokyo Service Center Selected by the Citi Foundation's Community Progress Makers Initiative to Advance Social and Economic Opportunity in Los Angeles

Unrestricted grant of \$500,000 will enable LTSC to develop several hundred units of affordable housing in Little Tokyo and in other nearby communities of color.

January 6, 2022

Los Angeles – Little Tokyo Service Center was selected by Citi Foundation as a recipient of the Community Progress Makers initiative, which supports visionary organizations across the U.S. that are working to connect low-income communities and communities of color to greater social and economic opportunity. As a Community Progress Maker, LTSC will receive a multi-year, unrestricted grant of \$500,000 and access to technical assistance and a supportive learning community from 2022 – 2023.

Through Citi Foundation's support, Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC) will continue to address the community challenge of a lack of affordable housing in Los Angeles, with a focus on strengthening its partnerships in communities of color. To meet the need, LTSC has 600 units in its community development pipeline with one project breaking ground later this year in East Hollywood. In addition, LTSC is building its capacity to be the Permanent Supporting Housing service provider at two future projects in its home neighborhood of Little Tokyo.

"The need for affordable housing has become more pressing due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the resulting economic downturn and the slow recovery that has just begun," said Debbie Chen, LTSC's Director of Real Estate. "Funding from Citi Foundation Community Progress Makers will allow LTSC to increase its capacity to provide housing to the most vulnerable residents."

The newest cohort of Community Progress Makers includes 50 leading nonprofit organizations selected through a competitive Request for Proposals process, with a strong track record of supporting underserved communities across six U.S. cities: Chicago, Los Angeles, Miami, New York City, San Francisco Bay Area and Washington, D.C. The Citi Foundation will provide a supportive learning community through which grantees can connect to share best practices and strengthen their work as social change agents. Technical assistance will also be provided by the Urban Institute to help measure the cohort's impact and progress.

"Six years ago, the Citi Foundation launched Community Progress Makers with a vision of empowering community leaders to grow their transformative impact through unrestricted, trust-based funding," said Brandee McHale, Head of Community Investing and Development and President of the Citi Foundation. "This kind of approach and support is more important than ever as the U.S. continues to address the root causes and impacts of income and wealth inequality. Through the Community Progress Makers initiative, these social innovators and advocates can continue to look for new ways of addressing long-standing societal challenges at scale."

From 2015 to 2019, the Citi Foundation has provided \$40 million in multi-year, unrestricted funding to 72 Community Progress Makers, helping to place over 45,000 people in affordable housing, train over

33,000 people for employment, save over \$10 million in energy costs, and expand over 12,000 small businesses.

Below is a full list of 2021 Community Progress Makers.

Chicago

Elevate

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) Chicago

Proviso Leyden Council For Community Action, Inc.

Urban Growers Collective

Working Credit

Los Angeles

A Place Called Home

Central City Neighborhood Partners

CHIRLA

Clifford Beers Housing

Enterprise Community Partners

Little Tokyo Service Center

PARS Equality Center Los Angeles

Puente Learning Center

Vermont Slauson Local Development Corporation

Miami

aire ventures

Community Justice Project

Health Foundation of South Florida

Miami Workers Center

Neighborhood Housing Services of South Florida

Solar and Energy Loan Fund, Inc. (SELF)

YWCA of Greater Miami Dade

New York City

America on Tech

Ariva, Inc

Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation

Bridge Street Development Corporation

Community League of the Heights

El Puente

Fifth Avenue Committee

Graham-Windham

Habitat for Humanity of New York City and Westchester County

Harlem Stage

Korean-American Community Foundation

Solar One

South Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation (SoBro)

The Knowledge House

YMCA of Greater New York

San Francisco Bay Area

Centro Community Partners (Centro)
Chinatown Community Development Center
Community Housing Development Corporation
Homeless Children's Network
Juma Ventures
Old Skool Café
Richmond Neighborhood Housing Services
Rising Sun Center for Opportunity

Washington, D.C.

ACT for Alexandria, A Community Foundation
Coalition for Nonprofit Housing and Economic Development
Homefree USA
La Cocina VA
Tzedek DC
United Way or National Capital Area

For more information about Community Progress Makers, please visit:

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ABOUT LTSC

Little Tokyo Service Center is a social service and community development organization that has been creating positive change for the people and places in Southern California for 40 years. Starting with its home in Little Tokyo, LTSC preserves and strengthens the unique ethnic communities of the region where people, culture and collective future matter. www.LTSC.org

About the Citi Foundation

The Citi Foundation works to promote economic progress and improve the lives of people in low-income communities around the world. We invest in efforts that increase financial inclusion, catalyze job opportunities for youth, and reimagine approaches to building economically vibrant communities . The Citi Foundation's "More than Philanthropy" approach leverages the enormous expertise of Citi and its people to fulfill our mission and drive thought leadership and innovation. For more information, visit www.citifoundation.com.