



community news | september 2019



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Earlier this month, B Lab, the nonprofit that analyzes and certifies B Corporations, recognized Mission Driven Finance as one of the [top 10% of B Corps for the value we provide to our customers](#).

These organizations, like Somali Family Service of San Diego, are supporting their community to fully and enthusiastically participate in the economy. And they need flexible capital to power and scale their great programs. B Lab noted how critical our creative capital structures and personalized technical assistance are for the small businesses and nonprofits we work with.

If you know an organization doing great things that needs our kind of support, [send them our way](#). We're always happy to meet changemakers.

Community Finance Fellowship: changing the face of finance



We're launching a [Community Finance Fellowship to mobilize more capital into overlooked-underestimated communities](#). We know having teammates that deeply understand the cultural nuances infusing an organization's impact and market position will help us invest sensitively—and smartly.

Through a one year program of dedicated workshops and learning-by-doing, Fellows will be primed for careers in finance. They'll help source deal flow that we wouldn't find or fully understand without them, and will teach our team about more of our community than we currently know.

We're humbled to have lead support from the [WES Mariam Assefa Fund](#) for three of the five-Fellow cohort to increase investment in New American (immigrant, refugee, asylee) communities. Consider supporting a Fellow to dive deep into a community or issue you care about.

[Want to change the life of a Fellow and their community?](#)

[Let's chat!](#)

New loan accelerates Kid Ventures Preschool Academy



Every kid deserves a fair shot to learn and grow. We're excited to deepen our [commitment to early childhood education with a \\$150,000 investment in Kid Ventures](#).

Well known for summer camps and party spaces that parents and kids both love, Kid Ventures is transitioning their fun and engaging spaces to offer **full-time pre-school and childcare**.

Mission Driven Finance provided working capital alongside real estate financing from a regional bank that enables Kid Ventures to retrofit their 4S Ranch and Liberty Station locations to meet state pre-school regulations. We'll continue to work with the KV team throughout their loan to formalize and expand their impact. [Learn more about the investment](#).

Catch us in the community

Conference season is upon us! Our team will be at these events around the country and would love to catch up if you're there.

- 9/30, VC Include - NYC [Heather]
- 10/2 - 10/3, Inclusive Capital Collective - Denver [Lauren & David]
- 10/17, VC Include - Los Angeles [Heather]
- 10/18, TONIC North America - Monterrey [Lauren & David]
- 10/19, UC San Diego Global Empowerment Summit - San Diego [Louie]
- 10/20 - 10/22, COCAP* - Oakland [Lauren & David]
- 10/22 - 10/25 SOCAP* - San Francisco [Lauren & David]
- 10/28, LiveWell SD Conference* - San Diego [Shreya]

* Presenting sessions.

[Drop me a note to learn more or coordinate schedules](#).



- [The 1619 Project](#): 400 years since the American slave trade began [New York Times]
- [How affordable housing works in San Diego](#) [Voice of San Diego]
- [Venture capital is like skinny jeans](#) [Village Capital]
- [How improving job opportunities helps all of us](#) [San Diego Union-Tribune]
- [New business trend: an authentic commitment to purpose](#) [Forbes]
- [To build community wealth, a grantmaker gets behind employee ownership in a big way](#) [Inside philanthropy]
- [How San Diego parks measure up](#) [The Trust for Public Land]
- [Why governments should prioritize wellbeing](#) [TED]
- [For a radical perspective on immigration, picture the US as an ancient tree](#) [Aeon]
- [Every aspect of America's asylum system now seems broken](#) [LA Times]
- [In 3 words, LinkedIn's CEO taught a brilliant lesson on how to find great people](#) [Inc]



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We like to keep our friends informed of what's happening to increase the flow of capital from socially-minded investors to impactful nonprofits, social enterprises, and small businesses in San Diego. You're getting this email because you spoke with someone from our team recently or opted in at our website.

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