



Dear Economic Roundtable Board, Staff and Supporters,

Congratulations to the Economic Roundtable for 25 years of providing research and analysis to advance social equity in Los Angeles. The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation has been proud to support the Roundtable's groundbreaking research into housing instability and homelessness in Los Angeles County.

When we were forming our strategic initiative on chronic homelessness in 2009, we knew from research around the country that permanent supportive housing was a cost effective solution to chronic homelessness, but we did not have a comparable cost study with data from Los Angeles. *Where We Sleep: the Costs of Housing and Homelessness in Los Angeles* provided this key data and analysis, demonstrating that the average monthly public cost (health, jail, etc.) declines nearly 80% after a person who was chronically homeless is placed in supportive housing. This research was key to garnering broad support from public and philanthropic funders, elected officials, nonprofit providers and the general public for efforts like Home For Good and the development of supportive housing throughout the region.

Building on this research, the Economic Roundtable's investigation into the highest-cost utilizers of the health and criminal justice systems (*Crisis Indicator: Triage Tool for Identifying Homeless Adults in Crisis*) provided practical tools for hospitals and providers to identify and house these most vulnerable people. This led to the Frequent User Systems Engagement program in Los Angeles, in partnership with Corporation for Supportive Housing, the Social Innovation Fund and local funders, and helped inform hospital discharge planning in Los Angeles and beyond.

Finally, in 2014 the Roundtable released *Mapping the Childhood and Family Antecedents of Chronic Homelessness*, which we supported to better understand the factors that lead to long-term homelessness. Los Angeles has made great strides in providing housing for thousands of people experiencing chronic homelessness in recent years, but the increasing numbers in the Homeless Count indicate a greater inflow into homelessness. This type of research is critical as we seek to better prevent and divert people from experiencing homelessness in the first place.

Again, congratulations to the Economic Roundtable and its partners for 25 years of research that has informed policy and practice in Los Angeles.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Pitkin".

BILL PITKIN  
Director, Domestic Programs

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Iloulian".

ANDREA ILOULIAN  
Senior Program Officer

# LA FAMILY HOUSING

November 2, 2016

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Dan Flaming  
Executive Director  
Economic Roundtable  
315 W. 9th Street, Suite 502  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Dear Mr. Flaming,

LA Family Housing (LAFH) is pleased to have participated in the Frequent Users Systems Engagement (FUSE-SFV) pilot in 2013 and share with you the impact of this program and the research report prepared by Economic Roundtable on our current work.

The FUSE-SFV project laid the foundation for an integrative care approach with housing and health care providers coming together to address health and homelessness in the community. The project produced significant cost-savings for hospitals and demonstrated to hospital leadership the benefits of employing alternative strategies to address frequent users of the health care system. In turn, LAFH and our partners were able to reach more people experiencing homelessness and connect them with essential housing and supportive services. Essentially, the program engaged partners to build a system to assist frequent users of the health care system into permanent housing, and then provide services to help them retain their housing thereby reducing recidivism.

The program began with health care providers referring frequent users to us. Today, LAFH identifies frequent users in collaboration with health care providers both through referrals and outreach. FUSE-SFV helped enhance our collaboration and created an integrative approach to serve our most in-need neighbors.

LAFH continues to ensure that the work of health care and homeless service providers is properly coordinated and continues to be an important component of the regional effort to address health and homelessness. For the past three years, LAFH has subcontracted with Northeast Valley Health Corporation (NEVHC) to expand Affordable Care Act coordination and enlist health care partners in the Coordinated Entry System (CES) efforts in the San Fernando and Santa Clarita valleys. NEVHC has not only increased direct service outreach to enroll people experiencing homeless into Medi-Cal, but also facilitated "Homeless Healthcare Roundtables" to explore the most pressing needs of those in the healthcare sector that serve homeless patients. These results reinforce the need for programs like FUSE that serve emergency patients experiencing homelessness, and demonstrate the continued value of the research completed by the Economic Roundtable.

We appreciate the opportunity to share with you the impact of our work with FUSE-SFV and our continued work between housing and healthcare providers in the region. Should you need to any futher information, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at (818) 255-2700 or Stephanie@lafh.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephanie Klasky-Gamer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stephanie Klasky-Gamer  
President & CEO

October 26, 2016

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**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Roxana Tynan

Dan Flaming, President  
Economic Roundtable  
315 West 9th Street, Suite 502  
Los Angeles, California 90015

Re: Silver anniversary

Dear Dan:

It is with great pleasure and gratitude that I congratulate you and the Economic Roundtable on 25 years of contributions to the public good in Los Angeles. Long before terms like "data-driven" and "intersectionality" gained popular cache, ERT helped to pioneer these approaches. By highlighting the interconnected nature of our most intractable problems – racial inequities; disparities in wealth, income, and bargaining power; a changing economy; housing and homelessness; environmental sustainability – and by bringing a rigorous and creative approach to data analysis, ERT is directly responsible for putting Los Angeles on the cutting edge of progressive social, economic, and political change.

We at LAANE are especially indebted to ERT's research, partnership, and support. You have helped move our work forward in key ways:

- **Seeing the big picture.** ERT's periodic analyses of the broad economic landscape have been invaluable as we make decisions about where to focus our energies and attention. What economic sectors and industries are growing or shrinking, and what are the forces acting on them? How do our local, regional, and national economies interact, and what are our regional economic competitive advantages? To the extent LAANE's success rests on picking the right campaigns, it is ERT research that helps make that possible.
- **Making the case.** As a direct client of ERT, and as consumers of other ERT research, we have always been impressed with not just a command of and fluency with data sources, but a creative approach to developing the right data to make the case. ERT's work on the minimum wage went beyond analyzing the effects on workers and employers, and addressed connections to geography, industry resilience, immigration, criminal justice, and enforcement. The broad analysis helped to move the debate beyond the he-said-she-said of job creation vs. job destruction. ERT has also produced several reports on the hospitality industry, describing the industry effectively by capturing the shamefully low wages and benefits, as well as the broader data so the story resonates broadly. The efficacy at communicating a holistic description made the damning details incredibly powerful in advocating for several policies to raise wages for hotel workers, first near the airport, and then throughout the whole city.
- **Support and resources.** Despite being overworked and underresourced, ERT staff consistently makes the time to field random research and data questions. We have always been grateful to ERT for your willingness to talk through research challenges and help us brainstorm. From identifying

specific data sources, to troubleshooting conceptual and theoretical considerations in a research approach, to modeling economic impacts of a policy, your expertise combines with your accessibility to support L.A.'s progressive research community.

While technical expertise and commitment to the common good are essential to ERT's success, what truly sets ERT apart is your humanity and compassion. It is a deep desire to understand the conditions facing workers and communities that leads to the right framing, and to effective research questions. And this humanity, I suspect, also explains the final step in ERT's research efficacy: clear communication. The ERT style – avoiding technical language in favor of accessibility – crystalizes how our policy choices affect real people.

We are proud to partner with you and we are proud to celebrate your first 25 years. We look forward to continued collaboration in the next 25.

In solidarity,



Roxana Tynan  
Executive Director