



valley vision

Community Inspired Solutions

Request For Proposal

Sacramento Region Community Economic Resilience Fund
Lead Research Partner

Valley Vision

PROPOSALS DUE BY: Friday, May 12, 2023

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RFP Overview

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: LEAD RESEARCH PARTNER

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: Friday, May 12th, 2023

Questions and submissions may be submitted via email to:

RFP Contact Name: Valley Vision
Attn: Alana Ramsay
3400 3rd Ave,
Sacramento, CA 95817
Email Address: alana.ramsay@valleyvision.org
Phone: (O): (916) 325-1630
(C): (916) 350-0617

Valley Vision is seeking a lead research partner to provide high-quality research services for our Sacramento Region Community Economic Resilience Fund. The lead research partner will act as the “research hub” and be responsible for managing the overall research process and subcontracting with other research entities as necessary. Additionally, the lead research partner will be required to have their products reviewed by a committee to ensure quality and accuracy.

Company Background

[Valley Vision](#) is a civic leadership organization dedicated to improving the livability of the Sacramento region. Through research and action, we collaborate on bold, long-term solutions that improve people's lives. Our work is guided by a triple-bottom line approach of equity, sustainability, and economic prosperity. Valley Vision is known for driving actionable research, building and managing diverse coalitions, advancing policy and education that supports triple bottom line values, and leading projects responsive to critical issues in the region, such as economic and workforce development, broadband access, food security/ food system resiliency, clean air and climate adaptation, land use planning, and more.

Project Information

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC RESILIENCE FUND (“CERF”)

The [Community Economic Resilience Fund \(CERF\)](#) is a grant program administered by the State of California, dispersing \$600M in general funds to 13 regions across California for inclusive and regional economic development. The program seeks to build an equitable and sustainable economy as well as foster long-term economic resilience as the state transitions to a carbon-neutral economy.

Program Core Values and Goals

Equity - including those most in need in the decision-making and making sure outcomes are to their benefit

Job Quality & Access - creating high quality jobs and ensuring people have the skills and resources necessary to obtain them

Sustainability - preventing and mitigating increasing climate impacts

Economic Competitiveness & Diversification - making sure California continues to be a strong economic force both nationally and globally and thinking innovatively in order to do so

Economic Resilience & Recovery - continuing recovery efforts from recent economic shocks (i.e. recession, pandemic) while also planning for the future

CERF will be executed in two phases. The first phase is an eighteen month Planning Phase. Each of the 13 regions has received \$5 million in planning funds to establish a "High Road Transition Collaborative" (hereinafter referred to as "HRTC" or "Collaborative"). These collaboratives need to include a diverse group of stakeholders who will develop a regional economic plan and identify projects to support in the Implementation Phase. The creation and activity of these collaboratives are guided by a Regional Convenor and the \$5m fund is managed by the Fiscal Agent.

Valley Vision is the Regional Convenor and the Fiscal Agent for the [Sacramento region](#) which consists of the eight counties of Colusa, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba. This CERF region features diverse physical, geographic, cultural, and economic attributes. Landscapes range from the mountains of the Sierra Nevada to productive agricultural lands. Communities include small towns, suburbs, and an urban core that is home to the state Capitol of California. The region is also a place of great cultural and racial diversity

RESEARCH DELIVERABLES

As part of the creation of the regional economic plan, each region is tasked with preparing a Regional Summary report. The Lead Research Partner will be tasked with overseeing the completion of this report. The Regional Summary is a background of the demographic and socio-economic conditions of the region, highlighting areas with low and high economic diversification and resiliency, as well as any industry trends that impact the regional economy. The regional summary must identify regional inequities, such as economic, health, and environmental inequities, currently facing communities in the region and include the following analyses:

1. Economy and Economic Development Analysis
a. Identify economic development opportunities and forces in the region
b. Review inequities in economic development across the region.
c. Identify major low- and high- wage industries and occupations in the region.

- d. Explore economic well-being and cost of living across the region.
- e. Discuss the impacts caused by economic shocks (e.g., pandemics, natural disasters) or longer-term economic shifts (e.g., global market signals, automation, policy levers) in the region. These include economic harm to communities (i.e., workers, small businesses, impacted industries, the public sector, and selected regions and populations) as well as the potential for new economic development opportunities.

2. Climate and Environmental Impact Analysis

- a. Identify short term and long-term impacts of climate change on the people and economy of the region. These include disproportionate impacts on disinvested communities and expected increases in occupational hazards for workers.
- b. Identify major sources of air pollution, water pollution, toxic and hazardous waste and their impacts on diverse communities, especially disinvested communities
- c. Identify major sources of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and their impacts on diverse communities, especially disinvested communities.
- d. Assess impacts of climate change on targeted emerging industries, sectors, or clusters and how these impacts might hinder success of the proposed plans and transition strategies (e.g., damage to critical infrastructure, loss of productivity, loss of population).

3. Public Health Analysis

- a. Provide a snapshot of the impacts of the current economic trends and climate change effects on public health, especially the impacts on disinvested communities.
- b. Explore the main causes of chronic illnesses and diseases in the region, and whether and how they are related to economic inequalities, climate impacts, environmental factors, etc.
- c. Analyze health disparities across the region, disaggregated by race, gender, and other demographics.

4. Labor Market Analysis

A snapshot of labor and workforce dynamics in the region, including an overview of major employers, occupations, and wages, the impacts of the recent trends, changes, and forces on the labor market, and projected labor trends in existing key industries.

- a. Identify Industry-specific labor standards that meet high-road priorities.

b. Identify Barriers that limit access to high-quality jobs.
c. Identify Relevant training programs, apprenticeships, or high road training partnerships in the region.

5. Industry Cluster Analysis
A snapshot of current major industries as well as industry trends and projections.
a. Include an in-depth analysis of potential growth clusters based on the region’s comparative advantages, market trends, workforce, infrastructure assets, policy trends, aligned state/federal investments, supply chain, and innovation ecosystem.
b. Identify major sources of GHG emissions, air and water pollution, and toxic or hazardous waste from existing or proposed clusters.
c. Conduct measurements of potential for job growth within industries.
d. Identify workers and sectors at risk of displacement due to identified trends and analyses.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The Lead Research Partner will be responsible for the following services:

1. Planning and Design: Develop a comprehensive research plan that outlines the objectives, methodology, timeline, and budget for fulfilling the required analyses. The methodology should align with the program values of equity and inclusion and show understanding of the limitations of indicators.
2. Process Management: In coordination with Valley Vision and the HRTC, managing the completion of the research plan and overseeing any subcontractors or other parties involved in the process. This includes attending regular meetings to discuss the progress of the project with Valley Vision and other members of the HRTC.
3. Technical Assistance - Assist Valley Vision or other members of the HRTC in locating data sources for research deliverables that may not be covered under this Scope of Work
4. Data Collection: Conduct primary and secondary research as per the research plan.
5. Data Analysis: Analyze the data collected using appropriate statistical methods and present findings in a clear and concise manner.
6. Reporting: Prepare high-quality research reports and presentations that summarize the research findings according to the grant requirements.
7. Review: Submit research products (e.g., reports, presentations, etc.) to a review committee for quality assurance and accuracy.

SUBCONTRACTING

The Lead Research Partner may subcontract with other research entities as necessary to fulfill the scope of services. However, the lead research partner will be responsible for ensuring that the subcontractors meet the requirements outlined in this RFP.

SCHEDULED TIMELINE

Deliverable	Due Date
RFP Proposal	May 12th, 2023
RFP Award	No later than June 2nd, 2023
Revised Research Plan (if necessary)	June 9, 2023
Draft Report due	August 15, 2023
Final Report due	October 31, 2023
Technical Assistance & Other Research Assets	December 31, 2023
Contract Ends	December 31, 2023

BUDGET CONSTRAINTS

Proposals should not exceed the maximum budget of \$300,000, including subcontractors. The competitiveness of the budget will be considered as part of the evaluation criteria.

CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

Once under contract, changes to the Scope of Work may only be made with written approval from both the client (Valley Vision) and the service provider. Any changes that would increase the budget should also include a discussion with Valley Vision’s CFO, Creating Answers and Valley Vision’s COO, Alan Lange. The following representatives from each organization have power to approve SOW changes:

Valley Vision

- Evan Schmidt, CEO
- TBD, Project Leader

Lead Research Partner

- TBD

SUBMISSION

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Proposals should include the following information:

1. Company Profile: Provide a brief overview of the bidder’s company, including the size, scope of services, and years of experience as well as the primary contact for the proposal.

2. Project Approach (Draft Research Plan): Provide a detailed approach for conducting the project, including the methodology, timeline, management, and budget.
3. Quality of Work Samples & References: Provide examples of similar research projects the bidder has completed and the contact information for the client of each sample.
4. Team Qualifications: Provide information on the bidder's team, including relevant experience and qualifications.
5. Subcontracting: Provide brief information on any subcontractors the bidder plans to use, including their qualifications and experience. If bidder does not have all anticipated subcontracts aligned, explain how you will identify and engage expert partners to fulfill the needed research.
6. Financial Disclosure Information: State whether the bidder or its parent company (if any) has ever filed for bankruptcy or any form of Reorganization under the Bankruptcy Code and state whether the Bidder or its parent company (if any) has ever received any sanctions or is currently under investigation by any regulatory or governmental body.

Proposals should be submitted to Valley Vision by Friday, May 12, 2023 by 11:59 p.m. and should be addressed to Alana Ramsay, Project Coordinator. Proposals should be submitted via email to alana.ramsay@valleyvision.org and include "Proposal for CERF Research" in the subject line.

PROPOSAL FORMAT

Please use font sizes no smaller than 10 pt. Proposals should be submitted in pdf format as one document and be no longer than 25 pages. If for any reason a proposal needs multiple documents, those documents should be compiled into a zip folder, labeled appropriately (i.e. "Exhibit [#] [Document Title]") and referenced as such in the primary document.

Evaluation & Award

QUALIFICATIONS

The lead research partner should possess the following qualifications:

1. Experience: The lead research partner should have a proven track record of conducting high-quality research projects.
2. Expertise: The lead research partner should have expertise in at least one of the three areas of analyses (economic, environmental, or public health). Knowledge of the State of California and/or the Sacramento region and inclusive growth frameworks is also ideal.
3. Resources: The lead research partner should have the necessary resources to complete the project on time and within budget.
4. Staff (if applicable): The lead research partner should have qualified staff with relevant experience in the field of research.

SELECTION PROCESS

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and Experience of the Lead Research Partner and Subcontractors
2. Proposed Approach for Conducting the Project, including use of inclusive methodology.

3. Quality of Work Samples & References
4. Availability and Resources
5. Budget and Cost

The internal review committee will review the proposals and select the Lead Research Partner based on the evaluation criteria. The Lead Research Partner will be notified of the selection within one month of the proposal submission deadline.

PROPOSAL AWARD EXPECTATIONS

Valley Vision shall award the contract to the proposal that best accommodates the various project requirements. Valley Vision reserves the right to award any contract prior to the proposal deadline stated within the "Scheduled Timeline" or prior to the receipt of all proposals, award the contract to more than one bidder, and refuse any proposal or contract.