

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



ITEM: 2.22
(ID # 27579)

MEETING DATE:

Tuesday, May 06, 2025


FROM : HOUSING AND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS

SUBJECT: HOUSING AND WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS / COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP (HWS/CAP): Approval of Nine Appointments to the Community Action Partnership Commission (CAPC) Board for Two-Year Terms (Low-Income Sector) and a Four-Year Term (Public Sector); All Districts. [\$0]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the appointment of nine new commissioners to the Riverside County Community Action Commission, each Low-Income Sector Representative for a two-year term and each Public Sector Representative for a four-year term:
 - a. District 1 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Alecia Brazell;
 - b. District 1 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Katie McClendon;
 - c. District 2 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Mary Jackson;
 - d. District 3 – Public Sector Representative: Bridgette Moore;
 - e. District 3 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Lisa Castilone;
 - f. District 4 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Ariel Tolefree-Williams;
 - g. District 4 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Laura Ortiz Gonzalez;
 - h. District 5 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Cyndi Lemke, and
 - i. District 5 – Low-Income Sector Representative: Eric Anthony Devezin.

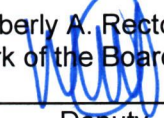
ACTION:Consent


Heidi Marshall, Director 4/24/2025

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Washington, seconded by Supervisor Gutierrez and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Medina, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: May 6, 2025
xc: HWS/CAP

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
SOURCE OF FUNDS: N/A			Budget Adjustment: No	
			For Fiscal Year: 24/25-28/29	

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve

BACKGROUND:

Summary

The Riverside County Community Action Commission (CAC) was formally established by the Board of Supervisors to provide guidance on anti-poverty programming and funding, and to advocate for the needs of low-income communities and residents. The primary responsibility of the CAC is to collaborate with the Riverside County Community Action Partnership (CAP) in advising and guiding how CAP's funding can have the most impact in assisting residents to improve their financial health within their respective districts. In accordance with Riverside County Board of Supervisors' Policy A-21, Advisory Boards, Commissions, and Committees, the CAC advises the Riverside County Board of Supervisors in alignment with the Delineation of Powers Agreement between the Governing Board and the Community Action Commission.

The CAC is a tripartite board composed of a minimum of fifteen (15) members representing three sectors: one-third (1/3) representing the Public Sector; one-third (1/3) comprising low-income individuals or representatives of the low-income community; and one-third (1/3) representing the Private Sector, including members from business, industry, labor, religious groups, education, or other significant community interests. All members must represent a Riverside County supervisorial district and receive formal appointment by the Board of Supervisors.

The individuals listed below have applied to, been reviewed by, and are recommended by the CAC Board for membership on the CAC for a two-year (2) term (Low-Income Sector) and four-year (4) term (Public Sector):

Public Sector Representative

District 3 – Councilmember Bridgette Moore has been a public servant in Wildomar since 2008, serving four terms on the city council and currently in her fifth term. She made history as the first woman to serve as Mayor of Wildomar in 2010 and has since been re-elected in 2016 and 2024. A passionate advocate for the community, Councilmember Moore has been actively involved with local organizations like Cops for Kids, the Wildomar Rotary Club, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary. Throughout her tenure, she has focused on improving the quality of life for Wildomar's residents, fostering connections between families, and creating a thriving local economy.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Councilmember Moore's leadership vision includes enhancing community services, strengthening local business partnerships, supporting education growth, and maintaining a safe and sustainable city. Her goals include expanding park facilities, advocating for library expansion, and fostering collaborations to support youth, seniors, and veterans. She also supports the establishment of a Mt. San Jacinto College campus in Wildomar to create new educational and economic opportunities.

Low-Income Sector Representatives

District 1 – Alecia Brazell, a lifelong resident of Perris, has dedicated her career to helping others. After starting in the travel industry and working in various roles within the County of Riverside, she found great joy in helping people during her time as a 911 Dispatcher with CAL

FIRE/Riverside County Fire. Alecia later retired after 18 years as an Attendance Technician at Lakeside Middle School, where she helped address chronic absenteeism and mediate between parents and the school district. Her commitment to student well-being earned her recognition for the highest attendance rates and rewards for the students.

Motivated by her desire to help young people, Alecia became a certified Youth Mental Health First Aid Instructor and volunteered to train others in this critical area. She began pursuing a degree in behavioral health with a focus on adolescent and childhood disorders driven by her commitment to helping youth thrive. Alecia also launched It is Mind Over Matter Mediation LLC., a business focused on helping individuals find peaceful resolutions. With a strong commitment to youth mental health and community service, Alecia is excited to continue making a positive impact in Perris and beyond.

District 1 – Katie McClendon is an advocate for families and a visionary leader who has overcome significant challenges, including domestic violence, teen pregnancy, homelessness, and poverty. A devoted mother of three, she has spent her career in roles such as preschool teacher, instructional assistant, and parent partner, which deepened her passion for early childhood education, family empowerment, and community advocacy, laying the foundation for her lifelong mission to uplift and serve others. Katie has also served in leadership positions, including Trustee for the Perris Elementary School District and Education Chair for NAACP Branch 1034.

Katie is the Founder and CEO of Families Achieving Success, a nonprofit organization that empowers underserved families by providing life skills education, mentorship, and mental health awareness programs. She also uses her expertise as a Certified Domestic Violence Counselor and Life Coach to help individuals rebuild their lives. Katie holds an associate's degree in child development, a bachelor's degree in liberal studies, and is a published author. She is an unwavering and courageous advocate for low-income families, a proven community leader, a dedicated mentor, and a relentless champion for change, who will fight for resources, equity, and real solutions that uplift and empower all of those she represents.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

District 2 – Mary Jackson is a seasoned and results-driven Asset Manager with over sixteen years of experience in affordable housing. She has successfully overseen the financial and physical performance of diverse multi-family housing portfolios, ensuring compliance with limited partnership agreements, regulatory guidelines, and memorandums of understanding. Throughout her career, Mary has managed relationships with funders, lenders, and partners while effectively supervising third-party property management teams. Her strengths lie in financial analysis, operational strategy, and maximizing cash flow for assets facing financial challenges. Currently serving as an Asset Manager at A Community of Friends in Los Angeles, she is responsible for a portfolio of 27 assets, where she leads efforts in strategic planning, compliance oversight, site inspections, financial modeling, and regulatory reporting.

Mary holds a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Governance and Non-Profit and a bachelor's degree in business administration with a focus on Finance, both from the University of La Verne. Her professional training includes certifications in affordable housing tax credit calculation and pending certification through NeighborWorks' CHAM program. Her previous roles include Compliance Manager at National Core, Asset Manager at SRO Housing, and Program Analyst at Southern California Edison. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated strong leadership in financial management, compliance oversight, and strategic planning.

District 3 – Lisa Castilone is the Director of Tribal Programs at GRID Alternatives Inland Empire, with over 15 years of experience delivering renewable energy solutions to underserved communities across the region. In her role, she collaborates with Native American Tribal leaders

to develop clean energy projects, secure funding, and ensure equitable program implementation for low-income and disadvantaged populations. Lisa oversees budgets and grants, manages staff, and builds partnerships to expand renewable energy access within Tribal nations. She is currently pursuing a degree in Sustainability and Environmental Policy.

Lisa has served as a public member of the California Public Utilities Commission's Low Income Oversight Board (LIOB) since 2020. She also volunteers with the Riverside County Transportation Commission's Citizens and Specialized Transit Advisory Committee (CSTAC), is a lifetime member of the VFW Auxiliary League in Temecula, and a member of the Temecula Elks Lodge #2801. In addition to her professional and volunteer work, she is a caregiver for her elderly mother and a parent to six adult children.

District 4 – Ariel Tolefree-Williams is a dedicated public servant with over a decade of experience in housing policy, community development, and advocacy for low-income and unhoused residents. As the Housing Services Administrator for the City of Palm Springs, she has led initiatives to expand affordable housing, prevent evictions, and support vulnerable populations. Ariel played a key role in launching the city's Rental Registry, currently administers the CDBG Home Repair Program, and has secured millions in funding for affordable housing developments. She has also been instrumental in the city's Section 14 Reparations efforts and

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

spearheaded the city's Rent Assistance Program which has provided over \$2 million in rental assistance and helped 450 households avoid displacement.

Previously, Ariel served as the Affordable Housing Manager for the Town of Erie where she created the town's Affordable Housing Division and successfully developed workforce housing projects. She also helped shape the housing policy in Adams County, including co-writing legislation to protect mobile home park residents. Recognized for her dedication, she received the 2024 Lift to Rise Advocate of the Year Award. Ariel is committed to using her expertise to drive policy changes that create lasting impact and to improve the financial stability of Riverside County's most vulnerable residents.

District 4 – Laura Ortiz González is a Systems Engineer and community advocate based in Coachella, California. Originally from Irapuato, Guanajuato, Mexico, she earned a degree in Computer Systems Engineering before immigrating to the United States in 2021. She became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 2022. Laura's first role in the U.S. was with OA Restroom Portables, Inc., where she introduced digital solutions to improve operational efficiency and client engagement. Since 2022, she has worked at Ocean Springs Tech Inc., applying her skills in system development and digital infrastructure to support business growth.

In addition to her professional work, Laura is an active volunteer with the VITA program, assisting low-income individuals with tax preparation for three consecutive years. She also helps community members navigate applications for EDD, immigration processes, and public assistance programs like Medi-Cal and CalFresh. Coming from a farmworker family, Laura is deeply motivated by a sense of justice and equity, and she continues to use her knowledge and experience to empower others facing similar challenges.

District 5 – Cyndi Lemke has been a resident of the Hemet-San Jacinto Valley since 1986 and currently serves as the Executive Director of the Hemet San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce. She earned her real estate license in 2018 and works with So Cal Real Estate & Associates, where she has successfully marketed and sold residential properties, including a multi-million-dollar listing. Cyndi has held leadership roles as Past President of the Kiwanis Club of Hemet, Secretary of the John R. Williams Memorial Scholarship Foundation, and former Chairman of the City of Hemet Planning Commission.

Cyndi is actively involved in several community organizations, including serving as Chair of the Riverside Chapter of the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP), Board Member for Care-A-Van Transit Inc., and Chair of the Hemet/San Jacinto Transportation NOW (TNOW) committee. She also volunteers with the HSJ Student of the Month Program and participates in her church as a Lector and Parish Council member. Cyndi is married with four children and five grandchildren and continues to dedicate her time to local service and leadership.

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

District 5 – Eric Anthony Devezin has extensive experience in community outreach, social services, and nonprofit development. He currently serves as the Head of Nonprofit Development at the Hemet San Jacinto Chamber of Commerce, a position he began in December 2024. His past roles include Program Specialist at the Foundation for California Community Colleges and Human Services Coordinator at Sonnyview ATA, where he focused on outreach, intake procedures, and coordinating services for clients. Eric also completed a fellowship with Caring Across Generations, advocating for policy changes in care infrastructure.

In addition to his professional work, Eric is deeply involved in public service, holding roles with the American Red Cross Southern California Region, MoveOn, and Voices for Children, Inc., where he advocates for children who have experienced abuse or neglect. He also serves as the Advisory Committee Secretary for the IHSS Public Authority-Riverside County, advising on strategies for service delivery and collective bargaining. Eric's commitment to civic engagement is further reflected in his memberships in various professional organizations, including Civic Pride, ASPA, NSLS, and International Business Students Association.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

The Community Action Commission (CAC) positively impacts residents and businesses by addressing poverty and creating economic opportunities for all Riverside County residents.