

## AWARD LIST & PROJECT SUMMARIES

In 2024 the California Jobs First Los Angeles Collaborative secured \$14 million in Catalyst Predevelopment Funding, with a **\$9M dedicated seed funding opportunity** to invest in predevelopment projects that drive innovation, growth, and community impact. The Catalyst review committee selected **26 proposals** that span across all industry sectors and Service Planning Areas (SPAs) in Los Angeles. A 10-member Review Committee, composed of LA Collaborative members without conflicts of interest, convened to review, score, and recommend awards. The community-led subcommittee made the final recommendations. Awardees and project summaries are listed below.

### Catalyst Predevelopment Phase Grantee List

26 Grants totaling \$9 Million | Period of Performance: August 1, 2025 – July 31, 2026

Organization	Project Description	Funding
Alliance for Community Empowerment	<b>Inclusive Pathways Initiative: Phase 1</b>   The Inclusive Pathways Initiative integrates intensive case management, mental health and substance use disorder treatment, community violence intervention, life skills education, peer support, and parenting support into a flexible workforce development framework. <b>SPA 2</b>	\$ 369,852
AllieKits Network Inc.	<b>ASCEND (Advancing Students in Creative Enterprise and Nex-Gen Designs)</b>   ASCEND is a structured workforce pipeline designed to remove industry barriers by integrating technical training, mentorship, and direct job placements, ensuring young women gain access to sustainable careers in the creative economy. <b>SPA 8</b>	\$ 300,475
AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles	<b>Creating Capacity for Blue Economy Businesses and Entrepreneurs in Los Angeles</b>   Creating Capacity for Blue Economy Business aims to grow small businesses and entrepreneurship in marine energy, aquaculture, blue tech, and carbon sequestration industries. <b>SPA 8</b>	\$ 318,000
Anchor of Hope International Ministries Inc.	<b>GreenWorks LA Pre-apprenticeship Program</b>   The GreenWorks LA Sustainable Jobs is a workforce development pre-apprenticeship program in green jobs and providing opportunities for formerly incarcerated, justice-impacted youth. <b>SPA 6 &amp; 7</b>	\$ 195,614
Bioscience Los Angeles County, Inc.	<b>Bioscience Career Pathways Initiative</b>   Bioscience Career Pathways Initiative is a pilot program focused on bridging the gap between high school students in underserved communities and high-road careers in the growing field of advanced biomanufacturing. <b>SPA 2</b>	\$ 390,225
BRIC Foundation	<b>Creators @Lab</b>   Creators @ The Laboratory is a workforce development and entrepreneurial training center that will serve as a job creation and workforce hub for the production of podcasts, animated content, unscripted shows, creator-designed Free Ad-Supported Streaming Television (FAST) channel content and educational videos to employ creative community workers in a registered apprenticeship capacity, and support both paid on-the-job training and small-business development. <b>SPA 6</b>	\$400,000
CA State L.A. University Auxiliary Services, Inc	<b>Hydrogen &amp; Electric Vehicle Workforce Initiative</b>   The Cal State LA ZEV&CFI Hub is a workforce training Hub focused on enhancing upward mobility for students by preparing them for high-paying jobs in this field. <b>SPA 4</b>	\$400,000
Coffee with a Cause	<b>Ready, Set, Hire: Highland Park Expansion</b>   Coffee with A Cause proposes expanding its job readiness café model to Highland Park, offering	\$363,800

	paid training, certifications, and career pathways for transitional-aged youth. The program targets foster and at-risk youth with wraparound support, employer partnerships, and climate-conscious transportation solutions. <a href="#">SPA 4</a>	
Community Build, Inc.	<a href="#">Renewable Pathways Initiative</a>   The proposal plans renewable energy projects and a clean energy resource center in Willowbrook to boost climate resilience and job access to underserved LA communities. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	\$400,000
Compton Community College District	<a href="#">Phase 2 of the Compton Community Health Professions Partnership (CCHPP)</a>   Compton College proposes a healthcare workforce pipeline to prepare underrepresented students from Compton and SPA 6 for high-demand careers through aligned curriculum, job shadowing, and local employer partnerships. The initiative addresses regional healthcare shortages while promoting equity, access, and sustainability. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	\$ 399,952
Cooperation LA	<a href="#">Expanding Cooperative Ownership &amp; Access to Financing</a>   Cooperation LA aims to combat inequality, gentrification, and the gig economy by empowering marginalized individuals to create worker-owned cooperatives in L.A., strengthening the Small Business and Entrepreneurship ecosystem and keeping profits within underserved communities. <a href="#">SPA 3-7</a>	\$ 379,369
Destination Crenshaw	<a href="#">Destination Crenshaw Broadband Workforce and Digital Equity Initiative</a>   The Destination Crenshaw Digital Equity Zone Feasibility Study is a nine-month project to develop a workforce development program focused on upskilling workers to meet the coming demand for LA2028. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	\$400,000
Education Young Minds Inc.	<a href="#">Career Ready SoCal</a>   Career Ready SoCal proposes a regional workforce hub integrating AI-powered career tools, STEM and literacy education, and employer-aligned training to prepare underrepresented communities for high-growth careers in construction, healthcare, and clean energy. <a href="#">SPA 5, 6 &amp; 8</a>	\$400,000
Gateway Cities Council of Governments	<a href="#">Gateway Cities Regional Workforce Development Collaborative</a>   This project proposes a subregional collaborative to expand access to high-quality jobs and strengthen workforce pipelines in Southeast Los Angeles County. <a href="#">SPA 3, 6-8</a>	\$400,000
GRID Alternatives Greater Los Angeles	<a href="#">Solar Resiliency Hub and Workforce Development Center</a>   GRID GLA and CDTech propose a Resiliency Hub in South LA's District 9 to provide solar backup power, workforce training, and community services. They're requesting \$360K for site assessments, community outreach, and pre-development planning. The project aims to improve climate resilience and economic opportunity in underserved neighborhoods. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	\$ 360,057
In the Mix Inc.	<a href="#">Paint on Purpose: Pipeline for Apprenticeship, Innovation, New Careers and Training</a>   Paint on Purpose is a workforce and entrepreneurship initiative that prepares justice-involved individuals, veterans, foster youth, and displaced workers for careers or business ownership in the construction and trades industry through certified training. <a href="#">SPA 3, 5 &amp; 7</a>	\$ 164,010
Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance	<a href="#">Restaurant Equity Alliance</a>   The Restaurant Equity Alliance (REA) is a citywide initiative dedicated to strengthening the restaurant industry by supporting businesses that uphold fair labor practices, ensuring workers have quality jobs, and advancing policies that create a more sustainable and inclusive economy. <a href="#">SPA 4</a>	\$ 399,647
LA Commons	<a href="#">Creative Youth Workforce Development Program</a>   LA Commons will develop a youth workforce program to train South and Central LA youth for careers in the creative industry. The project offers mentorship, paid	\$ 154,750

	apprenticeships, and hands-on training to address systemic barriers and boost economic mobility. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	
Los Angeles Regional Consortium (LARC)	<a href="#">Building Resilient Futures Fellowship Pilot Project</a>   This proposal pilots a climate-resilient workforce training program in construction, architecture, and facilities management, led by a coalition of LA-area colleges and partners. It focuses on serving underserved communities and testing inclusive, industry-aligned models for future scaling. <a href="#">SPA 5</a>	\$400,000
Pasadena City College	<a href="#">Building a Skilled Construction Workforce</a>   The Workforce Recovery Initiative is a predevelopment project designed to expand training and workforce pipelines for construction and skilled trades in response to the critical labor shortages caused by the Eaton Fire Disaster. <a href="#">SPA 3</a>	\$400,000
Peregrinos de Emaus, Inc.	<a href="#">The Hollywood Producer Incubator Program</a>   The Hollywood Producers Incubator Program supports underrepresented young creatives from low-income backgrounds by providing training, mentorship, and resources to launch sustainable careers in the entertainment industry. <a href="#">SPA 3</a>	\$ 325,600
Rising Communities Foundation	<a href="#">Transforming and Expanding the Healthcare Workforce in Los Angeles</a>   Rising Communities will train 50 CHWs with a culturally competent curriculum, enhance care coordination through Pear Suite technology, improve health outcomes for 500–1,000 patients, and establish a scalable workforce model integrating CHWs into the healthcare system. <a href="#">SPA 6</a>	\$400,000
Start Here Empowerment	<a href="#">ChargedUp! EVSE Mobile CTE Training</a>   ChargedUp! is a mobile electrical vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) training lab that brings hands-on, equity-centered career and technical education directly to LAUSD students. <a href="#">SPA 8</a>	\$400,000
The AMAAD Institute	<a href="#">DHCS-Certified CHW Training Program</a>   AMAAD institute seeks funding to design a CHW training program aligned with state standards to better serve communities and address health inequities in LA. <a href="#">SPA 6 &amp; 8</a>	\$ 326,255
The Miguel Contreras Foundation	<a href="#">L.A. Green Technology Social Enterprise</a>   LA Green Tech aims to establish a workforce training program and social enterprise focused on electric vehicle (EV) and hydrogen fuel cell truck conversions in Los Angeles County. <a href="#">SPA 1-8</a>	\$400,000
Venice Arts	<a href="#">Unscripted Media Apprenticeship</a>   Unscripted Media Pre-Apprenticeship Program trains and prepares opportunity youth (ages 18-24) for jobs, apprenticeships, and internships in documentary and unscripted production. <a href="#">SPA 1-8</a>	\$ 148,600