

AltaSea at the Port of Los Angeles*Precollegiate Education**San Pedro, CA**\$250,000*

AltaSea is a public-private venture that was founded in 2014 in response to the abandoned warehouses and wharfs and the loss of well-paying jobs at the Port of Los Angeles. To spur economic growth, AltaSea is redeveloping a 35-acre property to serve as a hub for collaboration, business innovation, and job creation in the emerging blue economy. Three adjoining warehouses (Berths 58, 59, and 60) consisting of 180,000 square feet are being renovated with funding from the state and the port to create the *Center of Innovation*. Each will accommodate up to ten tenants and include a 6,000-square-foot common area for collaboration and educational activities. A W. M. Keck Foundation grant will be used to build out and furnish the common area in Berth 59 and expand programming for disadvantaged youth. Construction will begin in February 2024 and be completed by June. Commitments are in hand for all tenant spaces in Berth 59 and include university-based research programs and start-up enterprises in aquaculture, marine energy, and ocean exploration. As part of their lease, tenants are required to participate in AltaSea's education programs. The common space in Berth 59 will be used to host a wide range of interactive educational activities that can inspire students to protect the ocean while they also learn how to use this resource responsibly to solve global challenges. Each year, at least 1,000 youth will participate in activities such as afterschool workshops, career days, and summer internships. Ocean entrepreneurs and researchers will mentor students as they explore career opportunities in fields that are replacing obsolete jobs. Research conducted by AltaSea's tenants will be integrated into educational programming to keep it cutting edge.

Blind Children's Center*Early Childhood**Los Angeles, CA**\$300,000*

The Blind Children's Center (BCC) provides free, family-focused early childhood education and intervention services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers of all abilities. They have a specialized focus on children who are blind or visually impaired and/or have multiple disabilities. It is the only nonprofit preschool of its kind in Los Angeles County, serving the community since 1938. Of all children served, half have at least one disability and 20% are blind or visually impaired. In addition, 80% are from low- or moderate-income families and the majority are racially diverse. A Keck grant will support renovation of BCC's historically significant facility located in east Hollywood and designed in 1952 by Black architect Paul R.

Williams. The facility is being reconfigured to expand early intervention services for infants/toddlers and add a center-based early learning program for toddlers. The project also includes upgrading the building's infrastructure, ADA features, and four existing preschool classrooms. An existing preschool playground will be redesigned, and one added for toddlers. Renovations are underway and will be completed in early 2024. Programming for infants and toddlers with a significant disability focuses on helping parents prepare their child to attend school. Children will receive physical, occupational, and speech therapies in addition to training that can optimize their use of remaining vision and other senses to orient themselves and be independently mobile. BCC's inclusive learning environment in which children of all abilities learn together will help them develop confidence, diverse friendships, and empathy for others. Presently, BCC enrolls 42 children and their families and will have the capacity in the renovated facility to serve 92 at any one time.

Emanate Health

Health Care

Covina, CA

\$500,000

Emanate Health Queen of the Valley Hospital is a 325-bed nonprofit hospital serving the East San Gabriel Valley section of Los Angeles County. The facility is a federally designated "safety-net" medical provider serving a multicultural and socio-economically diverse community, many of whom are uninsured and underinsured patients. The existing 7,000-square-foot emergency department at the hospital is among the busiest in Los Angeles County. Prior to the pandemic, the department served more than 80,000 patients a year in a space originally built in 1962 to treat 35,000 patients. To address the growing emergency care needs of the region, Emanate Health is building a new, 60,000-square-foot emergency department and intensive care unit. The facility will contain a 60-bed emergency department on the first floor and a 24-bed intensive care unit on the second floor. A Keck grant will help Emanate Health purchase and install new, state-of-the-art medical equipment for the emergency department to better diagnose and treat patients more effectively and efficiently. Once completed in 2024, the emergency department will be able to serve up to 120,000 patients a year. The facility will help to address space limitation issues, serve more patients, and reduce wait times for them and their family members. The added capacity will also enable the hospital to accept more ambulance runs, minimizing overcrowding in other emergency rooms in the region.

Los Angeles County Office of Education*Precollegiate Education*

Downey, CA

\$475,000

There is overwhelming evidence that the primary mechanism our public institutions use to ensure that our most at-risk children and families are safe is profoundly flawed and may exacerbate the problems that it is intended to solve. Educators, among other professionals, are obligated by law to report suspected child abuse or neglect to child protective services. But data show that this policy has become a key driver in overreporting and investigations of families who instead just need connections to community-based support. In Los Angeles County, only 6% of the reports of alleged abuse or neglect called into the child abuse hotline by school personnel in 2022 were substantiated cases of maltreatment. Inconsistent training, and the lack of decision-making guidance and alternative resources available to help families, leaves teachers with no other option than to call the hotline. To address this problem, the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) is piloting a new training program. Educators will learn how to distinguish “need” from abuse or neglect so that they can make better decisions about when to call the hotline or refer families to community resources when maltreatment is not a factor. The pilot will occur in two or three school districts, including Inglewood, and through LACOE’s Head Start preschool division. The County’s Commission on Children and Families, which oversees the child welfare system, is developing an online decision support tool that the pilot will test with educators. Eventually this tool will be used by all mandated reporters. It will also assist with identifying locally based nonprofits that can commit to taking referrals from schools for families in need. A Keck grant will support the consultants needed to: 1) test/refine the training and decision support tools, 2) develop dedicated referral networks for participating schools/districts, and 3) tap existing and find new, sustainable public funding for prevention-oriented, family support services.

Maryvale*Civic and Community*

Rosemead, CA

\$500,000

Homelessness is a growing problem in the United States and around the world. According to the Los Angeles County Homeless Services Authority, in 2022 over 65,000 people were unhoused in Los Angeles County. Out of that number, 34% were female, and 60% were in family units headed by a single mother. Of this population, 33% experienced domestic/intimate partner violence. To help address this problem, Maryvale opened Seton House, a nine-bed program, which provides six months of safe, temporary housing and wraparound services for single mothers to help change the trajectory of their lives. This interim housing program allows the mothers to receive various supportive services such as parenting and life skills classes, financial literacy workshops, job placement assistance, and permanent housing search assistance to sustain a positive and productive lifestyle for

themselves and their children. The mothers also benefit from a continuum of care through Maryvale's other programs including community based mental health and wrap-around services, and the opportunity to enroll their children in Maryvale's Early Education Center. Since its opening in August 2022, the program has assisted thirty-two mothers and their children. To expand the program, Maryvale is converting a second dorm-style residential building on its main campus in Rosemead into twenty individual family living units, updating kitchens and dining rooms, and creating a less institutional environment. Renovations will begin in spring 2024 and be completed in fall 2024. A Keck grant will support renovation, enabling the program to serve another 50 families each year.
