

# MARIN COUNTY EQUAL VOICE COALITION

Working to Build Healthy Communities and Promote Social Equity in Marin County

## OUR PURPOSE

*The **Marin County Equal Voice Coalition** represents a broad-based partnership of organizations that share a common vision for a healthier and more equitable Marin. We work collaboratively to address the need for policy change at the local level and county-wide, while remaining vigilant of state and federal policies that have the potential to improve our quality of life. We aim to connect service with advocacy and to empower our constituencies to participate in decision-making processes that shape our communities.*

## BENEFITS TO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- ❖ **Leveraging Resources**
- ❖ **Providing Technical Assistance**
- ❖ **Assessing & Building Advocacy Capacity**
- ❖ **Strengthening Constituencies' Voices**

## OUR 10-POINT PLATFORM

The **Marin County Equal Voice Platform** is the result of a year-long community process involving historically underrepresented residents and institutional partners. Together, we identified 10 key advocacy issues that are critical to the well-being of working families. We enhance quality of life and promote thriving, equitable communities by advancing policy change in these areas:

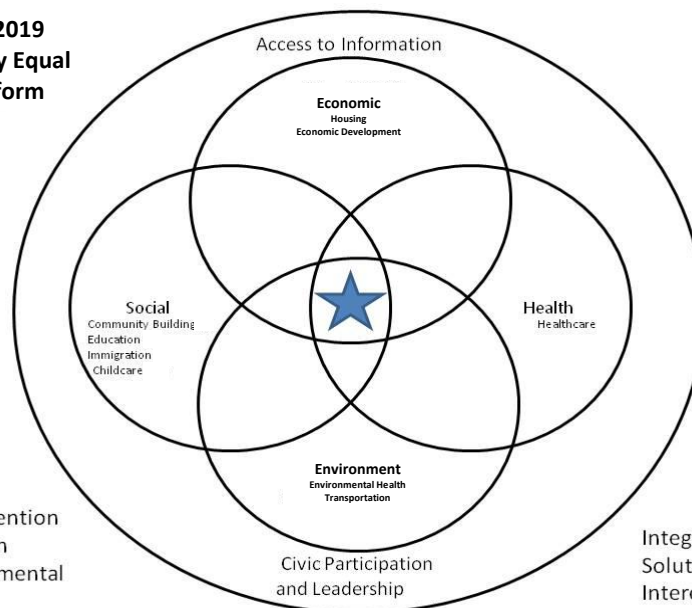
- |                         |                         |                   |               |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| 1. Economic Development | 4. Healthcare           | 7. Education      | 10. Childcare |
| 2. Housing              | 5. Environmental Health | 8. Immigration    |               |
| 3. Civic Engagement     | 6. Community Building   | 9. Transportation |               |

## OUR PRINCIPLES

The following principles serve to guide our collective efforts to implement the Platform:

- ◆ Integration
- ◆ Interconnectedness
- ◆ Diversity
- ◆ Leadership
- ◆ Equality
- ◆ Justice
- ◆ Participation
- ◆ Collaboration

**The 2009-2019  
 Marin County Equal  
 Voice Platform**



## JOIN US!!

To become a member please contact Carolyn Placente, Public Policy Advocate of Grassroots Leadership Network of Marin, at (415)451-4350 x310 or carolyn@maringrassroots.org



*Strong Voices = Strong Communities*

*“Cesar Chavez was boycotting one thing, grapes. That is why he was able to have success, because they were focused on one thing. So we have to make a decision about the things we are going to take on and develop a plan. We need a vision of the things we need to accomplish together.”*

## The Economic Development Task Force

works collaboratively to advocate for policy change that aims to revitalize communities, provide pathways out of poverty, increase job training opportunities, and produce more green-collar jobs.

---

*So, how does Social Equity, in terms of equal distribution and accessibility of funds, employment opportunities, and community resources fit into the frame of the green economic model?*

---

During the **Marin County Equal Voice Platform** building process, the question of economic development consistently arose as a top priority amongst residents and stakeholder organizations alike. Since that time our nation’s economy, and consequently our local economy, has undergone a significant downturn. Those segments of our population that are typically underserved and underrepresented are especially vulnerable. When the economy struggles, they suffer most. For these reasons the **Marin County Equal Voice Coalition** has opted to take on Economic Development as a primary area of policy advocacy at the start of this new decade.

As a result of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, nearly \$90 million in stimulus funds have been awarded to Marin County, much of which is devoted to **greening** the economy. Yet who are the real beneficiaries of these funds and how are we defining the **green economy**? The **Economic Development Task Force** of the **Marin County Equal Voice Coalition** is taking a lead role in asking these questions, with the goal of provoking dialogue, educating community members and decision-makers, and promoting policy change that ensures that we rebuild the local economy on a foundation of inclusivity and social equity.

If your organization would like to participate in the **Economic Development Task Force**, please contact Carolyn Placente, Public Policy Advocate of Grassroots Leadership Network, at (415) 451-4350 ext. 310 or [carolyn@maringrassroots.org](mailto:carolyn@maringrassroots.org).