

California Black Chamber of Commerce
California Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Annual Report 2013



ABOUT THE CHAMBER

In 1995, a group of business and civic leaders from across the state met in San Francisco to form an organization dedicated to business empowerment, community, economic and youth entrepreneur development. Their secondary purpose was to improve critically important communications between local community economic development agencies, chambers of commerce and business associations. In a remarkable short period of time, the California Black Chamber of Commerce (CBCC) became engaged in virtually every aspect, which affected business and quality of life in the State of California. Some of these issues included strong positions on propositions 187, 209, 5 and 9, bank acquisitions, mergers and utility deregulations, and currently stand at the forefront of the presidential charge to engage new and emerging urban markets.

This new organization immediately began forming alliances that encompasses more than 55,000 civil politicians and faith-based leaders throughout the state and country. This has allowed them to advocate and lobby from a position of strength for small businesses, community growth and development. These bonds and partnerships have been established from the halls of the State Legislature, where former State Senator Dianne Watson was named the first lifetime member of the State Chamber and has been followed by Senator Kevin Murray, former Chair of the Legislative Black Caucus to Grantland Johnson, the former Secretary of Health and Human Services Agency. Chamber receptions have honored such notables as the past Congressional Black Caucus Chair, Maxine Waters and the honorable Rodney Coleman, Under Secretary of the Air Force.



In 1998, the CBCC Foundation, Inc. was created as a public charity dedicated to education, training, and community growth and youth entrepreneur development. The foundation has formed unique and valuable partnerships with many private corporations, which have allowed the foundation's "Renaissance 21st Century Project" to flourish across the state and beyond. The renaissance projects include database design for private/public sector needs, entrepreneur training, cultural appreciation, statewide leadership

forums and its state renowned Leadership Congress, of which written reports assist state/community economic growth and elevation. CBCC is pleased with the growth and alliances created by its organization, while realizing there is still much work to be done. The organization is continuing to address the issue that effect small business

survivability, growth and the multiple effects of community development. The foundation facilitates business development and provides training and technical assistance to member chambers for purposes of creating and sustaining self-employment and opportunities for increased wealth in their respective local African American communities. It operates several programs to that end:

- African American Agenda & Leadership Series
- CBCCF Scholarship Program
- Green Initiative
- KDEE 97.7FM Radio
- BLISS

From our headquarters in the capitol city, we welcome you to the California Black Chamber of Commerce.

A Message from the Chairman of the Board

Over the last year the California Black Chamber of Commerce (CBCC), has continued to produce its signature event: The Ron Brown Business and Economic Summit as our most productive event of year. Attendance has been great and improves every year with more and more businesses developing and growing in their regions of operation.

I believe the benefit of belonging to a business organization such as the CBCC is twofold. Businesses realize you can network and partner all around the state and this organization advocacy effort for small business is second to none.

CBCC continues to promote Black Chambers from around the state and supports all member chamber activities at its own expense. We continue to work at improving the financial position of our member chambers every time we do business.

As the Board Chair I have to congratulate the state staffs who continue to work diligently to insure the success of the CBCC events as well as insuring continued support of all our member chambers. Next year we will do more; achieve more so that more of our small businesses and local chambers will continue to prosper.

Dr. Robert R. Gaines Sr.

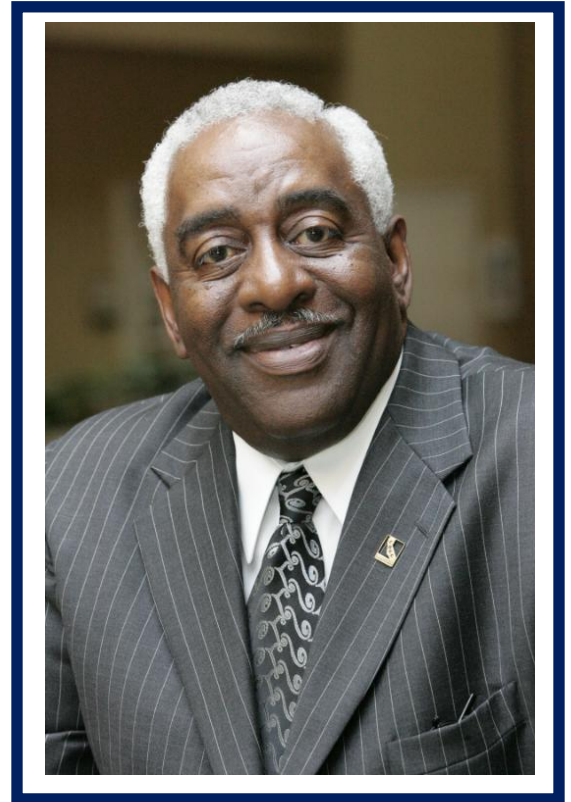
Chairman, Board of Directors
California Black Chamber of Commerce



A Message from the President

As I reflect back on the past year, one of the amazing things I have realized is that California is a large community that has a strong commitment to volunteerism. Whether through the Chamber of Commerce or our many non-profit organizations, even down to our youth programs, we are a state-wide community willing to give back to make our State a better place to work and live. The programs that the CBCC has put together in 2013, as you will review in this annual report were productive for all who have attended and participated in the activities. The feedback helps us improve our efforts for the next year's events.

Our community continues to prosper and has many new and exciting things happening. I would like to thank everyone who has contributed in any way to making our State such a great place. Please continue to encourage and educate your employees, families and friends of investing in our statewide community.



Aubry Stone

President / Chief Executive Officer
California Black Chamber of Commerce

Vision & Mission & Values

Our Grand Vision:

To be the essential business organization providing leadership to our community.

Our Mission

To provide programs and services which strengthen our member organizations in their regions of operation.

To advocate policies which improve business opportunities for African Americans throughout California.

To actively promote economic development and to build coalitions with other organizations throughout the state.

To implement and maintain programs that promote youth entrepreneurship, training and community economic development.

Our Values

Future Focused. Provide proactive leadership by looking at the big picture and the long term when formulating policies and positions. Position the organization to positively respond to opportunities and challenges.

Member Committed. Be the collective voice of our members by maintaining a flexible, responsive organization. Act corroboratively when serving our members by focusing on business success.

Excellence Driven. Commit to producing quality products, events and programs. Measuring our affairs by what is right, honest and ethical.

California Black Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors 2013

Aubry Stone – President/CEO

Robert Gaines Sr. Chairman – Partners Management

Delores Thompson Treasurer – Professionally Speaking

Bernard Johnson – The Bernard Johnson Group

Celes King – Congress of Racial Equality of California

Sharon Evans – The Business Resource Group

James McGhee – JLM Management Group

Clarence Scott – Brandon Supply

Charles Daniel – Daniel, Russell & Charles Company

Leonard Robinson – Strategic Counsel

California Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation Board 2013

Aubry Stone – Executive Director

Delores Thompson – Vice President/Professionally Speaking

Ed Phillips – Phillip Enterprise/M&M Power

Mark Harris – The Pineapple Group

In Memory of a Fallen Soldier

Celes King IV, CBCC Board Member - Congress of Racial Equality of California

October 19, 1943 – March 15, 2014

Celes King IV was an iconic figure in Southern California and was well known for his political activism and community organizing skills. Celes King IV was the son of a well-known civil rights activist, Celes King III. He passed away Saturday, March 15, 2014 due to heart complications. King, who served as the President and CEO of the Congress for Racial Equality (CORE), was now serving as an active Board Member when he passed. CORE is a non-profit organization that advocates for underserved communities of color. King was also a successful businessman; the family has owned and operated the Celes King Bail Bond Agency in Los Angeles for many years. King also served as a Board Member for the California Black Chamber of Commerce (CBCC). President and CEO of CBCC, Aubry Stone, "Like his father, Celes King III nationally well-known Civil Rights advocate. Celes King IV was a friend and an advocate for all. He will be sorely missed."



California Black Chamber of Commerce (CBCC)
California Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation (CBCCF)

2013 In Summary

- ❖ Continued recruitment of new members.
- ❖ Member of the US Black Chamber of Commerce
- ❖ Averaging approximately 52,350 hits monthly on our website.
- ❖ Technology resources, systems and capabilities continued to be enhanced and expanded to allow us to serve visitors and members with higher levels of reliability and speed to online access to the legislative process and publications. Developed webinar sessions that enhance business growth to be launched in 2014.
- ❖ Membership service representatives provided excellent membership relations activities, including scheduled after hours networking events, and a variety of other activities designed to create goodwill and quality membership contacts.
- ❖ Constantly maintaining a strong database of small business owners statewide
- ❖ Four Business networking opportunities events were held (Annual Legislative Reception, Capital Policy Luncheon held in January; African American Leadership Forum, held in April; and the Ron Brown Business/Economic Summit and Scholarship Awards held in August) with good participation and community awareness. Significant improvements in regional media relations resulted in expanded news coverage along with outreach efforts to national outlets.
- ❖ Continued education, business development and cultural awareness for youth and young adults at our annual CBCCF Youth Entrepreneur Summit. Provided \$10,000 in scholarships to participants and (6) Tablets to the winners with the best business plan.
- ❖ Continued advocacy on behalf of small business owners.
- ❖ May 6, 2013 in an unprecedented decision the FCC officially grants CBCCF's Radio Station, KDEE 97.5 LPFM, a license to move their broadcast antenna over 20 miles from Orangevale, CA to Sacramento, CA. This move gave KDEE 97.5 LP FM the ability to reach over 1 million listeners daily by providing an excellent broadcast signal to cover the entire Sacramento Region and all major highway arteries passing through Sacramento area.
- ❖ KDEE Golf Fundraiser
- ❖ Developed Road to 2015 a comprehensive plan for the CBC (i.e. restructuring operations, develop strategic plan and enhance member benefits)
- ❖ Designed and developed "Opportunity Link Program" expected launch second quarter in 2014.
- ❖ Continue to work with the Council of Chambers (COC) is a body of representatives from each local Black Chamber of Commerce and African American organizations around the state of California.



2013 Accomplishments

Legislative Reception

Designed to promote dialogue relating to statewide business and policy issues the annual Legislative Reception has become a long standing political event where over 200 small businesses, community leaders, and individual members network in a comfortable and professional environment with members from the legislature. The underlining theme is that “politics is business and business is politics.”

Participants get the opportunity to also share upcoming community news and events. The CBCC is also proud to recognize those incoming and outgoing leaders. This year, leaders from the Public Utilities Commission, Legislative Black Caucus chairs and

legislators from both sides of the aisle will be recognized. While it is a festive event it is also all about business and getting to know your representative. Important to the attendees as it puts them in touch with a piece of the political process.



Candyce Haynes

Policy Forum Luncheon

The Policy Forum affords another opportunity for a small select group of 100 business owners and individuals to attend a sit down lunch and discuss and be informed about issues that affect their bottom line by political and community leaders with regard to what is happening in and around the state.

Ron Brown Business Economic Summit – Signature Event 2013

Theme “The Future of California” - The goal is to be a part of the solution that creates economic sustainability in minority/African American communities across the State of California by assisting in growth and expansion toward the small business bottom line and develop technically sound work force. This experience brought together over 40—500 small business people, individual members, local members and members of other non-profit organizations to the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center Fresno in August for a two day program. The overall theme was for attendees to experience workshop, forum and seminar to help grow their businesses. The Face2Face Matching session is another opportunity for small businesses to get up close and personal with individual corporate companies to present their business for a contracting/procurement opportunity.



Les Brown

CBCC Foundation Mission

The goal of the Foundation is to build better communities by revitalizing the African American “can do” spirit through activities and objectives created through the Renaissance 21st Century Project

2013 Accomplishments

The African American Leadership “Economic Issues Forum” April 25-26, 2013 -Hilton Hotel - Sacramento

The African American Leadership Weekend provides workshops and professional networking opportunities to share critical information around health and wellness policy and transparency. Members of the California Legislative Black Caucus and prominent doctors, healthcare professionals and small business owners will converge to determine the direct effects of this historic legislation.

Workshops presented at the forum were Accessing the Political Process, Home Ownership, Community Development Corporation, Healthcare, Technology, Green Economics and Education. Keynote Speaker Les Brown provided a motivating address about the importance of passing on our craft and economics. Leaders and Legends luncheon was honored with Candyce Haynes, Unite States Marine Corp. leaders that were honored: Dr. Ephraim Williams, St. Paul Baptist Church and Family Life Center and City of Rialto Mayor Deborah Robertson for their dedication and exemplary role models for the community.



Youth Entrepreneur Summit

Through the Youth Entrepreneurship program, the California Black Chamber of Commerce works to develop our next generation of entrepreneurs and future leaders. We strive to promote leadership in students who sent hands on experience and exposure to economic development and small business advocacy. This program provides students the opportunity to acquire skills and build vital business and personal networks that will enhance their effectiveness as future business owners. The Chamber has long been committed to the education of our youth and recognizes that the small businesses of tomorrow are spawned by the entrepreneurial youth of today. It is our desire to expose our youth to entrepreneurship as a career choice. There are increasing demands on all businesses to “go green” as well as create public and private partnerships.

Youth Scholarship Program

The Youth scholarship program was instituted by the California Black Chamber Foundation in 1999. Since that time the Foundation and some major sponsors have provided over \$260,000 in scholarships to underserved youth in high risk communities. Citi Bank was a sponsor for the first ten years and in the last three years Visa has joined our charge to provide even more scholarships for students who want to further their education.

These scholarships are handed out at the Annual Ron Brown Business & Economic Summit as part of the Youth Summit Program. Students are asked to write an essay regarding “what is an entrepreneur” in

500 words or less. They also have to have at least a 2.0 GPA to qualify and they must participate at the Youth Entrepreneur Summit in August of each year. Thank you to our sponsors who support us.
California Black Chamber of Commerce Foundation

Black Initiative for Self Sustainability (BLISS)

BLISS is a social economic enterprise organization funded in part by the AT&T Foundation, JP Morgan Chase and Wells Fargo. The program is structured to pioneer change and innovations that will spur economic development and growth by stimulating the growth of small business and commerce in the African American community. The Institute will take action to improve existing systems, create sustainable solutions, and create jobs that will positively change the African American community in California.



Each program participant will attend a series of classes based on the First Step Fast Track Microenterprise curriculum developed by Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and presented by Yadari Enterprises. Stockton, like so many other communities throughout the United States is hurting and we know when a city hurts, its communities hurt. Unfortunately, the pain is disproportionate to communities of color where job loss is greater, business revenues decrease faster, violence increases, and hope declines....BLISS changes that. BLISS was created to provide training and microloan funding to make it possible for small business to sustain themselves. Small businesses are vital to the communities they serve and are a significant link to wealth building in minority communities. Small businesses are the answer to our economic and unemployment struggles, but in order for small businesses to be a long lasting answer we need programs like BLISS to support and help build more small businesses.

97.5 Community Radio with a Cause 97.5 KDEE LP FM Community Radio

Owned & Operated by the CBCC Foundation

Community radio is a service offering a third model of radio broadcasting in addition to commercial and public broadcasting. Community stations serve geographic communities and communities of interest. They broadcast content that is popular and relevant to a local, specific audience but is often overlooked by commercial or mass-media broadcasters. Community radio stations are operated, owned and influenced by the communities they serve. They are generally nonprofit and provide a mechanism for enabling individuals, groups and communities to tell their own stories, to share experiences and in a media-rich world, to become creators and contributors of media.

KDEE mission is to educate and empower our listeners through radio programs that will “influence of the hearts and minds” of the community.

KDEE 97.5 is a community, volunteer powered and listener supported station providing the community with views on public affairs, news for small business entrepreneurs and youth programming (2kids4kidsbykids).

2013 Members & Supporters and Sponsors

Thank you to all of our members for renewing your membership and those that have supported the California Black chamber of Commerce and Foundation. It is with great appreciation and sincerity we

say, *“Thank You!”*





A CB Communications Project