

From the Desk of the CEO



Dear CALED Members and Friends,

As summer comes to a close and we look to an exciting and packed schedule of fall events, this is a great time for us to share some staffing changes we are making at CALED to better serve you. We have re-organized

our team to better align skill sets and interests to strengthen our foundation while we look to hire additional staff to assist in program delivery.

Meet the CALED Team:



Jillian Boyd
Program Analyst

As program analyst, Jillian Boyd supports the administrative and program activities of the California Enterprise Development Authority (CEDA). That support ranges from updating and maintaining CEDA's website per state and federal compliance to managing the FPPC compliance for all CEDA Board Members, to providing administrative support for CEDA Board meetings. In addition to this, Jillian manages and maintains the job advertisement program for CALED along with the CALED Webinar Wednesday Program – both of which she has run for the last few years.



My Kristy Nong
Office Manager

Kristy Nong brings over ten years of experience to her position of Office Manager. She is responsible for CALED's day-to-day office operations, including administration, assisting with human resources, website upkeep, managing bookkeeping, and membership management for CALED. Kristy also provides administrative support for the California Academy for Economic Development. In this role, Kristy serves as the Course Director for the Keys to Successful Economic Development Certificate Program offered in partnership with Fresno State.



Helen Schaubmayer
Program Manager

As Program Manager, Helen contributes to CALED's team on promoting and managing our economic development financing tools including tax-exempt bonds (for 501c3 non-profit organizations and small- to medium-sized manufacturers) and the PACE financing program through the California Enterprise Development Authority (CEDA). Helen administers these programs, ensuring policy and government requirements are met, and markets these tools to the CALED membership as well as other applicable audiences throughout California.

Helen brings a mix of local non-profit and private sector experience to her role from her prior positions within a large technology company and supporting local economic development as a senior researcher within an economic development corporation.



Michelle Stephens
Economic Development Manager

Michelle is the Economic Development Manager for CALED and its affiliates. In that role, she is the lead on the Annual Conference and produces the quarterly Journal and weekly alerts. She is also the staff liaison to the Brownfields & Land Revitalization Committee and works on community LEAPs throughout the state.

Additionally, she is the Business Outreach Specialist in Calaveras County as part of an EDA grant to which CALED is a partner. In that role, she performs one-on-one outreach to help the businesses in Calaveras County stay successful and grow to meet the needs of their customers.

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Gurbax Sahota
President & Chief Executive Officer, CALED

Gurbax Sahota is an experienced association professional who believes in the importance and need to collaborate and create meaningful partnerships in order to accomplish the goal of creating healthy, wealthy communities. As President & CEO, Gurbax turns this belief into action by bringing together and leading multiple organizations aligned with the goal of helping businesses thrive in California.

Gurbax holds leadership positions with CALED, the California Enterprise Development Authority, and the California Academy for Economic Development. Gurbax is using her experience in association leadership, knowledge of organizational studies, and her communications background to support the missions of all three organizations while ensuring that their operations are sustainable.

Gurbax is Currently Active in the Following Organizations:

- ♦ Agricultural Technology Innovation Partnership Foundation, Member of the Board of Managers and Founding Member
- ♦ California Academy for Economic Development, Executive Director
- ♦ California Enterprise Development Authority, Chair of the Board of Directors
- ♦ Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA), Member of the Board of Directors

As you can see, we have a great team working to promote and support you and local economic development. Please feel free to reach out to any of us or our leadership if you need assistance, have suggestions on how we can serve you, or to identify ways that you can engage.

Thank you for your membership and support.

Gurbax Sahota

Letter from Board Chair, Jason Crawford



Dear CALED Members,

I am honored to serve as the CALED Chair, California's premier organization for economic development. I succeed a legacy of professionals who have served in this role, working together to help support the needs of our members and our communities.

With over three million small business located in California, over 50 Fortune 500 companies, and the 6th largest economy in the world, there is undoubtedly a lot of activity and opportunity across this great state of ours. As an association of professionals in the field of economic development, CALED continues to be a strong organization because of the strength of our members and partners. We are committed to remaining the best resource for our members and furthering the successes we have seen.

I am joined on the CALED Board by an extremely talented group of members who bring a broad range of experience to the organization and who are dedicated to the mission of CALED.

I look forward to working with the Board, CALED's affiliates – the California Academy for Economic Development and the California Enterprise Development Authority, our many partners throughout the State such as the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development, League of CA Cities, CA Workforce Association, and Team California, CALED staff, and alongside each of you to further our efforts in providing superior professional development resources and championing economic development across the state.

Sincerely,

Jason Crawford,
CALED Chair