

Eric Romero is an Accredited California Economic Developer with over 8 years of experience managing a diverse portfolio of programs that support small businesses, revitalize commercial corridors, and advance economic inclusion. Eric has unique experience in program design and management, public policy, and public-private partnerships.

He has the honor of serving as Sunstone Management's Director of Economic Development where he leads the development of strategic partnerships to stimulate economic development using creative financing strategies. Before joining Sunstone

Management, Eric served as the Business Development Officer for the City of Long Beach Economic Development Department where he oversaw the City's Revolving Loan Fund, Business Improvement District Program, small business and nonprofit grant programs, technical assistance programs, sales tax incentives, and more.

Eric resides in Long Beach, California with his wife, Elisa, and sons, Solimar (8 years old) and Camilo (3 years old).

"CALED is shaping the future of economic development in California by serving as a thought leader, advocating for smart public policy, building the capacity of economic developers, and shaping an equitable agenda that enables California regions to rise together. The thoughtful and hard work of the CALED Board and staff has empowered me to become an experienced economic developer with experience in the public and private sectors. Through participating in CALED programs, such as the Keys Course and the Advanced Institute, I broadened my knowledge and network which has prepared me to tackle complex issues and stimulate local and regional economic development. I am honored to return the favor to California economic developers by serving on the CALED Board. Together, we will create a more vibrant, resilient, and inclusive California that will generate opportunity for all communities in our state."