Dear members and friends:

Fellow nonprofit superheroes, we are flexing our power like never before! Since the last time we published the Buzz, we won a major victory for nonprofits in the California legislature. Working as a team, we stopped AB 2855, the “warning label” bill that would have placed unnecessary and punitive burdens on nonprofits. Throughout this fight, we made it clear that while we strongly believe in transparency and prosecuting bad actors, AB 2855 would have done nothing toward achieving those goals. Last month we decided to launch a new comprehensive Compliance Checklist (which you’ll read more about later in this issue) that not only makes your lives easier by putting all annual nonprofit filing requirements in one handy place — but also does a very effective job of showing policymakers how responsible and regulated our sector already is.

In June we had another opportunity to make our power visible to legislators, and it was a truly joyful and inspiring occasion for everyone involved. We hosted the first-ever California Nonprofits Day at the State Capitol, honoring 70 nonprofits across the state as nonprofits of the year. State senators and assemblymembers chose exceptional local nonprofits to receive this award, and hosted them on the Senate and Assembly floors before a celebratory luncheon. The whole day was awesome. Take a look at some of the great photos from the event on pages 4 and 5!

The next opportunity to flex some nonprofit power is our upcoming convention in Los Angeles October 6th, where the theme is (wait for it!) “The Power of California Nonprofits.” We are especially excited to announce the news that Alicia Garza, Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter, will be this year’s keynote speaker. For decades, nonprofits have used our power to make positive change in the world. Alicia Garza exemplifies that commitment and strength. Her work and her voice remind us that change can be painful and difficult — but that we must never stop striving for it.

I’m so proud to be part of this community of nonprofit superheroes. I look forward to seeing all of you and finding out about each of your superpowers in person this October!

Jan Masaoka
CEO, CalNonprofits
janm@calnonprofits.org

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We connect you to our community
Sign up for our email newsletter.
www.calnonprofits.org/newsletter

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The View from Sacramento

By CalNonprofits Policy Director Nancy Berlin and Sacramento Advocate Jennifer Fearing

As an alliance of nonprofits, a crucial role for CalNonprofits is to advance public policies that support a healthy nonprofit ecosystem. We focus on elevating your voice to policy makers, philanthropy, and the public; and strengthening your ability to advocate on behalf of your community.

This spring we all won a significant victory.

CalNonprofits led the effort to stop AB 2855, a bill in the California legislature that would have required nonprofits to place unnecessary and burdensome notices on every document that included a fundraising message — not just California nonprofits, but any nonprofit attempting to raise funds — continued on page 2
View from Sacramento, continued from page 1

in California. While we share the goals of transparency for nonprofits, this bill would have done nothing toward achieving those goals.

In just two months, we mobilized more than 700 nonprofit organizations to speak up to oppose this bill, an unprecedented show of solidarity. This was truly a team effort that showed the power of the nonprofit community.

We extend our gratitude to Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez, chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee, and the other members of the Committee for taking into account the concerns of the nonprofit sector.

While this fight over, there's more work our sector has to do to ensure that policymakers know who we are, how we operate, how regulated our sector already is, and how crucial we are to California's economy and communities.

The new state budget

Due to remarkable efforts to negotiate differences ahead of time, and years of effort on behalf of advocacy groups and nonprofits to take advantage of California’s relatively strong economy to alleviate poverty, California arrived at a state budget this year that was on time and had a little something for almost everyone.

The budget includes implementation of the state’s new minimum wage law, which will begin incremental raises in the statewide minimum wage, starting at $10.50 an hour in 2017 and building to $15 in 2022.

In response to this new law, child care advocates gave us a lesson in state budget organizing by fighting for and winning increases in reimbursement rates for early childhood providers as a way to address the minimum wage increase and cover some of the costs of these much-needed services. Advocates acknowledge that the end result is clearly not enough to meet the child care needs of all low and middle-income parents. But realizing they couldn’t win everything, they unified around raising reimbursement rates, and allied with the Legislative Women’s Caucus, who used its political muscle to get bipartisan support for these increases. The Women’s Caucus Vice-Chair Assembly Member Cristina Garcia made the connection clear by remarking that, “The increases we fought for in this budget are tied to the minimum wage increase and data that is current and reflective of today’s needs. We believe this is the most significant increase women have seen in more than a decade.”

The new state budget also funds cost-of-living increases for SSI (income support for people with disabilities and the elderly), the first boost since 2005; repeals the “maximum family grant rule” in CalWORKs, which had denied support to children born to parents who were receiving aid since 1997; and increases in the minimum funding guarantee for K-12 schools and community colleges.

At the same time, Governor Brown got some of his priorities included in the budget, including funds for infrastructure costs and a doubling of the state’s rainy-day reserve. For more information on the details of the state budget, go to: www.ebudget.ca.gov/FullBudgetSummary.pdf
The Board of Directors of CalNonprofits Insurance Services (CIS) is pleased to announce a new CEO, Colleen Lazanich, who started on August 1. Colleen's background includes senior positions at Swett & Crawford – VP overseeing national branch operations, and Riverport Insurance Company, where she managed their nonprofit and social services portfolio for the western region. She holds a California broker-agent license. Colleen also holds Certified Insurance Counselor and Certified Risk Manager designations from The National Alliance for Insurance Education. Colleen attended Colorado State University and has a BS in Business Management.

CIS, a social enterprise wholly owned by the California Association of Nonprofits, is a full-service insurance broker providing health insurance to more than 19,000 nonprofit employees along with dental insurance, vision insurance, D&O, general liability, workers compensation, cyber liability, and other insurances.

"Colleen is perfect for this position," said Yolanda Gorman, M.B.A, Ph.D., and President of Phillips Graduate University based in Los Angeles. "As Chair of the CIS board, we worked hard to find the right replacement for Meredith Clark, who was the founder and CEO for the past 31 years. We could not be more delighted with Colleen's business expertise, and with her commitment to the nonprofit community." Colleen has more than 25 years of experience in the insurance industry, and speaks frequently to nonprofit audiences about insurance and risk management. She is known for her breadth of insurance knowledge as well as her sensitivity to nonprofit concerns. "I'm excited to be working with nonprofits throughout California," said Colleen. "And with the great CIS staff that has been providing wonderful service exclusively to California nonprofits!"

Look for our new Vote With Your Mission challenge – coming soon! www.votewithyourmission.org

Welcome New CalNonprofits Members
2-1-1 Orange County
Adult Day Health Care of Mad River
Allen Temple Leadership Institute
Allergan Foundation
Alliance for Young Women and Girls
American Institute for the Prevention of Blindness
American Jobs Initiative
Arrowhead Lake Association
Arroyo Seco Foundation
Art Guild of Sonoma
Atwater Park Center
Autism Deaf Empowerment Advocacy Foundation Inc
Bay Area Biotechnology Education Consortium
Benchmark Information Technology
Big Sur Land Trust
California Council on Teacher Education
Cal Town
Cedars of Marin
Center for Independence of Individuals with Disabilities
Central California Asthma Collaborative
Chicana Federation of San Diego County
Chris Guzman Foundation
City2Inds
Community Gatepath
Crossroads Justice Center of San Diego
Deal Plus Adult Community
Demarie Kent Foundation
Dorsey High Class of 2005 Reunion
Elevation Web
Feed the Hungry Foundation
Food Finders Inc.
Friends of LACOE
Friends of Oakridge
Friends of San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden
Garrett + Mouton Productions
Girard Foundation
Global Fund for Women
Grand Performances
Great American Insurance Group
Independent Living Resource Center San Francisco
Interplay, Inc.
Kevin Armstrong M.D., Memorial Sports Foundation
Kidney Life Foundation, Inc.
Lacuna Partners
Learning Equipment Supply Service
Leon Foundation
Liss Fan Dance, Inc.
Live Like Doug, Inc.
Look What She Did!
Looms Learning Inc.
MENDleton Foundation
Mercy Airlift
Mira
Mission Springs Camps & Conference Center
Montevalle of Scotts Valley
National Society of Black Engineers
NID-Housing Counseling Agency
O'Dell Cross CPA
One SAFE Place
Operation Love Our Vets
Ouvre Corporation
Pacific Coast Conservation Alliance
Parents Anonymous, Inc.
Patel & Associates, LLP
Perry M. Henderson, CPA
Phoenix Leadership Center
Police and Fire: The Fallen Heroes
PSSST
RARE Science Inc.
Recycled Love Dog Rescue
Resources for Independence, Central Valley
Rio Vista Community Center
Roccam Recruiting
Rocklin Residents United for Fido
RotaCare Bay Area Inc.
Russian Information & Support Services
San Francisco Yellow Bike Project
San Joaquin River Stewardship Program
San Mateo Rail Corridor TMA
Scientific Adventures
Scleroderma Foundation of Southern California
Silicon Valley Independent Living Center
Skirball Cultural Center
Social Ink
Student Debt Crisis
Supporting Mamas
Sustainable Fairfax, Inc.
The Dream Center Foundation
The Paradise Project
The Simple Love Foundation
The Society of Notre Dame
The Taylor Family Foundation
Tierra del Sol Foundation
Truong Bui Diep Foundation
Turmont Home for Boys
TV Writers Fund for the Future
Vermont Slasuen Eco. Development Corp.
Via International
We Care A Lot Foundation
Wild For Life Foundation
Winders, Inc.
Without My Consent
Working Wardrobes
Worldwide Forgiveness Alliance

I work for a nonprofit
and I vote
I volunteer at a nonprofit
and I vote

Look for our new Vote With Your Mission challenge – coming soon!

www.votewithyourmission.org
Nonprofits of the Year honored at inaugural State Capitol event June 22

On Wednesday, June 22, 2016, CalNonprofits hosted the first-ever California Nonprofits Day celebration at the State Capitol in Sacramento, honoring nonprofits across the state as Nonprofits of the Year. The full list of honorees can be found on our website, along with Assemblymember Rich Gordon’s announcement of the passage of the resolution declaring California Nonprofits Day.

Each nonprofit was selected by their local legislator as an exceptional nonprofit organization in the district community. Participants visited the Senate and Assembly Floors and then were honored at a luncheon at Sacramento’s Sheraton Grand Hotel, where Former Senate President pro tem (and Sacramento Mayor-Elect) Darrell Steinberg delivered a powerful and thoughtful message and Assemblymember Rich Gordon received an award for being a fearless nonprofit advocate. It was truly impressive to see the power of the nonprofit community made visible to legislators.

“Nonprofit organizations are vitally important to the economy and well-being of California. But too often nonprofits are ‘hidden in plain sight’.”

“We are thrilled that the State Assembly has passed a resolution putting the spotlight on nonprofits as an economic power that uses that power for the common good. We congratulate all of the award recipients on being honored for the great work they do every day to make California a better place,” said our CEO Jan Masaoka. CalNonprofits initiated California Nonprofits Day as a way not only to honor and spotlight individual nonprofits, but to raise the profile of the whole nonprofit community to policymakers.
California Nonprofits Day generated lots of positive press for the Nonprofit of the Year honorees — some examples are shown here. And be sure to check out our Facebook and Twitter pages for more coverage! #CalNonprofitsDay #NonprofitPower

“The incredible value of the work done by California nonprofits can’t be overstated.”

We were thrilled to see Sacramento Mayor-Elect Darrell Steinberg hold up and refer to our groundbreaking study on the economic impact of California’s nonprofits, “Causes Count,” during his keynote speech.

(Photos from top left, facing page: Assemblymember Rich Gordon; Honorees from Jewish Vocational Services Stephanie Colosi, Assistant Director of Development & Communications, Kevin Hickey, Senior Manager of High School Workforce Programs, Abby Snay, Executive Director, with California State Senator Mark Leno; CalNonprofits Membership Assistant Araceli Ramirez and Program Director Diana Dunker; Sacramento Mayor-Elect Darrell Steinberg; CalNonprofits CEO Jan Masaoka; Honorees from Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County Dr. Margaret Hill, Board Chair, Patricia Nickols-Butler, CEO, with Assemblymember Cheryl Brown; Honorees from Vox Femina of Los Angeles Rebecca Wink, Executive Director, Iris Levine, Artistic Director, with California State Senator Holly Mitchell)
Valuable new tools
now offered by
CalNonprofits

An Overlooked Financing Tool:
How Nonprofits Can Issue Tax-Exempt Bonds

Imagine you’re on the board of a nonprofit historical museum, women’s clinic, hospice, food bank, orchestra, or affordable housing organization. You and the CEO are looking at a much-needed $20 million expansion, purchase, or renovation. The prospect of a $20 million capital campaign is pretty daunting. But there is a financing tool you may have overlooked. If you issue a $10 million tax-exempt bond, your capital campaign need only raise $10 million. While still a challenge, a $10 million capital campaign looks a lot more do-able than $20 million.

This new booklet is a short introduction to the ideas and processes of tax-exempt bonds for you and your nonprofit. A 20-page guide to Italy can help you decide whether you want to explore a trip there, but you’d want to read more and talk to others before getting on a plane. Similarly, this booklet can help you decide whether tax-exempt bonds are not after all right for you, or whether the idea is worth exploring further.

The guide is published by CalNonprofits and was written by Paul Rosenstiel. Paul worked as a municipal bond investment banker in California for nearly 30 years and completed many transactions for nonprofits as well as for government agencies. From 2007-09, he served as Deputy Treasurer of the State of California where one of his primary responsibilities was overseeing the issuance of the State’s bonds. California State Treasurer John Chiang contributed the introduction.

Download your free copy here! www.calnonprofits.org/resources/nonprofits-tax-exempt-bonds

Want to keep track of all the forms your nonprofit has to file every year? Here’s a free new checklist!

It’s not easy to keep up with all of the different compliance requirements your nonprofit has to take care of every year. That’s why CalNonprofits has compiled this free comprehensive annual Compliance Checklist to help nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations keep up-to-date with annual filing requirements. All in one place, with links to the resources you need if you have questions.

As you know, California nonprofits have many forms to file each year, some with various departments of the State of California, others with the federal IRS. Our new Compliance Checklist was developed by CalNonprofits in consultation with the California Attorney General’s Office. It provides the information and links you need to all California and U.S. Federal forms, as well as many other useful resources.

Please take a look at this new comprehensive resource and share it with your nonprofit partners and colleagues! www.calnonprofits.org/resources/nonprofit-compliance-checklist

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Join us for a Forum on Student Debt & the Nonprofit Workforce

Hosted in partnership with Student Debt Crisis, this Forum will be a blend of practical trainings and tools that can be used by nonprofit employers and employees to manage student debt. In addition, the Forum will be a call to action on student debt, offering an opportunity to discuss what is happening nationally and locally on this issue and how California’s nonprofit sector can engage in the debate. For information and registration go here: www.calnonprofits.org/programs/nonprofit-student-debt-project

October 7
10am - 4pm
Los Angeles

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Find out more at www.calnonprofits.org/membership

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In 2015, HealthWay Trust of California came under the sponsorship of CalNonprofits, giving California nonprofits even more choices when providing health insurance benefits for their staff.

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JUST ANNOUNCED!
Our 2016 Keynote Speaker will be Alicia Garza, Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter

Register now!
Thursday, October 6th
The California Endowment, Los Angeles
www.calnonprofits.org/convention