

Moke Simon – District 1

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June 4, 2024

Coalitions and Collaboratives, Inc.
Community Navigator Program (CNP) - Community Catalyst Fund
Denver, CO

Subject: Community Navigator Program (CNP) - Community Catalyst Fund

Dear Coalitions and Collaboratives CNP Team,

On behalf of the County of Lake, I am writing to express our support for the Coalitions and Collaboratives Community Catalyst Fund grant application submitted by the Lake County Resource Conservation District (LCRCD). We enthusiastically encourage and appreciate the proposed organizational capacity development for LCRCD because its mission is to educate and empower all Lake County residents, and it is dedicated to the locally led, long-term sustainable conservation and stewardship of our natural resources.

This efficacy of LCRCD is vital for our County due to a decline in ecological health from years of extreme wildfires, drought, and a pervasive tree mortality crisis. Lake County is an under-resourced rural area committed to developing our collective capacity to meet growing ecological needs in the face of climate change. LCRCD is a critical entity supporting comprehensive climate resilience across our County. Their programs range from forest health, watershed restoration, agricultural sustainability focused on soil carbon sequestration, and administering the Lake County Fire Safe Council (LCFSC). Each is informed directly by the human and ecological communities they serve. Bolstering the capacity of LCRCD includes furthering the development of the LCFSC, which plays a vital role in county-wide collaboration and mitigation, as stated in the 2021 CMAT developed by Coalitions and Collaboratives. We are certain LCRCD's capacity-building efforts will improve forest, soil, and watershed health, which will subsequently reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and enhance the vitality of Lake County.

The County of Lake is confident in the ability and determination of the Lake County Resource Conservation District to grow into a robust organization with the support of Catalyst Funding. We fully support their efforts and will continue to partner for our collective growth and ability to serve our communities. This project will have lasting benefits throughout our region.

Sincerely,
Bruno Sabatier
Chair, Lake County Board of Supervisors