



CALIFORNIA BUDGET PROJECT

March 19, 2009

Dear Conference Participant:

Welcome to the California Budget Project's (CBP) eighth annual policy conference, *From Meltdown to Rebound: A Crisis Is a Terrible Opportunity To Waste*. I hope that today's activities will broaden your knowledge of the budget and policy issues facing low- and middle-income Californians.

We have decided to go green and make this year's conference a paperless event. Workshop handouts and our annual budget chartbook, *Uncharted Waters: Navigating the Social and Economic Context of California's Budget*, are available on our conference website, www.cbp.org/2009conference.htm.

By way of background, the CBP engages in independent fiscal and policy analysis and public education with the goal of improving public policies affecting the economic and social well-being of low- and middle-income Californians. The coming year promises to be another busy one for the CBP. If you would like to keep up with our work, please visit our website, www.cbp.org, and our new blog, California Budget Bites, www.cabudgetbites.org. While you are there, sign up to receive periodic email updates, subscribe to our publications, or make a contribution to support our work. You can also check out our page on Facebook.

The CBP offers special thanks to the California HealthCare Foundation, based in Oakland, California, for its generous support of this year's conference.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the other foundations, organizations, and individuals who make our work possible. Support for the CBP comes from the California Community Foundation, The California Endowment, The California Wellness Foundation, the Ford Foundation, the Friedman Family Foundation, the Evelyn and Walter Haas, Jr. Fund, the Walter and Elise Haas Fund, The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, The James Irvine Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Rosenberg Foundation, and more than 400 individual and organizational supporters.

Thank you for participating in today's conference, and I look forward to working with you to promote policies that improve the well-being of low- and middle-income Californians.

Sincerely,

Jean Ross
Executive Director

1107 9th Street, Suite 310
Sacramento, California 95814
P: (916) 444-0500
F: (916) 444-0172
cbp@cbp.org
www.cbp.org