About HOPE

Hispanas Organized for Political Equality® (HOPE) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization committed to ensuring political and economic parity for Latinas through leadership, advocacy, and education to benefit all communities and the status of women. For the past 35 years, HOPE's innovative programming has served over 65,000 members of our community and touched the lives of several thousand more through our advocacy efforts. HOPE programs and educational events are open to all individuals who support Latina leadership to strengthen our democracy and advance economic mobility.

About the HOPE Regional Leadership Institute

Building on the success of our statewide and national leadership development programs, our Regional Leadership Institute will create multi-generational leadership pipelines and ongoing local centers for advocacy, while strengthening the local HOPE network to increase representation in government, nonprofit leadership, and business. Focused on Los Angeles, the Inland Empire, the Bay Area, Central Valley, and San Diego Counties, regional leaders will work to improve education, healthcare, and economic development for underserved communities in these regions.

Objectives of the HOPE Regional Leadership Institute

Build A Power Base

To build a connected and empowered base of regional leaders prepared to advocate effectively for access and systemic change.

Placement on Boards and Commissions

Support the preparation and recruitment of change-driven individuals to serve on local boards and commissions.

Equipping Emerging Leaders with Knowledge

To equip emerging community leaders with a deep understanding of local government structures, policy-making processes, and systemic inequities in order to strengthen their capacity for informed civic engagement.

Contribute to A Power-Building Ecosystem

HOPE partners with local base-building organizations and experts to partake in an exchange of technical trainings, and knowledge.

Institute Overview

HOPE REGIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

The HOPE Regional Leadership Institutes (RLI) will train over 300 aspiring leaders in three years (2024-2027) to fill key local leadership roles and head initiatives that will create positive community impact in the program's focus regions. RLI is designed for local leaders who want to build their skills and network to influence public policy. The ideal applicant will be a civically engaged resident of one of the designated regions and demonstrate a record of readiness for an increasing leadership role in their respective community.

Institute sessions will deep dive into the mechanics of how local school boards, cities, counties and special districts (air, water, energy) work and the internal and external influences that determine outcomes. Participants will learn how to identify structural causes of inequity in public institutions and acquire the knowledge and skills to remedy inequities to improve the status of underrepresented individuals and all communities. Each session will include the opportunity for community building and access to immediate opportunities for local advocacy.

Session Components

- How to examine and use **data** to inform public policy.
- How **public policy** and **public budgets** are made.
- Understanding the flow of **power and influence** in policymaking.
- **Experiential** learning and case studies.
- **Immediate opportunities** for local advocacy and appointments.
- **Networking** and community building.
- Debrief and **evaluation.**

Target Skills to be Developed

- Inquiry
- Powermapping
- Data Analysis
- Policymaking
- Local budget processes
- Message development
- Getting appointed
- Unconscious bias training
- Personal leadership development
- Team leadership development

Ongoing Involvement through the Regional Hubs

HOPE Regional Hubs will launched in Summer 2026, bringing together alumnae from all HOPE programs who live in each designated region. The goal of the Hubs is to strengthen the local HOPE network and increase Latina representation in government, nonprofit leadership, and business. Each Regional Hub will provide a space for HOPE alumnae to connect regularly, coordinate local advocacy in education, healthcare, and economic development, and work together to remove barriers facing our communities.

HOPE will host quarterly Hub meetings to identify shared priorities, set goals, develop action plans, and foster collaboration and communication among participants. Over time, these Regional Hubs will grow into strong, organized networks of leaders who serve as a powerful force for local advocacy and representation.

The HOPE Regional Leadership Institute is made possible by grants from the following organizations

Gates Foundation · The Great Seal of the State of California · ballmer GROUP · The California Endowment · California Community Foundation · California Resources · The California Wellness Foundation · Comcast · County of San Diego · Kaiser Permanente · Latina Futures 2050 Lab · OpenAI · The David & Lucile Packard Foundation · Prebys Foundation · San Diego Foundation · Sierra Health Foundation · Walter & Elise Haas Fund

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