

## The CCEE Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) Economic Equity Initiative

California's K-12 students and their families need financial and economic literacy education more than ever before. The pandemic, economic fallout and racial uprisings all further exacerbate already existing economic inequalities for CA students, most of which are Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC). CCEE cares about the economic and financial wellbeing of low-and-middle income students concentrated in underfunded Title I schools and low-wealth communities. Research shows that BIPOC students are most likely to be severely harmed by the lack of financial and economic education.

CA students spend thousands of hours in school yet receive very few hours of guidance – if any – on how to navigate our complex economy. CA remains on the short-list of states which have yet to implement any K-12 personal finance standards, though the State requires a single-semester of Economics in order to graduate. One semester (4 months) is insufficient, resulting in a glaring economic and financial illiteracy crisis among CA youth. Given the concurrent crises, students' economic futures are now even more uncertain. **How do we stop failing to prepare our students?**

**CCEE has a solution and you can help us achieve it.**

**The BIPOC initiative builds upon CCEE's existing mission with a renewed focus specifically on combating racial economic inequality.** Through robust economic education, the Initiative's actions will result in increased economic mobility and resilience for BIPOC students throughout California.

CCEE's educator-focused programming fills these glaring gaps in California's K-12 school system by delivering timely, engaging, and relevant content so that K-12 educators of all backgrounds can effectively teach economic and personal finance principles in their online and in-person classrooms that will transform their students' lives. CCEE also supplements teachers' economics and personal finance classroom education through hands-on student learning experiences during its annual statewide student contests.

Numerous studies and research reports illustrate how critical teacher support and preparation is in narrowing achievement gaps among students. CCEE is known as the "go-to" organization for teacher development, we propose the following 4-component strategy to guide the BIPOC Economic Equity Initiative:

- **Increase financial education programming in targeted CA Title I schools with high concentrations of BIPOC students (Professional Development K-12 teachers, \$martPath 1-8 graders, and Family Financial Literacy Events for all ages).**
- **Sponsor Racially Diverse Teachers' Pipeline for weeklong Economic Teacher Certification Program.**
- **Expand Never Too Young for 3-6 graders primarily serving LMI/FRL (low-to-moderate income and free & reduced lunch eligible) students. They will learn personal finance, economics and entrepreneurship.**
- **Increase the number of BIPOC students and teachers competing in CCEE's National Economics Challenge Contest, Personal Finance Challenge Contest and Financial Advisors Contest.**

We know that education is the key to growth and progress. We envision the BIPOC Economic Equity Initiative will increase economic opportunity, mobility, and resilience for BIPOC students through life-changing economic and financial education.

Your support will help fill the gaps for California's most vulnerable students of color by investing in economic mobility that benefits us all at a critical period when it matters most.

**Together, we can get ahead of a future crisis.**