

THE ER! ADVANTAGE

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED

- ! Culturally competent community co-design processes
- ! Experience with “hard-to-reach” populations
- ! Focus on underserved communities
- ! Over 25 years in East Palo Alto
- ! Strong community partnerships

VALUE-ADDED RESEARCH

- ! Build capacity of local organizations
- ! Promote civic engagement
- ! Train, hire and pay local residents
- ! Share research results and resources with communities served

PROFESSIONAL QUALITY

- ! Reports of publishable quality
- ! Multi-media presentations
- ! Expert consulting
- ! Extensive technology infrastructure
- ! University-quality social science methods and tools

Our mission is to empower underserved communities with the tools to improve their quality of life by providing added value research, analyses, and training to community groups, government, foundations, businesses and academic institutions.

About Empowerment Research!



321 Bell Street
East Palo Alto, CA 94303
Tel: 650-327-5846 ext. 304
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www.cdi-usa.org

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Empowering communities to effect social and economic change through university quality value-added research, evaluation, education and training.



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*A division of the Community Development Institute,
founded in 1979*

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Founded in 2002 as a program of the Community Development Institute, ER! is a social research, evaluation, and training program that uses applied research to promote social and economic justice. Using culturally competent co-design methods that build on the experience and knowledge of target communities, ER! conducts and facilitates research to empower low-income communities to frame community problems, identify best practices to address those problems, and implement programs to eradicate them.

Best Practices Analysis

Community Education

Community Needs Assessments/Surveys

Community-Oriented Research Training Institute

Curriculum Development

Evaluation

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Mapping

Statistical Analysis

Technical Assistance



AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Air quality monitoring
Alternative election systems
Education and employment
Environmental and transportation justice
Housing and gentrification
International development
Juvenile justice
Municipal budgeting
Public Health
Public policy process
Strategic planning for nonprofits and public agencies
Urban planning and development
Youth and families

CURRENT AND RECENT PROJECTS

Analysis of City of East Palo Alto, California Budget
Analysis of the Impact of the Economic Recession on Low-Income Women in Silicon Valley
Board Assessment and Capacity Building for One East Palo Alto and the Mayfair Improvement Initiative
Community Air Monitoring Project
Crime Analysis and GIS Mapping Services for the East Palo Alto Police Department
Evaluation of First 5 California County CARES Programs
Evaluation of OICW After School Programs
Needs Assessment for At-Risk Youth in East Palo Alto
Supply-side Analysis of Workforce Issues Facing East Palo Alto Residents
Survey of Workers in the Mayfair Neighborhood of San Jose

ER! STAFF

LOME A. ASERON, DIRECTOR

Lome earned his B.A. in Classics from Brown University and his J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley – Boalt Hall School of Law. While in law school, he produced a paper that analyzed the nation-wide impact of the Community Reinvestment Act on low-income communities and communities of color. In 2001, Lome worked on a comprehensive report outlining community-based methods for reducing crime in San Francisco's communities of color for the San Francisco Human Rights Commission. His current ER! projects include a literature review of comprehensive community initiatives, an evaluation of a grass-roots technology initiative, and an assessment of best fundraising practices for people of color-lead organizations.

GORO MITCHELL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CDI

Goro is the former Assistant Director of the Southern Center for Studies in Public Policy in Atlanta, where he was employed for more than 10 years. He has a Masters degree in City Planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Masters degree in Political Science from Clark Atlanta University. Goro has taught Statistics and Sociology at Clark Atlanta University and Morehouse College, and has published peer-reviewed chapters on various issues including technology diffusion, employment, environmental justice, gentrification, municipal budgeting, minority manufacturing, transportation justice, minority representation, quality of life, and health.

CARLOS CHAVEZ, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Carlos grew up in East Palo Alto and started working for CDI when he was sixteen years old. He has staffed two ER! surveys for One East Palo Alto (OEPA): the OEPA Community Survey Report needs assessment and the OEPA Board needs assessment. Carlos has also worked on the migrant resource guide for the Mayfair Improvement Initiative and supervised a survey of low-income women for Santa Clara County's Office of Women's Advocacy. He is lead staff for the Pacific Islander Community Center needs assessment and head technician for ER!'s Air Quality Monitoring Project, which will determine whether there is a correlation between mobile and point source hotspots and health problems in East Palo Alto.

RICHARD FENG, RESEARCH ASSISTANT

As a research assistant with ER!, Richard assists in the evaluation of East Palo Alto Digital Village's Community Interact!, conducts a literature review of best practices for people of color led organizations to access time, talent, and treasure with the Transforming Philanthropy project, investigates best practices for law enforcement to reduce gun-related activity with the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative, and provides support for an evaluation of the Free At Last Address Unknown Project. Born and raised in San Francisco, Richard is a graduate of Pomona College, where he earned a Bachelors degree in History.