THE LATINO
Presidential
QUESTIONNAIRE
Dear Presidential Candidate,

The Latino Community Foundation (LCF) is the premier foundation on a mission to unleash the civic and economic power of Latinos in California. We fulfill our mission by building a movement of civically engaged philanthropic leaders, investing in Latino-led organizations on the frontlines of social change, and increasing the political power of Latinos. To date, our network consists of 500 Latino philanthropists through our Latino Giving Circle Network® and over 300 Latino nonprofits working on civic engagement, health, education, and more.

On March 3, 2020, over 7.7 million Latinos in California will be eligible to vote in the Presidential Primary making them the largest Latino voting bloc in the nation. Latinos in California possess the same aspirations as any voter in America. From health care to education to jobs and immigration, our families and youth seeks opportunities to prosper, and contribute to the great American dream.

LCF has led the largest statewide campaigns to mobilize the Latino vote in California. For the 2016 Presidential Election, LCF launched the Yo Voy A Votar, ¿Y Tú? (I Will Vote, and You?) Campaign. Within two months of launching the Campaign, LCF registered 6,500 Latinos to vote and reached eight million people through digital media. For the 2018 Midterm Elections, LCF hosted the first nationally-televised Gubernatorial Forum, in partnership with Univision News, to inform over one million Latino voters on their choices for governor. Our ability to inform and mobilize the Latino community in California about elections is unmatched.

Most recently, LCF partnered with Latino Decisions to conduct the first statewide poll of Latino registered voters in California. The poll oversampled youth between the ages of 18-34, the largest segment of eligible Latino voters. The following questionnaire gives you and your campaign an opportunity to address the topics on the minds of Latinos in California. By completing this questionnaire, you will help us engage, mobilize, and inform this critical voting bloc.

As a 501c (3) non-profit organization, we do not endorse political candidates. As such, we will not pass judgment to your responses on this questionnaire and will post your answers as we receive them without any edits or analysis.

The Latino vote will be critical in determining the winner of California’s Democratic Primary. We hope you will honor the Latino community and take the time to address the following questions. If you have any additional questions, please contact Christian Arana, Policy Director at carana@latinocf.org or via 415-236-5145. We look forward to your responses!

Sincerely,

Jacqueline Martinez Garcel
CEO, Latino Community Foundation

Latino Community Foundation
1

By 2030, California will need 1.65 million more college degrees to stay economically competitive. When fifty-four percent of the state’s K-12 public school students are Latino, and in the higher education space, Latinos make up more than one million students, what are your plans to ensure that more Latinos in California attain a college degree?

2

There remains 2.9 million uninsured people in California and nearly three out of five of these uninsured are Latino. The uninsured is expected to rise to 4.4 million in the next five years, with Latinos and undocumented residents driving that growth. As president, what policies will you pursue to ensure that Latinos can obtain high-quality, affordable health care?

3

Sixty-one percent of Latinos in California face high-rental costs and only 42 percent of Latinos own homes (compared to 64 percent of whites). How will you address the rising costs of rental housing and expand homeownership opportunities for Latinos?

4

California is home to approximately 2.9 million undocumented immigrants. What steps will you take to protect immigrants in California and what is your timeline for action?
5. Latinos are overrepresented in blue-collar occupations like agriculture and construction. Latinos also have the highest poverty rate in the state and possess a median household income that is more than $20k less than non-Latinos. What would your administration do to close the income inequality gap among Latinos and other racial/ethnic groups?

6. The recent Kincaid Fire in California demonstrated that climate change is a real threat to Latino and immigrant communities across the state. In the first 100 days, what actions are you prepared to take to address the urgent issue of climate change?

7. Latinas in California make 43 cents on the dollar for every man in the state. As Latinas make up half the Latino population in the state, this hurts our ability to grow our economy. How will you use the presidential pulpit to close the gender pay gap for Latinas in California?

8. The recent mass shootings in Gilroy, CA and El Paso, TX have left the Latino community fearful. What are your plans to curb gun violence in our country that have left too many Latino families grieving?