Message from the CEO



Summer ushers in a season of opportunity at The Alliance. The recent IX Summit of the Americas in Los Angeles has inspired us to find additional ways to capture global opportunities for Valley businesses and to strengthen bonds among our five partner cities with their international sister cities to build our business ecosystem.

Promising possibilities also await our San Fernando Valley teenagers, graduating seniors, and young adults as we enter into a summertime season of opportunity. While many Valley families are in the midst of commencement ceremonies, some are preparing for college while others may be getting ready for a summer job. This summer, The Alliance will continue to convene industry and educational institutions, leading the way for us to strategize ways to build this workforce of the future.

The month of June in particular highlights special opportunities. Being National Homeownership Month, this month puts a spotlight on the benefits of homeownership and the availability of first-time home buyer assistance. The Alliance free and virtual Healthy, Wealthy & Wise Wealth Equity Conference will connect Valley residents, particularly low-income families, with this critical guidance into financial stability. June also brings recognition to Juneteenth National Independence Day, a federal holiday since 2021 commemorating the end of slavery in the U.S., which although the Emancipation Proclamation was signed on January 1, 1863, didn't occur until June 19, 1865 when Galveston, Texas was liberated by Union soldiers. In recognition of the holiday, The Alliance office will be closed on Monday, June 20 and we encourage you to join in the Juneteenth Celebrations taking place all over LA County. For our part, The Alliance will present wealth building strategies to help close the wealth gap at the Dave Barclay Economic and Business Roundtable at CSUN on June 18. All are welcomed to attend.

We're optimistic about the future of our region when we work together. Your participation with us will contribute to the community's pathway to self-sufficiency and potential wealth. Please collaborate with us by attending one or more of our committee meetings to reimagine our region's bright future. Learn more about what we have to offer at TheValley.net/Events.

We appreciate all that you do to help the youth of San Fernando Valley on their journey towards economic prosperity. Feel free to email me at sblake@economicalliance.org to share your ideas and volunteer for our cause.

Sincerely,

Sonya Kay Blake
President and CEO