YOU AND FCLCA
What we accomplished together in 2018

It was a good year.

Jim Lindburg, FCLCA’s Legislative Director and lobbyist and Sen. Holly Mitchell celebrate legislative success! FCLCA was a co-sponsor of Sen. Mitchell’s bill, SB 1393, passed by the Legislature and signed by Gov. Brown.

Because SB 1393 passed, judges will now have the discretion whether or not to impose a five-year sentence enhancement for a previous serious felony when sentencing for a current serious felony. Before, the enhancement was mandatory. This change will help reduce the prison population and ineffective long sentences.

Because of your activism and contributions, FCLCA was able to co-sponsor four bills in 2018 and to lobby on over 40 other bills in the areas of economic justice, criminal justice reform, immigrant rights and environmental justice. You helped keep California moving forward, as state-level politics took on even greater importance in light of the national climate.

California has the highest rate of poverty in the nation. In 2018, FCLCA addressed this problem in two ways:

We joined in coalition to successfully expand the California Earned Income Tax Credit to all working adults. (Research shows that the EITC is one of the most effective anti-poverty measures there is.)

We co-sponsored Senate Bill 982, to raise the assistance grant to CalWORKs recipients so that these families will no longer have to live in deep poverty (below 50% of the federal poverty level).

Our coalition mobilized to win the provisions of SB 982 in the state Budget Act - providing the largest one-year increase in the CalWORKs grant in over 40 years. Your support meant FCLCA could actively organize interfaith advocacy efforts that will now benefit 800,000 of our state’s poorest children.
Thanks to you!

FCLCA advocated at the Capitol and helped mobilize interfaith support around the state for Senate Bill 100 by Sen. Kevin de Leon, a critical environmental bill that commits our state to 100% clean energy by 2045. Signed by Gov. Brown!

FCLCA and AFSC worked together to pass AB 3131 to require local and state law enforcement to develop a “use policy” before acquiring military equipment, unfortunately later vetoed by Gov. Brown.

Your contributions supported our program of grassroots organizing and education:

Thirty-four activists attended our Lobby Day here in Sacramento in May 2018, visiting 30 legislative offices to lobby on four key bills.

FCLCA’s online Action Network members delivered 2,880 messages and phone calls to their legislators regarding eight key bills.

The FCL Education Fund offered Restorative Justice resources and consultation to legislators and staff at the Capitol as they grappled with issues raised in the #MeToo movement.

The spring and fall issues of our FCLCA Newsletter published the FCLCA board’s recommendations on the June and November Ballot initiatives. These eagerly awaited recommendations were used by many people across the state to navigate the often-confusing maze of 2018’s sixteen ballot measures.