

Biography for Roberto E. Barragan President, Valley Economic Development Center

As the President of Valley Economic Development Center (VEDC), Mr. Roberto Barragan manages the largest small business development non-profit organization in Los Angeles managing a \$4 million budget with 38 employees in 7 offices. VEDC serves over 6,000 businesses yearly with financing, training and direct business assistance. Over the past 3 years, he has grown VEDC loan capital from \$8 million to \$ 29 million working with a variety of national financial institutions and government entities.

Mr Barragan is also the founder and President of the San Fernando Valley Financial Development Corporation, a state guaranteed small business loan program since 2001, and the #1 SBA 504 lender headquartered in Los Angeles County. In 2005, he founded the Pacoima Development Federal Credit Union by raising \$2 million in deposits, \$500,000 in capital and securing a charter from the National Credit Union Association. After 4 years, the Credit Union has 900 members, has \$2.5 million in assets and is a licensed SBA 7(a) lender. Over the last ten years, Mr. Barragan has raised over \$50 million in federal, state and local as well as private resources for small and medium sized business development.

Previously, as Vice President of Business Lending, Mr. Barragan established a \$6 million Revolving Loan Fund funded by the United States Economic Development Administration and a \$5 million Micro Lending Program consisting of SBA Microloan and private bank investment.

He has over 23 years experience managing non-profit organizations, including the last twenty involved in community economic development, technical assistance to for-profit and non-profit entities and financial resource development. Mr. Barragan is a nationally recognized expert on loan funds and microlending, and is a regular lecturer and media on these subjects.

Mr. Barragan was the founding Executive Director for the Community Financial Resource Center of South Central Los Angeles, a joint venture of 32 member banks and the Community Development Department of the City of Los Angeles.

Between 1989 and 1993, Mr. Barragan was Executive Director for the Mission Economic Development Association in San Francisco, California. As Director he was responsible for the completion of the 24th Street Revitalization Project, including the creation of art/public space improvement projects, the Mission Theater District Revitalization Project, the overall Economic Development Plan for the Mission District, the acquisition and rehabilitation of a 350 car parking garage.

Mr. Barragan graduated from Princeton University, with a Bachelor of Arts in Politics and International Law in 1984, and completed his graduate studies in business administration at the Hass School of Business at the University of California in 1987.