



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, April 17, 2023

## City of San Diego Celebrates National Volunteer Week

HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS PROVIDE VITAL SUPPORT TO CITY'S PARKS, LIBRARIES, SAFETY AND OTHER SERVICES

SAN DIEGO – During National Volunteer Week, April 16-22, the City of San Diego is recognizing the work done by City volunteers who offer their time and energy to improve communities and serve their fellow residents. Over the last year, hundreds of City volunteers donated more than 145,000 hours, working with several City departments as literacy tutors, fire cadets, youth sports coaches and more.

"Our volunteers are integral to the City and the communities we serve," said Human Resources Director Julie Rasco. "While we value our volunteers all year long, Volunteer Week is the perfect time to show appreciation for the work they do. We encourage anyone who is interested in volunteering to explore one of the many opportunities available at the City."

City volunteers showed resilience and commitment in 2022, helping to improve the lives of San Diegans.

- Crisis Interventionists served almost 18,000 hours supporting residents experiencing traumatic events.
- Legal interns volunteered almost 8,000 hours helping residents navigate the legal system.
- Volunteers in the Parks and Recreation Department's AgeWell Services supported older San Diegans with more than 3,000 hours of work.
- The Retired Senior Volunteer Patrol spent 4,000 hours helping keep residents safe.
- The San Diego Public Library's READ San Diego volunteers devoted nearly 3,000 hours to helping adults improve their literacy.
- Fire cadets spent almost 3,000 hours training in the fire service.
- AmeriCorps VISTA volunteers worked for 4,500 hours on the Promise Zone Initiative in Southeast San Diego.

For more information on the City's volunteer program and how to apply, visit the City's <u>Volunteer</u>, <u>Internship and Work Readiness web page</u>.