



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Jobs + Education Working Group Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 27th, 2022 | 2:30 – 4:00 PM

Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 979 7737 1015 Passcode: 486144)

Working Group Goal: To create jobs and improve educational opportunities in the Promise Zone.

In Attendance

Access Inc., City of San Diego—Economic Development Department, City of San Diego—Human Resources Department, Diamond Education Excellence Partnership, Dreams and Ducats, Good Neighbor Project, International Rescue Committee, The LEAGUE of Amazing Programmers, mohuman, San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation, San Diego Workforce Partnership, SBCS (formerly South Bay Community Services), Second Chance, SoCal Pre Apprenticeship Program.

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Agenda Review, and Partner Updates

- Co-chairs welcomed participants and asked the group to share what they are looking forward to doing as the spring transitions into summer.

Partner Announcements

- Promise Zone Staff provided an update on the San Diego **Promise Zone Partner Financial Assistance**. As part of a multi-year partnership with California Coast Credit Union (Cal Coast), the San Diego Promise Zone (SDPZ) is administering one-time capacity building, community outreach, and workforce development microgrants to support the efforts of Promise Zone Partners. All applicant decisions have been sent out. The program received 25 applications from 24 partners, totaling over \$400,000 in request funds. A selecting committee made of Cal Coast and City officials selected nine (9) applicants to be awarded a total of \$120,000 during this first year of funding. Awards were determined by the applicants' experience in serving Promise Zone residents, their engagement with the initiative, the critical need that the proposed projects will address and how current interventions do not meet that need, the metrics that will measure impact, and overall project alignment with working group priorities. These projects represent most if not all goal areas of the Promise Zone and folks that have been involved in the work to receive grants that range from \$10,000 to \$17,000.

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- Mayor Todd Gloria Announced the **Appointment of Andrea O'Hara** as the City's first Executive Director of the newly created Office of Child and Youth Success. [Learn more here.](#)
- **San Diego Youth Commission** will be having an open council meeting on Wednesday, May 4th at 5:00 PM. Everyone is invited to attend, and potential presenters can reach out to Jesus-Martin Munoz at jmgallegosmunoz@outlook.com.
- **The San Diego Promise Zone** is currently **recruiting new Americorps Vistas!** The following positions are open: [Grants & Research Associate](#), [Civic Engagement Associate](#), and [Communication Associate](#).
- **The SoCal Pre Apprenticeship Program** is hosting a Housing and Childcare Fair on Friday, April 29th from 11:00am- 2:00pm at the Malcolm X Library. The event will focus on resources available to the community. Individuals interested in hosting a table can reach out to info@socalpp.com.
- **Second Chance** is hosting a 4-week active career exploration workshop series that will help ease the transition into community college for adults ages 18 - 24. The first workshop will begin on May 17th.
- As of July of last year, probation numbers among youth in San Diego have dropped so much that **SBCS** is now accepting all populations of youth into their programs. Learn more about the services it offers to youth [here](#).
- The City of San Diego received a \$19 million grant from the State of California to hire 500 interns over two years beginning in July. While the types of jobs have not yet been finalized, **the Human Resources Department** is hoping to involve all City departments and is focusing on creating opportunities that will transfer to employment. The Human Resources Department is seeking to collaborate with nonprofits to help identify appropriate youth populations to reach out to regarding this opportunity. Additionally, it will also need help with recruiting and case management as the process of applying to government jobs can be lengthy and complicated, and potential applicants may need assistance. If interested, please reach out to Leslie McNabb at LMcNabb@sandiego.gov
- **Dreams and Ducats** is a youth development nonprofit that focuses on personal development, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. It announced its 2nd Journey to Impact Event which will give youth a platform to voice the issues that matter the most to them. [Learn more here.](#)
 - Dreams and Ducats is recruiting a cohort of 8 high school students to give voice to community concerns as related to safety and gang violence. For interested youth (ideally ages 16-18), contact Rich Magale at rich@dreamsducats.org
- **The League of Amazing Programmers** is mid-way through their 2nd gen connect cohort.
- **MoHuman** is launching a free internet pilot program called MoNet.
- **San Diego Workforce Partnership** is launching a program that offers paid career readiness training. The next cohort is starting the last week of May. Learn more [here](#).

Career Exploration Series Debrief & Next Steps

- Staff presented an overview of the data collected from the exit survey and the registration demographics from the Job & Resource Fair and the Job Readiness

Workshop Series. Should this group decide to host another event, Staff suggested featuring more opportunities for career exploration.

- Dreams and Ducats further elaborated on this idea by suggesting that a future event offer participants the opportunity to connect with employees in different fields to have honest conversations about their experiences and what positions realistically look like.
- Conversely, Staff noted the importance of not only connecting people to employment opportunities, but also addressing the barriers people face when attempting to keep jobs over a long period of time.

Digital Equity & Inclusion Discussion

- Co-Chairs provided an update on recent events related to digital equity, including the Mayor's Fiscal Year 2023 proposed budget, which currently allocates \$441,000 to the SD Access 4 All Program to continue providing public Wi-Fi for San Diego low-income communities, raise community awareness, provide digital literacy training and digital equity support. Co-Chairs also noted that the Digital Navigators are part of a pilot program and will need community support to ensure continued programming.
- Partners did not identify next steps as related to Digital equity. Instead, Co-Chairs shifted the conversation to potential future projects that are more closely related to education.
- Staff reminded partners that the original logic model for this working group identified early childhood education and developmental resources as one of its primary areas of interest. Additionally, Co-Chairs noted that access to affordable childcare has become increasingly difficult because of the pandemic.
- SBCS suggested narrowing down the scope of focus for future projects in the realm of education by bringing in people with expertise in these areas.
- The Human Resources Department identified middle schoolers as a gap in the populations that community organizations serve. This working group may try reaching youth at an earlier age by offering opportunities for career exploration for middle schoolers.
- Dreams and Ducats noted that young people need to understand themselves internally before being able to know their professional interests. Creating space for young people to find themselves, whether that be job related or not, will give insight into potential future professions. This working group may focus on creating educational opportunities that can translate into vocational training or job readiness opportunities in the future.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- This working group is looking for a 4th Co-Chair to help us boost the representation of issues surrounding education in the Promise Zone. If you or anyone you know might be interested, please reach out to staff.
- Co-Chairs reminded Partners that the next upcoming meeting will be on Wednesday, May 25th from 2:30pm – 4:00pm.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 24th | 2:30 – 4:00 PM

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