



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Jobs and Education Notes

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 | 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

Via Zoom | (Meeting ID: 161 915 3978)

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

In Attendance

Alphabetically list organizations in attendance.

City of San Diego—Promise Zone, **City of San Diego**—Office of Child and Youth Success (Tya Valentine), **Community Member** (Rafiqa Hawkins), **County of San Diego**—Office of Equitable Communities (Anisa Quail), **Junior Achievement of San Diego** (Pana Hap), **Outside the Lens** (Brooke Newman), **San Diego Housing Commission** (Jon Rios), **San Diego Workforce Partnership** (Sahian Quezada), **SoCal Pre Apprenticeship Program** (Angeleck Richardson), **The LEAGUE of Amazing Programmers** (Sarah Cooper), **United Way of San Diego** (Jonathan Garcia), **University of California San Diego** (Raquel Aparicia), **Youth Will** (Liliana Soriano Garista)

Meeting Notes

Welcome and Agenda Review

- Co-chair welcomed partners, reviewed the agenda, and led a culture share activity.

Partner Spotlight: Youth Will

Liliana Soriano Garista, Youth Will

- Youth Will is a youth-led organization whose mission is to build youth power, improve youth development and demand youth prioritization.
- In August, Youth Will launched their yearly Youth Needs Survey through Google Forms to collect information from youth under 25 in San Diego County. Youth who take this survey have a chance to win a \$50 Visa gift card.
- They have received 78 responses so far and are looking for more. [Complete and share the survey here.](#)
- From the responses thus far, Youth Will identified three main concerns for youth:
 - **Mental Health:** 30.8% of youth marked mental health as their biggest concern. This choice was the number one amongst all choices.

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[Newsletter](#) | [Website](#) | [New Website](#) | [Email](#) | (619) 236-6700 | 1200 Third Ave, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

- **Climate Change:** 17.9% of youth voted that Climate Change was their biggest concern. This choice was the 3rd most popular amongst the choices (with lack of youth voice #2).
- **Jobs:** 14.1% of the youth voted lack of jobs to be a main concern for them when asked if jobs were accessible 43.9% of youth said no.

Tactical Planning and Outcome Setting

Promise Zone Staff and Partners

- Partners were invited to split into breakout groups related to the objective of this working group. They were tasked with developing a tactical plan based on the objectives. To review their ideas please refer to this [Jamboard](#).

Group 1: Hawkins, Pana, Jon, Sahian, Liliana, Roosevelt, Melissa, Brooke

- This group developed ideas for a combination of three objectives: 1) Increase educational and career supports for Opportunity Youth, 2) Connect Opportunity Youth, aged 16-24, to employment, and 3) Increase the number of college/career readiness programs for middle school children.
- The group focused on ideas that are in alignment with the Career Expo scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024.
- They expressed wanting to create a resource page for youth to access before the event, follow up with attendees and vendors after the event to coordinate mentorship opportunities and site visits, and best practices for active engagement during the event.

Group 2: Angeleck, Anisa, Amber, Ian

- This group drafted plans for these objectives: 1) Increase the number of residents employed in middle-skills jobs in growing industries and 2) increase the number of adults who are educated and prepared for middle-wage jobs.
- The group discussed many ideas including finding data about the skills employers look for, hearing the San Diego Public Library share about their workforce resources, and promoting the Promise Zone Calendar Submission form and encouraging partners to share their career related events.

Group 3: Raquel, Tya, Bryan, Alaysja

- This group focused on one objective: Increase the number of students meeting school readiness and grade-level expectations.
- The group identified initial tactics for their plan. First, they want to invite partners with data related to school readiness to present at working group meetings. They named partners like United Way of San Diego, Barrio Logan College Institute, Diamond Education Excellence Partnership and more. If your organization is interested in presenting at a future working group meeting please contact, Alaysja Clark, alaysjac@sandiego.gov.
- The group also discussed including student voices to identify external factors that prevent students from being school ready and meeting grade level expectations.

Signature Event Planning

Sarah Cooper, The LEAGUE of Amazing Programmers

- In preparation for the 2nd Annual Your Future, Now: A Youth-Led Career Expo, partners were invited to fill out a [Vendor Interest form](#).

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Digital Comment Box: <https://us16.list-manage.com/survey?u=e913b9d30ca18b3436360cf47&id=62c8f5dc2f>

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 10, 2024 | 10:00AM – 11:30 AM

In-person | Logan Heights Library – Community Room | 567 S 28th St, San Diego, CA 92113