



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Jobs and Education Notes

Wednesday, February 7, 2024 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Via Zoom | (Meeting ID: 160 295 2326)

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

In Attendance

Access Inc. (Roshawn Brady), **Barrio Logan College Institute** (Tomaso Mauricio), **City of San Diego—Office of Child and Youth Success** (Tya Valentine), **County of San Diego—Office of Equitable Communities** (Anisa Quail), **Diamond Education Excellence Partnership** (Malia Pfister), **Dreams & Ducats** (Rich Magale), **Elementary Institute of Science** (Sarah Tuakli Cooper), **Fleet Science Center** (Yanet Lopez), **Good Neighbor Project** (John Alvarado), **Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation** (Mauri Hamilton), **Junior Achievement of San Diego** (Pana Hap), **Live Well SD** (Maya Vargas), **MAAC Project** (Valerie Hash), **Natural Insights** (Rafiq Hawkins), **Outside the Lens** (Mary Rodriguez), **Port of San Diego** (Edmond Perkins), **San Diego College of Continuing Education** (Kelly Henwood), **San Diego County Office of Education** (Ernesto Rivera), **San Diego Futures Foundation** (Teresa Valenzuela, Irina Proknorova), **San Diego Workforce Partnership** (Sahian Quezada), **Second Chance** (Daria Van Nice), **Slate-Z** (Tyresa Jackson), **University of California San Diego** (Zhenxi Zhong, Raquel Aparicio), **Youth Will** (Liliana Soriano)

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Agenda Review, and Promise Zone Staff Updates

- Co-chair welcomed partners, reviewed the agenda, and led a culture share activity.
- Upcoming working group meetings and VISTA contact information:
 - Economic Activity: Wednesday, February 21, 10am-11:30am via Zoom.
 - Bryan Villegas, BVillegas@sandiego.gov
 - Housing Affordability: Wednesday, February 28, 10am-11:30am via Zoom.
 - Ian Hembree, IHembree@sandiego.gov
 - Healthy Communities: Wednesday, March 13, 10am-11:30am via Zoom.
 - Nathaniel Hillman, NHillman@sandiego.gov

Partner Updates

- **Barrio Logan College Institute** will host a Career Fair on Thursday, March 7 for their elementary and high school students. If your organization is interested in sharing job opportunities, please contact Tomasa Mauricio at tomaso@blci.org.

Click the following links to stay connected to the San Diego Promise Zone

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

- The **Elementary Institute of Science** invited partners to their free open house on Saturday, February 17. Community members will have a chance to meet their new executive director, Sarah Tuakli Cooper, participate in fun science experiments, and learn more about their programming. [RSVP here.](#)
- The **Good Neighbor Project** announced the renewal of a drone training program intended for youth who are interested in flying and obtaining a drone pilot's license. For more information contact John Alvarado at john@gnpsd.org.
- **The Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation** announced they are hosting two workshops at the Jacobs Business Resource Center later this month. On February 22, they are kicking off their Financial Wellness series with Cal Coast Credit Union. The first workshop will be on how to budget with a variable income. On February 28, they will host a Business Taxes 101 workshop.
 - Register for the Financial Wellness series [here](#).
 - Register for the Business Taxes 101 workshop [here](#).
- **Live Well San Diego** announced that they are hosting a Career Prep Series throughout San Diego County. Their first panel will be a County Emergency Services Career Panel hosted at the El Cajon County Library on February 22. [RSVP here.](#) In late spring, they will host another health focused career panel at the Southeastern Live Well Center.
- **San Diego College of Continuing Education** announced the start of their spring semester. They have many courses and certificates available such as GED/high school equivalency, career technical education, disability services, and ESL at no cost. [Learn more here.](#)
- The **San Diego County Office of Education** will host an Apprenticeship Expo on March 22, at Miramar College. The event is open to the public; partners can promote the event and encourage the populations they serve to attend! [Register here.](#)
- **San Diego Futures Foundation** shared that they are remodeling the second story of their building in City Heights and will be closed until the remodel is completed.
- **Outside the Lens (OTL)** will host their very first, annual, youth juried art show "**Voice Out: A Youth Media Arts Exhibition.**" Young creatives ages 8-19 are invited to submit their digital artwork in the categories of photography, illustration, and mixed media. Submissions accepted between March 4 and March 31, 2024. [Click here for more information and guidelines.](#)
 - **OTL** also announced the opening of the "Our Family, Our Story" Winter 2024 cohort registration. "Our Family, Our Story" is an 8-week photography workshop specifically for military-connected individuals, couples, and families. [Sign-up here.](#)

Digital Bridge Pilot Program

Teresa Valenzuela, Community Outreach Manager, San Diego Futures Foundation

- The San Diego Futures Foundation (SDFF) wants to go mobile and outlined the details in the [Digital Bridge Pilot Program](#) presentation.
- Their current site in City Heights, SDFF offers computer skills workshops, basic technology, and pick up of their low-cost computers.

- The Digital Bridge Program will allow SDFF to bring their services to communities that are unable to travel to their City Heights offices, ensuring access to essential technology and training right in their neighborhood.
- The program will not only fulfill the need for immediate technological assistance, but it will also provide their interns with more experience and confidence needed to pursue higher-level positions and careers in technology.
- SDFF is seeking sponsors to fund this program and purchase a van for their services to go mobile.
- If your organization is interested in getting involved, reach out to Teresa Valenzuela, teresa@sdfutures.org.

Review 2024 Agenda Items, Speakers, & Tactical Plan:

- The group reviewed ideas for agenda items and guest speakers for future working group members.
- Partners split into breakout rooms to finalize the tactical plans, developed in November. See below for notes from each group:
 - **Group 1: Ernesto, Irina, Maya, Pana, Roshawn, Sahian, Valerie, Zhenxi**
 - The group focused on tactics to support the Career Expo on March 26. Partners in this group committed to promoting the event to their network. Access Inc. and MAAC Project committed to donate gift cards to the raffle. In November the group had the idea create a guide for employers about employing young people. Instead of creating a guide, the group will research if an organization has a similar one.
 - **Group 2: Teresa, John, Rafiq, Mauri, Edmond, Mary, Rich, Daria**
 - The group discussed the importance of identifying an individual's skills and interests before entering a middle-income job. They raised concerns about computer skills limiting people from entering the work force. To address their concerns the group will decide on measurements to evaluate the impact that careers fairs and education programs have on skill development.
 - **Group 3: Malia, Raquel, Sarah, Tomasa, Tyresa, Yanet**
 - The group planned for Diamond Education Excellence Partnership (DEEP) to present at a future working group meeting about funding they received for a pilot program. The Promise Zone team will schedule a meeting with DEEP to discuss more partnerships. Additionally, the group wants to include Promise Zone schools in their discussions, and multiple members committed to inviting their school district contacts to the next meeting. For the end of 2024 the group will work with organizations like DEEP and the Office of Child and Youth Success to develop summer programs for Promise Zone youth.

Career Expo Updates

- The working group's signature event, "Your Future, Now: A Youth-Led Career Expo," will be hosted on Tuesday, March 26, 2024 from 10-1pm at UCSD Park and Market.

- Co-chairs invited partners to share the follow registration links and forms with their networks:
 - Vendor interest form: <https://forms.gle/myAi9pj4UtMSaSY47>
 - School group registration form: <https://forms.gle/cXWujLWuazd7icrD8>
 - Attendee registration form: <https://forms.gle/CQwd9bkJfVX1txsM8>
 - Youth Panel interest form: <https://forms.gle/WPGsTUrdKFU6dHCR7>
 - Volunteer form: <https://forms.gle/bVfR28J6xF2mGwPR9>
 - City Website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/staging/2nd-annual-your-future-now-youth-led-career-expo>
- Partners were also asked to contribute to the event by donating items to the swag bag and connecting the Promise Zone team to potential sponsors.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Digital Comment Box: <https://forms.gle/FAbFjw4ZUuAd3Uiy6>

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Via Zoom | (Meeting ID: 160 295 2326)