

January 2024

SD PromiseZone

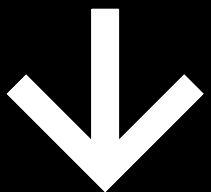
Newsletter

The Promise

"To co-create an ecosystem of opportunity and investment through collaboration that addresses systemic racism and inequities to improve the quality of life of Promise Zone residents"

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(Image: Brady Cook, Unsplash)



A MESSAGE TO OUR PARTNERS

FROM THE PROMISE ZONE STAFF

Happy New Year from the Promise Zone! During our holiday break, our team focused on strategic planning for 2024 and we are very excited about what is in store for this year.

January 15 is the day we remember civil rights activist Martin Luther King Jr. His courage to advocate for African Americans despite the inherent danger of the times is something we can all aspire toward. As leaders in the Promise Zone, we can all learn from his constant advocacy for marginalized communities.

Our team has a variety of resolutions as we head into the new year, but we will continue our commitment to creating positive change in our community. **What resolutions are you bringing into the new year, and how do they positively impact society?**

Promise Zone IN THE NEWS

[BARRIO LOGAN GROWTH BLUEPRINT GETS A FINAL STAMP OF APPROVAL](#)

[EVEN AFTER COSTLY REBUILD, LOGAN MEMORIAL'S SUSPENSION ISSUES PERSIST](#)

[A CHANCE FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE: LOGAN HEIGHTS CDC CREATES PATHS TO OPPORTUNITY](#)

[SAN DIEGO FOUNDATION, ENVIRONMENTAL COALITION GRANTED \\$22 MILLION FOR BARRIO PROJECTS](#)

Community Spotlight: Sarah Cooper

Our very own working group co-chair, Sarah Cooper, was featured in San Diego Stem Ecosystem's November Partner Spotlight. Sarah has just taken the role of Executive Director at the Elementary Institute of Science and she is also the Jobs and Education working group co-chair.

Learn more about Sarah [here!](#)





SD PromiseZone

WORKING GROUP UPDATES

Jobs and Education

In 2024, Jobs and Education will meet on the **1st Wednesday of the month** from 10-11:30am on Zoom with the exception of its first meeting, which will be held on the second Wednesday due to the holiday. This group's first meeting will be on January 10, **in-person** at the Logan Heights Library. If you would like to attend future Zoom meetings, [register here](#). For questions and concerns regarding this working group, reach out to **Alaysja Clark**, alaysjac@sandiego.gov.

Economic Activity

In 2024, the Economic Activity working group will meet on the **3rd Wednesday of every month** from 10-11:30am on Zoom. If you are interested in attending, please [register here](#)! For questions and concerns regarding this working group, reach out to **Brayn Villegas**, BVillegas@sandiego.gov.

Join Future Meetings

Jobs and Education:
Wednesday, January 10, 10:00 - 11:30am

Healthy Communities:
Thursday, January 11, 10:00 - 11:30am

Economic Activity:
Wednesday, January 17, 10:00 - 11:30am

Housing Affordability:
Wednesday, January 24, 10:00 - 11:30am

Housing Affordability

In 2024, the Housing Affordability working group will meet on the **4th Wednesday of every month** from 10-11:30am on Zoom. If you are interested in attending, [please register here](#)! For questions and concerns regarding this working group, reach out to **Ian Hembree**, IHembree@sandiego.gov.

Healthy Communities

In 2024, the Healthy Communities will meet on the **2nd Thursday of every month** from 10-11:30am on Zoom. If you are interested in attending, please [register here](#)! For questions and concerns regarding this working group, reach out to **Nathaniel Hillman**, NHillman@sandiego.gov.

Partner Announcements



[Promise Zone Calendar](#)

We post Partner events to our [City Calendar website](#). If you would like us to post your event, please fill out our [Submission Form](#). The form is also available on our [website](#).

Partner Events

JAN
7

Homelessness and Housing Crisis Town Hall

Join Live Well San Diego for a Homelessness and Housing Crisis Town Hall, hosted by Live Well San Diego Youth Leaders, on **Sunday, January 7, from 2-4pm**. They will be joined by a panel of experts to talk about the San Diego housing crisis, inequities, the effects of unstable housing on youth, and proposed solutions. **RSVP for this virtual Town Hall [here](#)**.

JAN
18

Small Business Expo

Entrepreneurs and small business owners, gear up for an exciting kickoff to the new year of 2024! Dive into valuable connections with your resource partners in a face-to-face gathering on **Thursday, January 18, from 8:30am-12:30pm**. Explore fresh opportunities, funding options, and more at the Handlery Hotel San Diego. Join the Center for Business Advancement for an enriching experience filled with light refreshments and a wealth of information, insights, and networking opportunities. **[Register here](#)**.

JAN
19

Economic Roundtable 2024

Join the San Diego Workforce Partnership for the 39th annual Economic Roundtable on **Friday, January 19 from 12:30-4:30pm** at the University of San Diego for an afternoon full of insightful presentations inside USD's Joan B. Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. Stay for a reception to engage in a lively discussion with other attendees while enjoying food and drinks outside at the Garden of the Sea. **Register for free [here](#)**!

CALLING SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS
IN GREATER LOGAN HEIGHTS!

Community Meeting

FIRST THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH 8:00 -
9:00 AM

LOGAN HEIGHTS CDC OFFICE
(3040 IMPERIAL AVE. SAN DIEGO, CA 92102)

Join us monthly for a dynamic gathering of fellow business owners. Elevate your presence, voice your opinions, engage with city representatives, glean insights from fellow entrepreneurs, and collectively nurture growth! Your active participation makes a difference – be part of this empowering experience!

Contact Leonardo at 619-858-0563 or email
Leonardo@loganheightscdc.org for inquiries!



LH LOGAN HEIGHTS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP

Credit Scores & Reports

Join our financial literacy workshop to gain essential skills, expand your network, and invest in your financial future. Reserve your spot today!



REGISTER HERE

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

3040 Imperial Avenue
San Diego, CA 92102

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
+619-858-0563

PARTICIPATING PARTNERS:



Loganheightscdc.org



LH LOGAN HEIGHTS
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BUSINESS PLAN WORKSHOP

Date: January 18, 2024
Time: 5:30 pm - 7 pm
Location: LHCDC office (3040 Imperial Ave)

Business plans are essential for success. Learn how to create yours.

This workshop will equip entrepreneurs with essential skills for crafting strategic and financially sound plans, fostering collaboration and enhancing their ability to attract investment and achieve long-term success.



Register Today:



For more information contact Frederick at
(619)858-0563 or frederick@loganheightscdc.org

Partner Announcements

San Diego Housing Commission Achievement Academy

Job skills, job placement, career planning and personal financial education such as budgeting and credit are among the programs the SDHC Achievement Academy provides for households with low income in the City of San Diego. These programs are available at no cost to participants. [Learn more and fill out an intake form.](#)

GET TO KNOW: 

The Regional Decarbonization Framework (RDF)

The RDF is a community-driven resource that outlines pathways for local governments, organizations, businesses, and community members to decrease carbon emissions in the San Diego region.

Visit bit.ly/ucp-rdf or scan the QR code to help set climate action priorities in your community and the San Diego region! Learn about the RDF at: sandiegocounty.gov/rdf/

Complete the survey for a chance to win a gift card!

The Regional Decarbonization Framework (RDF) is an initiative led by the County of San Diego, with community outreach and engagement done in partnership with the Urban Collaborative Project CDC and other community partners.

Save on Your Internet Bill

Through the Affordable Connectivity Program, administered by USAC with oversight from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), you could be eligible to receive up to \$75 off your internet bill depending on qualifications. Learn more about the benefits and [apply here.](#)

HUD: Funding Navigator Tool

The Department of Housing and Urban Development launched the [Build for the Future Funding Navigator](#) on the HUD Exchange. The Funding Navigator provides information on funding availability, application details, and more.



Volunteer Crisis Interventionists Needed

The San Diego Police Department Crisis Intervention program is looking for volunteers to assist fellow San Diego residents during traumatic times in their lives. No experience is needed! All you need is a desire to help others. A comprehensive 100-hour training course will provide you with the skills needed to perform this valuable and rewarding service.

Find out more about what Crisis Interventionists do here.

County of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency
Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities
Community Action Partnership (CAP)

JOIN THE COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD (CAB) TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

A CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD THAT OVERSEES COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS

CAP administers programs that empower economically disadvantaged communities and their residents to provide opportunities to achieve self-sufficiency.

- Represent the public, private, and economically disadvantaged sectors in your region (*view back of flyer to check which region you are located in*)
- Bring together community leaders to help shape responses to local needs on the issues and causes of poverty
- Advise the Board of Supervisors on issues related to CAP programs and services
- Meetings are held in person on 2nd Thursday of the month from 3:30 to 5:00 pm (minimum 6/year)

Complete the application online at <https://bit.ly/3WmGle1>

For further information, visit www.sdcountycap.com



Adult High School Diploma Program

San Diego Public Library is proud to offer adults the opportunity to earn an accredited high school diploma. They currently offer two diploma programs: Career Online High School and Gale Excel Adult High School. Adults who are looking to continue their education, expand their career opportunities or apply to enter the military will benefit. These programs are offered entirely online with 24/7 access to fit busy schedules. [Learn more here.](#)

Youth Opportunity Pass Program

All riders 18 & under will be able to ride MTS and North County Transit District (NCTD) services for FREE with a Youth PRONTO app account, or a Youth PRONTO card. The [Youth Opportunity Pass](#) is a pilot program, sponsored by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) and County of San Diego. This promotion has now **extended for another two years, until June 30, 2026.**

working group
priority alignment

 Housing Affordability

 Safety

 Jobs + Education

 Healthy Communities

 Economic Activity

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

FY2025 Economic Development Funding Program

The Economic Development Funding Program covers economic development, tourism and small business support. This grant program allocates Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) revenue to promote San Diego as a business and tourism destination; and utilizes the Small Business Enhancement Program (SBEP) to supports small business efforts Citywide and in Micro-districts.

Informational Session Attendance Date: January 10, 2024



Youth Service America: Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Youth Grants

Youth Service America, with the support of the Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation, is offering the Sodexo Stop Hunger Foundation Youth Grants to youth changemakers in the United States, aged five to 25, to lead awareness, direct service, advocacy, and philanthropic projects that focus on ending childhood hunger in their communities. Youth may apply for \$250 grants for projects engaging at least 25 other youth as volunteers, or \$500 grants for projects engaging at least 50 youth volunteers. Proposed projects must be youth-led and focus on addressing childhood hunger; take place during the Sodexo Servathon (April 1-May 31, 2024), with some activity on Global Youth Service Day (April 26-28, 2024) strongly encouraged; engage youth not typically asked to serve as volunteers; and benefit children and families in the United States. Projects may take place in schools, colleges and universities, after-school programs, youth organizations, nonprofit organizations, or faith-based organizations.

Application deadline: January 21, 2024





INSIDER TIP!



The Promise Zone can support the Partner grant applications by providing a Letter of Support.

Reach out to our Grants and Research Associate, Nathaniel Hillman, NHillman@sandiego.gov for more information!

Department of Labor

The YouthBuild program awards grants through a competitive process to organizations providing pre-apprenticeship services that support education, occupational skills training, and employment services to opportunity youth, ages 16 to 24, who are performing meaningful work and service to their communities. The YouthBuild program model prepares participants for quality jobs in a variety of careers in diverse industry sectors, particularly in infrastructure sectors, and includes wraparound services such as mentoring, trauma-informed care, personal counseling, transportation supports, and employment preparation. YouthBuild applicants must include construction skills training and may include occupational skills training in other in-demand industries.

Application deadline: February 1, 2024



Opportunity Young Adult (OYA) Career Pathway Program

The OYA Career Pathway Program for PY 23-24 grants will be to design and implement projects that focus on creating pathways to success that test and demonstrate program strategies to improve employment outcomes and reduce persistent economic inequities for OYA 18-28 years of age.

Application Deadline: February 5, 2024



California Regional Environmental Education Community Network Grant

The California Regional Environmental Education Community (CREEC) Network Grant will assist kindergarten through grade twelve educators with integrating academic content areas with environmental literacy.

Application Deadline: February 13, 2024



GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Grants

Through this NOFO, HUD is awarding Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) grants to support selected communities develop and implement systems infrastructure to better address youth homelessness. The grants will focus on systems change to create and build capacity for Youth Action Boards; collect and use data that work with at-risk youth; develop strong leaders within a community; and improve the coordination, communication, operation, and administration of homeless assistance projects to better serve youth, including prevention and diversion strategies.

Application Deadline: February 15, 2024

This Application does not offer Promise Zone preference points.



Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program

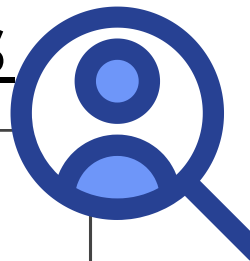
The purpose of the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) program is to build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain; to provide more and better markets to small farms and food businesses; to support the development of value-added products for consumers, fair prices, and fair wages; and create new and safe job opportunities.

Application Deadline: February 26, 2024



CAPACITY BUILDING RESOURCES

- **Digital Assessment Tool**: Discover your nonprofit's path to digital transformation — for free with TechSoup's Digital Assessment Tool (DAT) to identify your needs and find the best resources to meet them.
- **National Center for Cultural Competence**: The mission of the NCCC is to increase the capacity of health care and mental health care programs to design, implement, and evaluate culturally and linguistically competent service delivery systems to address growing diversity, persistent disparities, and to promote health and mental health equity.
- **How to Build a Truly Inclusive Nonprofit Volunteer Program**: Writers [Faiza Venzant](#) and [Mark Hager](#) dive into the challenges and best practices for developing a diverse volunteer program.





Civic Engagement in the Promise Zone

In the San Diego Promise Zone, civic engagement plays a pivotal role in addressing the challenges residents face. It's not merely a process; it's a lifeline for residents to actively participate in the decision-making processes that directly impact their lives. By involving residents in understanding the unique issues that the Promise Zone faces, such as economic inequalities and educational gaps, civic engagement allows for the co-creation of effective strategies tailored to the community's specific needs.

[WATCH CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS](#)

[WATCH COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS](#)

Mobility Master Plan Survey

The City of San Diego wants your input on the Mobility Master Plan, a comprehensive transportation planning effort to create a balanced, equitable, and sustainable mobility system for the City of San Diego. [Learn more and submit your input!](#)

Recruiting San Diego's Next Chief of Police

San Diegans have the chance to voice their opinions and participate in the recruiting process through nine community meetings – one in each City Council district. [Learn more about the hiring process and how you can attend a community meeting here.](#)

Your Voice in Traffic Safety

SANDAG wants to hear from residents about which streets in San Diego feel the safest to walk or bike one. Explore their interactive map and leave a comment [here.](#)

Get It Done 

Simple and easy to connect with the City:

- Report non-emergency problems
- Schedule appointments
- Obtain information

sandiego.gov/get-it-done
or download your mobile app today!
"Get It Done San Diego"

Job Board

Informal Job Database, Solicitation for Services



Talent Acquisition Specialist

MTS is seeking a dynamic recruitment professional experienced in both technical and high-volume recruitment. [Learn more and apply here.](#)



Library Assistant II

The City of San Diego is seeking a Library Assistant to perform a variety of library-related clerical duties. Read the full description and [apply here.](#)



Thrift Store Manager

Home Start Inc is seeking a Thrift Boutique Manager who will oversee the day-to-day operations of the Agency Thrift Boutique to ensure effective operation and profitability and be accountable for customer satisfaction. [Learn more and apply here.](#)



Director of Major and Principal Gifts

The Fleet Science Center is seeking a candidate to support the Fleet Science Center's mission by developing and managing the Fleet's major gifts program to support mission-based program initiatives and capital projects. [Apply here.](#)

Looking for more roles? Check out additional job boards!

City of San Diego - [Personnel Job Board](#)

San Diego Workforce Partnership - [Job Board](#)

San Diego Regional EDC - [Job Board](#)




ABOUT THE PROMISE ZONE

In 2016, the San Diego Promise Zone became one of 22 federally designated Promise Zones in the United States and one of only four in California. The San Diego Promise Zone covers a 6.4-square-mile targeted area with more than 80,000 residents that spans East Village and Barrio Logan east to Encanto. It is home to the City's most culturally rich and ethnically diverse neighborhoods, but also some of the most under-resourced communities. Through the Promise Zone initiative, community-based organizations, direct service providers, residents, and business owners work with government agencies to enhance collective impact, streamline resources, and deliver comprehensive support.

Since 2016, the unemployment rate has decreased from 14.9% to 6.7%, and the poverty rate has fallen from 38.3% to now 22.1% (ACS, 2016, 2021). We recognize there are many factors that contribute to these numbers. We do know that in the 7 years since the designation, targeted efforts from the city and community-based organizations have supported some improvement in these areas, however, we recognize there is still plenty of work to do to continue improving the lives of our Promise Zone residents.


WORKING GROUP GOALS

- Increase access to healthy foods
- Improve access to healthcare
- Support opportunities for active transportation and active living
- Dialogue with residents
- Create environments conducive to learning and working
- Improve infrastructure
- Increase and improve access to capital




INCREASE ACCESS TO QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Create and preserve affordable housing
- Support renters, first-time homebuyers, and people without housing




PROMOTE ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE AND HEALTHY FOODS




CREATE JOBS

- Cultivate opportunities for career exploration, applied learning, and youth leadership
- Create meaningful summer employment experiences for teenagers




CREATE A PRIORITY OF SAFETY



IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

- Increase the number of students meeting school readiness and grade-level expectations
- Increase educational and career supports for Opportunity Youth



INCREASE ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

Stay Connected to the



Promise Zone Staff

- Amber Joy Weber, **Promise Zone Program Manager** / AJWeber@san Diego.gov
Melissa Elder, **Promise Zone Program Coordinator** / MElder@san Diego.gov
Roosevelt Williams III, **Program Specialist** / RooseveltW@san Diego.gov
Nathaniel Hillman, **Grants & Research Associate VISTA** / NHillman@san Diego.gov
Alaysja Cark, **Communications Associate VISTA** / AlaysjaC@san Diego.gov
Bryan Villegas, **Operations Associate VISTA** / BVillegas@san Diego.gov
Ian Hembree, **Civic Engagement Associate VISTA** / IHembree@san Diego.gov

