

## Parks and Recreation Department

## **Citywide Recreation Services Division Profile**

## Sarah Erazo

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## DEPUTY DIRECTOR PROGRAM MANAGER Salome Martinez

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#### **City Vision**

Opportunity in every neighborhood, excellent service for every San Diegan.

#### **City Mission**

Every day we serve our communities to make San Diego not just a fine city, but a great City.

#### **Strategic Goal Alignment**

<u>Protect and Enrich Every Neighborhood</u> Connecting communities to safe public spaces that offer opportunities to learn, grow, and thrive. Foster Regional Prosperity

Promoting economic growth and opportunity in every community, for every San Diegan

Fiscal Year 2026

### **Overview**

**Citywide Recreation Services Division** provides overall direction, leadership, management, and planning for the Parks and Recreation Department. Responsibilities include:

- Recreation Services management:
  - Management of Recreation Center Fund and Opportunity Fund Budgets
  - Oversight of Department programs, events and contract service providers
  - o Administration of diverse, equitable and inclusive services
  - Marketing and community outreach
  - o Community Recreation Groups
- Therapeutic Recreation Services:
  - Provides sports, recreation, leisure and outreach services to people with physical, mental and emotional disabilities.
  - Design programs and activities to maintain or improve the physical, cognitive and social functioning of those who have limitations.
  - o Provide programs and outreach.
- AgeWell Services:
  - Provide recreation, health and wellness opportunities and community resources for adults aged 55 and older.
- Civic Dance:
  - Provide instruction for beginner through advanced level classes in tap, jazz, ballet, hip hop and musical theatre dance to children and adults of all ages.

## **Facts and Figures**

FY 2024 Budgeted Positions	35 FTE
FY 2024 General Fund Adopted Budget	\$ 3,942,956
FY 2024 Recreation Center Fund Budget	\$ 5,189,630
Current and Pending Grant Awards	\$ 1,300,000
FY 2023 # Department-wide programs	5,886
FY 2023 # Program Enrollment	55,646

# Citywide Recreation Programs, Equity, and Budget

**Geographic Area:** Citywide

Council Districts: All

**Headquarters:** 9458 Aero Drive

San Diego, CA 92123 Mail Station: 5D

Management Team: Juan Razo, Supervising Recreation Specialist

Cell Phone: (858) 463-9311 Email: <u>irazo@sandiego.gov</u>

**Angie Beasley, Senior Management Analyst** 

Cell Phone: (619) 980-1027 Email: abeasley@sandiego.gov

#### **About Citywide Recreation Programs, Equity and Budget**

Responsible for department-wide recreation programing and events, contract administration, and policy development to ensure the delivery of equitable recreation services to approximately 350,000 children, adults, and older adults. Oversee fiscal management of 62 Recreation Center Fund budgets and the Opportunity Fund budget. Ensures Department's commitment to a diverse, equitable menu of recreational programs available at all recreation centers and parks. Manage the pre-qualified program and event vendors list. Develop and standardize the Department's social media profiles and marketing program. Generate graphic design and publishing of program guides and events flyers. Liaise with non-profit organizations, outside agencies, and stakeholders involved in providing funding for programs. Assist with securing funds for equitable programing.

### **Civic Dance Arts**

**Geographic Area:** Citywide

Council Districts: All

**Headquarters:** Balboa Park Club

2150 Pan American Road West

San Diego, CA 92101

619-235-5255

Management Team: Andrea Feier, Supervising Recreation Specialist

Telephone: (619) 235-5255 Cell Phone: (619) 379-0034 Email: afeier@sandiego.gov

#### **About Civic Dance Arts**

Founded in 1942, the Civic Dance Arts Program has introduced hundreds of thousands of citizens to the art form of dance. Classes are currently offered at 20 city recreation centers and Balboa Park facilities at affordable prices, with fees waived in some cases. This enables children and adults from all economic and cultural backgrounds to fully participate in the study of dance.

Beginning through pre-professional level instruction is offered in disciplines such as jazz, tap, ballet, modern, hip hop and musical theater. In addition to our ongoing classes, there are affordable summer camps for youth and specialty workshops and master classes offered throughout the year. Civic Dance Arts emulates the highest standards of nationally renowned private and non-profit programs; a program which now attracts the highest caliber instructional and student talent while providing instruction at the least cost in the community.

Unique to the program, each spring brings workshops for advanced level, audition only Companies. San Diego Civic Dance Arts Companies provide advanced level conservatory training and performance opportunities. All four companies perform in various events year-round, representing the City of San Diego. Many of our advanced level dancers have gone on to successful careers in dance and the arts.

Affordable one-week Summer Camps are available to dancers ages 8-17 years, with a showcase performance at the end of each week. Also available are our adult workshop (full convention-style day of dance for Adults and Seniors), our Boys Day of Dance (full day of dance for boys 6-17 years) as well as our half-day camp for ages 5-7 years.

With the support of San Diego Civic Dance Association, all of our students are given many different performance opportunities, such as December Nights, our critically acclaimed dance Collage in February, Production Finales as well as the highly anticipated Yearly Recitals held at the beautiful Casa Del Prado Theater in historic Balboa Park.

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Statistics:
# of classes 392
# of camps 4
# of locations 20 Recreation Centers and Balboa Park facilities
# of students 6,847
# of community performances 40
# of performance attendees 16,000
Revenue \$239,841.96

Fee Waiver subsidized class revenue \$42,659.72

San Diego Civic Dance Association is a non-profit, all volunteer, public benefit organization. **Mission Statement**: Our mission is to support and promote a premiere dance arts program and an appreciation of the arts, in cooperation with the San Diego Parks and Recreation Department Civic Dance Arts Program.

Every year, our dedicated volunteers give over 20,000 hours of their time to support the many programs of the City of San Diego's Civic Dance Arts program. While the City fee covers the cost of the dance classes, each year our hardworking volunteers work to raise over \$130,000 to cover the costs of our performances and additional programs.

San Diego Civic Dance Association funds and produces performance opportunities for dancers taking classes with the City program. From Recitals, Collage, December Nights, Fundraising Night of Theater and many more, our pledge is to provide a complete education and performance experience for our dance community.

In addition to performance opportunities, SDCDA funds financial aid, merit scholarships, college scholarships, costume assistance as well as specialty dance training opportunities for both dancer and teachers alike. Our pledge is to build and maintain a strong dance program that supports all of our students and teachers, no matter their age or ability level.

# Therapeutic Recreation Services Power Beach Wheelchair Program

**Geographic Area:** Citywide

Council Districts: All

**Headquarters:** Park de la Cruz Community Center

3901 Landis St., San Diego, CA 92105

Telephone: (619) 525-8247

**Management Team:** Kristi Fenick, District Manager

Telephone: (619) 533-6333 Cell Phone: (619) 867-2384 Email: Kfenick@sandiego.gov

**Gerald Cunanan, Sup. Therapeutic Recreation Specialist** 

Telephone: (619) 236-7756 Cell Phone: (619) 889-1938 Email: gcunanan@sandiego.gov

Julie Gregg, Sup. Therapeutic Recreation Specialist

Telephone: (619) 236-7718 Cell Phone: (858) 342-7303 Email: <u>igregg@sandiego.gov</u>

#### Park de la Cruz (PDLC) Community Center

Although Therapeutic Recreation Services and AgeWell Services provide citywide programs and services, PDLC is the headquarters of these programs. PDLC is a three-story community center, where inclusive programs and services are offered.

The center has a number of multi-purpose rooms, in addition to a fitness center, media room, computer lab, industrial kitchen, children's playroom and sensory room for those with sensory impairments. In addition, there are outdoor and indoor pickleball and basketball courts, skatepark, children's playground and a program garden.

#### **Therapeutic Recreation Services**

Therapeutic Recreation Services provides therapeutic recreation programs, leisure education, sports opportunities, and outreach services to people with disabilities, ages 3-adult. Staff plan and conduct an average of 60 recreation programs monthly, as well as special events, and sports tournaments. Therapeutic Recreation Services collaborates with other agencies to sponsor additional recreation and leisure opportunities for all. An estimated 35,000 people annually are served through programs and outreach services. Therapeutic Recreation Services is nationally recognized for many of its adaptive wheelchair sports and recreation programs. Recipients of services include, but not limited to persons with:

- Physical disabilities (spinal cord injuries, cerebral palsy, spina bifida, amputees)
- Developmental disabilities (autism, cognitive impairments, Down syndrome, etc.)
- Learning disabilities
- Blind and visual impairments/Deaf and hard of hearing
- Brain injuries
- Mental illness and behavioral disorders
- Injured service members

Therapeutic Recreation Services has a large volunteer program, which features opportunities for individuals to gain experience working with people with disabilities. Many of the recipients of services also volunteer in the program, to gain knowledge and skills for prospective employment. Volunteers provide an average of 10,000 hours of service to the program annually.

#### Statistics for Fiscal Year 2023:

- 30,000 persons provided outreach services
- 10,000 persons participating in monthly therapeutic recreation programs
- 5800 persons participating in co-sponsored programs

#### **Beach Power Wheelchair Program**

Therapeutic Recreation Services is responsible for the operation of two (2) power and two (2) manual beach wheelchairs, located at the Mission Beach Lifeguard Station, 3141 Ocean Front Walk. Staff check-out the chairs to patrons with mobility impairments and instruct them in the safe operation of the chairs. In addition, staff provides information and referral to patrons on accessibility issues and other services available for persons with disabilities. Many of the users are out of town tourists. Usage varies from 20-75 patrons per month, with approximately 150 inquiries answered monthly during peak season.

#### **Inclusion Aides**

Therapeutic Recreation Services has taken on the role of assisting Recreation Centers to provide programs to **all** citizens and meet the requirements set forth by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Children and adults with various types of disabilities should always be welcomed at all Parks and Recreation Programs. Due to the nature of the disabilities, some of these individuals require the assistance of an aide to participate in the activities. Aides provide one-on-one assistance in

performing various recreation activities, close supervision of participants, monitor behaviors, and ensure the overall safety of all the participants. Many individuals with disabilities would not be able to participate in recreation center activities and programs without the assistance of an aide. The ADA prohibits staff from requiring individuals to bring an aide to assist in recreation participation, or from charging the person additional fees to hire an aide.

Therapeutic Recreation Services assists with registration, assesses the needs of the individuals, and arranges for reasonable accommodations, including the hiring and training of inclusion aides to provide individual assistance. Therapeutic Recreation Services also provides training to City recreation staff members on how to work with persons with disabilities, as well as technical assistance in program planning and design to assure accessibility for all participants.

In Fiscal Year 2023, approximately 21 children (96 occurrences) with autism and other developmental disabilities, participated in day camps, dance, soccer, gymnastics, and other classes at 19 different recreation centers throughout the City. Many of these children demonstrated increases in recreation skills, social skills, and appropriate behavior while participating in programs with the assistance of inclusion aides. In addition, children without disabilities demonstrated increased tolerance and sensitivity toward those with differences. New friendships were formed, and parents were extremely pleased that their children with disabilities could finally participate in activities at their neighborhood recreation centers along with siblings and peers.

## **AgeWell Services**

**Geographic Area:** Citywide

Council Districts: All

<u>Headquarters:</u> Park de la Cruz Community Center

3901 Landis St., San Diego, CA 92105

Telephone: (619) 525-8247

Management Team: Kristi Fenick, District Manager

Telephone: (619) 533-6333 Cell Phone: (619) 867-2384 Email: Kfenick@sandiego.gov

**Vacant, Sup. Aging Recreation Specialist** 

Telephone: Cell Phone: TBA Email: TBA

AgeWell Services (AWS) provides recreation, educational events, and social/outreach services for adults age 55 and older. AWS collaborates with a number of community agencies to provide supportive services, such as congregate meals, legal assistance, technology and transportation information. Recreation programs and special events offered include:

- Bi-weekly theme dances
- On-going weekly recreational/social/fitness activities, health and wellness opportunities
- Quarterly out-of-town bus trips
- Art Display and Reception
- Talent Show
- Craft Fair
- Photography Display and Reception

#### Statistics for Fiscal Year 2023:

- 8000 seniors participated in dances, special events, daily recreation/fitness activities, and out of town trips.
- 4100 seniors participated in co-sponsored activities.
- 35,000 persons provided information/outreach services and supportive services assistance.

#### **Volunteer Program**

AgeWell Services has a large volunteer program, which features opportunities for individuals to gain administrative, customer service, food service and recreation experience. Benefits to the senior volunteers include socialization, cognitive stimulation, sense of belonging, use and retention of previously learned skills, pride and feeling of accomplishment, opportunity to give-back to community, decreased isolation, and sense of purpose, which all contribute to independence and healthy living. Approximately 40 volunteers provide over 9000 hours of service annually.

#### **Senior Lounge**

AgeWell Services maintains a senior lounge in Room 105 of the Casa del Prado, located in Balboa Park. The Lounge was first made available to older adults in the 1960's and is provided as a drop-in place of rest and relaxation for older adults visiting Balboa Park. In addition, various social activities are offered daily including knitting, improv workshops, bingo, and walking groups. Over 700 older adults visit the lounge monthly.

#### **Senior Lunch**

The City is collaborating with Serving Seniors to provide hot, nutritious lunches to adults ages 60 and older each weekday from noon to 1 p.m. at Park de La Cruz Community Center. Meals are provided at no cost to eligible seniors, but voluntary contributions of \$1.00 are appreciated. Guests under the age of 60 will be charged \$4.00 for their meal.

#### **Social Call Program**

AgeWell Services oversees a social call program, where older adults receive a friendly phone call (depending on the patron's request, calls are made up to seven days per week) from an AgeWell Services volunteer. Approximately 100 patrons are enrolled in the Social Call Program.

Parks and Recreation is committed to meeting goals of the Age Friendly San Diego Action Plan, adopted by City Council in December 2021. AgeWell Services' staff are available to assist Parks and Recreation staff on outreaching to their communities to determine community interests and needs, as well as assist with community referrals and program implementation.

#### **Senior Centers Operated by City Staff**

Location	Address	Phone Number
Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center	4425 Bannock Avenue	(619) 453-3850
	San Diego, CA 92117	
Bay Terraces Community & Senior Center	7373 Tooma Street	(619) 527-7632
	San Diego, CA 92139	
Memorial Senior Center (Opening July 2024)	610 S 30th Street San Diego, CA 92113	(619) 235-1141