

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."

Contents

- Message to Partners
- 2026 Youth-Led Career Expo
- Promise Zone Updates
- Community Spotlight: Pauline Lucatero
- Financial Wellness: National Credit Education Month
- Partner Announcements
- Grant Opportunities
- City Spotlight: Office of the City Treasurer
- Civic Engagement Opportunities
- Job Board
- About
- Contact Us



San Diego Promise Zone AmeriCorps VISTA Daniella Salgado (right) speaks about the 2026 Youth-Led Career Expo on Univision on Feb. 26, 2026.



Left to right: Amber Weber, Chrishael Sanchez, Pauline Lucatero, Angel Nolasco, Penney Newell and Bob Scheid at the grand opening of Diamond Neighborhood Family Health Center on Jan. 30, 2026.



A MESSAGE TO OUR PARTNERS FROM THE PROMISE ZONE STAFF

Dear Promise Zone Network,



Happy March! This month starts with the [Promise Zone's Youth-Led Career Expo](#) on Tuesday, Mar. 3 and the launch of the Promise Zone's Community Perception Survey in partnership with San Diego State University. We hope you can stop by the Expo to check out the many opportunities for teens and young adults — and take the survey there, too!

We also recognize Healthy Communities working group member **Pauline Lucatero** in the Community Spotlight and invite you to learn more about the **Office of the City Treasurer** in the City Spotlight.

Save the Date! The San Diego Promise Zone's designation-ending **All-Partner Celebration** will be Thursday, **June 4** from 1-4 p.m.

We hope you enjoy this issue and wish you a fortunate March!

~San Diego Promise Zone Team

PROMISE ZONE

IN THE NEWS

[O'FARRELL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS GETTING LESSON IN HOW TO TURN THEIR ART INTO CASH](#)

[LAS CUATRO MILPAS CLOSED 2 MONTHS AGO AFTER A 90-YEAR RUN. IT'S ABOUT TO BE REBORN](#)



2026 YOUTH-LED CAREER EXPO



Your school can help students ages 16 to 24 explore career options by connecting them to the Promise Zone's annual Career Expo.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3
10 A.M. - 1 P.M.

Balboa Park Club & Recital Hall
2150 Pan American Rd.
San Diego, CA 92101

**FREE BUSES
AVAILABLE**

YOUTH JOB SEEKERS

- Connect with employers and industry professionals
- Explore job and internship opportunities
- Have your resume reviewed and participate in a mock interview
- Enter to win a raffle prize

Please contact
PromiseZone@sandiego.gov
with questions.



SCHOOL REGISTRATION:

bit.ly/sdpzschools



INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATION:

bit.ly/sdpzregistration



sandiego.gov/youthcareerexpo

PROMISE ZONE UPDATES

WORKING GROUP UPDATES 2026:



Healthy Communities

The Healthy Communities working group heard a presentation by [Family Health Centers of San Diego](#) on their various programs and services on Feb. 12. The meeting also included an in-depth discussion on the transition to the San Diego Promise Zone Alliance and the future of this working group. Topics ranged from meeting preferences to potential organizational support from each working group member.

Jobs and Education

The Jobs and Education working group meeting on Feb. 19 focused on the [Youth-Led Career Expo](#) happening March 3 and the Community Perception Survey's key surveying locations in the Promise Zone. The meeting also included a presentation from Shawn McClondon about [Sister Cities Project](#). Lastly, the meeting covered key transition activities such as the future of the working group and next steps, with a special activity used to gauge input.

Coming Up in March:
Housing Affordability
March 19, 10-11:30 a.m.

All-Partner Celebration

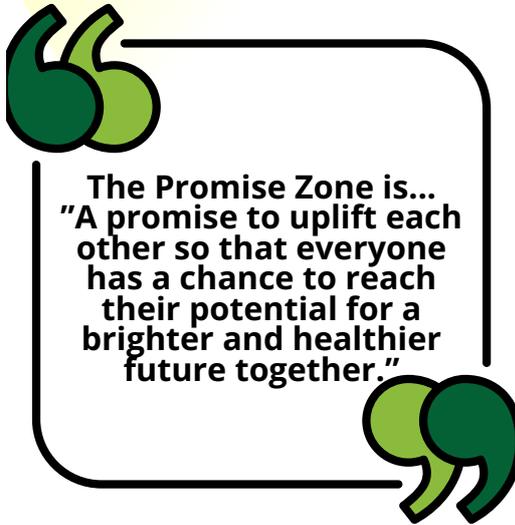
Thursday, June 4, 2026

Save the
date!

Interested in joining a working group? Sign up [here](#).

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Pauline Lucatero



Pauline Lucatero was born and raised in Manila, Philippines, and moved to the United States at 13 years old. Her involvement in the San Diego Promise Zone came as result of her curiosity over the word "Promise" utilized in the title "Promise Zone." After researching and learning more about the Promise Zone's initiatives, she discovered it was a perfect fit with Family Health Center of San Diego's own mission and vision. Pauline figured that by collaborating, both organizations can widen their impact and serve more families to create an even healthier and equitable local community. A perfect illustration of this collaboration in action is the recent opening of Family Health Center of San Diego's new branch location in Encanto, and Laura Rodriguez Medical Assistant Institute's attendance at the 2025 and 2026 [Youth-Led Career Expo](#).

"Health greatly impacts every person and their quality of life, therefore prevention, education and health promotion are essential in community-based work to help everyone understand how to care for themselves and know where to access resources before health conditions worsen," stated Pauline.

Currently, Pauline works as the Vice President of Community Affairs at [Family Health Centers of San Diego](#) and is the Chief Academic Administrator at [Laura Rodriguez Medical Assistant Institute](#). These roles provide her with the chance to make a difference in people's lives and address critical health barriers. She holds a bachelor's degree in health science from California State University Fullerton and a master's degree in nursing from Point Loma University. In the mornings, she enjoys a cup of coffee and a book with her two rescue dogs by her side.

Thank you, Pauline, for allowing us to highlight you in this month's newsletter!

[Submit your nomination for the next Community Spotlight here!](#)

FINANCIAL WELLNESS

March is **National Credit Education Month**, a time dedicated to raising awareness about the importance of understanding credit and building strong financial habits. Cal Coast Credit Union offers trainings in this and in other financial wellness topics. These sessions provide valuable guidance on understanding credit scores, managing debt and making informed financial decisions. By sharing these resources, we hope to empower individuals with the knowledge and tools needed to build and maintain healthy credit.

Healthy Credit Resources:

[Taking the Mystery Out of Credit](#)

[Debt-Free Habits](#)

[Maintaining a Healthy Credit](#)



Financial Wellness Curriculum



In partnership with the City of San Diego we are launching a 6-Month Financial Wellness Curriculum designed to benefit the people served by local nonprofit organizations.

REGISTER NOW



RESOURCES



[The San Diego Housing Commission \(SDHC\) offers free trainings and webinars. Click here for March webinars.](#)

PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Unless otherwise stated, events listed below are not organized by the City of San Diego. Please reach out to the sponsoring organization for details or questions.

Mar.
7

2026 Fancy Teen Girls Expo

Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

[Detour Fancy's](#) expo is an opportunity to connect with others and get the skills you need to feel empowered to continue to conquer life's challenges! [Click here to learn more and register.](#)



Mar.
10

Food Justice Community Action Plan - County of San Diego

Tuesday, March 10, 2026, from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Join the [County of San Diego](#) for a collaborative workshop to share your ideas and experiences to help improve food access and food security across the region while learning about the progress of San Diego County's Food Justice Community Action Plan. Your input will help shape current and future County actions. [RSVP here.](#)



Mar.
27

People's Produce of @ Encanto Village

Friday, March 27, 2026, from 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

A mobile farmer's truck brings fresh, locally grown produce to neighborhoods throughout greater Southeastern San Diego.

[More information is available here.](#)



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.](#)

[Promise Zone Calendar](#)

Partner Announcements



2026 F.A.N.C.Y. TEEN GIRLS EXPO
 March 7th, 10am - 2pm

KIPP Adelante Preparatory Academy
 426 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA 92114

FREE
 for Girls & School Groups!

Motivates girls to achieve academic excellence

Platform for exploring career/academic interests

Teen friendly STEAM exhibits & community resource fair

Register your girls! We have activities for grade levels K - 12!

REGISTER NOW  www.DetourEmpowers.org



San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering

PRESENTED BY:
 illumina
 CORPORATE FOUNDATION

JOIN THE FUN!
 SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2026
 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
 PETCO PARK

100+ ACTIVITIES

- SCIENCE-BASED EXPLOSIONS
- COLLEGE & CAREER PAVILLION
- INSPIRATIONAL SCIENTISTS
- ROCKETS
- LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES
- FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
- REPTILES
- HANDS-ON PROJECTS FOR PRE-K
- PRIZES & GIVEAWAYS
- CRAWLING INSECTS

For more information visit:
LOVESTEMSD.ORG




JOIN US

for a collaborative workshop to share your ideas and experiences to help improve food access and food security across the region and learn about the progress of San Diego County's **Food Justice Community Action Plan**. Your input will help shape current and future County actions.

TUESDAY
MARCH 10, 2026
1:30 - 3:30 PM

Southeastern Live Well Center Tubman Chavez Conference Room
 5101 Market St, San Diego, CA 92114

All welcome, advanced registration is appreciated: bit.ly/OSEJfjcap
 Can't make the meeting? You can also participate online anytime.



Scan the QR Code to learn more and register!
 We can help if you need accommodation for a disability or an interpreter to take part in the meeting. Services available upon request. Please contact us at least 72 hours before the event at osej@sdcounty.ca.gov




INTERNATIONAL GLEANING SYMPOSIUM

A gathering of Gleaners working together to fight climate change, hunger, and food waste. Join us to strengthen your Org, learn new ideas, grow your network, and find support from your peers

Register Today



Gleaningorgs.com
 April 29th-May 1st,
 Marina Village
 San Diego





Partner Announcements

The Community Health & Resource Fair
1st Wednesday of Every Month



Focus On Your Overall Health

Jackie Robinson YMCA
151 YMCA Way
San Diego, CA 92102
10am - 3pm

Free Resources

- Diabetes Screening
- Blood Pressure Check
- Cholesterol Screening
- HIV & HEP-C Screening
- San Diego Humane Society
- Mammograms & Sign Up
- Breast Exams
- Vaccines Available
- Health Insurance
- Food Distribution
- Raffle Prizes

2026 Event Dates

- February 4th
- March 4th
- April 1st
- May 6th
- June 3rd
- July 1st
- August 5th
- September 2nd
- October 7th
- November 4th
- December 2nd

Dr. Suzanne Alfalo
Info@healthierme@gmail.com

Wendy Shurelds
Info@mysnap.org

Healthfairs@gmail.com



USDA Food and Nutrition Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SNAP COLLEGE STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

SNAP helps college students focus more on their studies and less on where their next meal will come from

3.3 million college students were potentially eligible for SNAP in 2020

67% of those college students reported **not** receiving benefits



Think you might qualify?

All college students must meet the SNAP eligibility criteria to receive food assistance. If you're enrolled half-time or more, you must also meet at least ONE of the following conditions:

- Work 20+ hours per week
- Participate in a federal or state work-study program
- Have a physical or mental disability or condition that prevents you from working
- Care for a young dependent child
- Receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Enrolled in college through certain employment & training programs, such as SNAP E&T, Workforce and Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA), and others
- Participate in an on-the-job training program
- Be under age 18 or over 49

Need more info?

Contact your state or local SNAP office:
fns.usda.gov/snap/state-directory




SHERMAN COMEDOR

WE WARMLY INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN SHERMAN COMEDOR, OUR LUNCH AND ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR OLDER ADULTS. SHERMAN COMEDOR OFFERS NUTRITIOUS MEALS, RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO SOCIALIZE IN A WELCOMING AND FRIENDLY ENVIRONMENT.

THIS PROGRAM IS INTENDED FOR INDIVIDUALS AGED 55 AND OLDER WHO ARE EXPERIENCING FOOD INSECURITY.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

- ENROLLMENT IS REQUIRED TO BE CONSIDERED FOR PARTICIPATION.
- ENROLLMENT DOES NOT GUARANTEE PARTICIPATION, AS SPACE AND RESOURCES ARE LIMITED.
- PARTICIPANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED ONCE THE APPLICATION HAS BEEN APPROVED.
- THE PROGRAM WILL BEGIN ON FEBRUARY 10, 2026, AT 11:30 AM TO 1 PM AND WILL CONTINUE WEEKLY ON TUESDAYS.

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION

LOCATION: SHERMAN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
2258 ISLAND AVENUE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102
619 232-5181

WE ARE HERE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY!

San Diego Foundation

THIS PROGRAM WAS MADE POSSIBLE THANKS TO GRANT SUPPORT FROM SAN DIEGO FOUNDATION.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION



1ST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH- GENERAL
2ND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH - SENIORS
9:00 - 11:00 AM

SHCC DTG SHERMAN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
2258 ISLAND AVE, SAN DIEGO, CA 92102
WWW.SHERMANHEIGHTSCC.ORG

Partner Announcements

APPRENTICESHIP & VOCATIONAL TRAINING EXPO AT MESA COLLEGE

- MEET REPRESENTATIVES FROM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS, EMPLOYERS, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES
- LEARN ABOUT TRAINING & EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT MESA COLLEGE
- RECEIVE INSIGHTS AND CAREER ADVICE FROM INDUSTRY PROFESSIONALS

LOCATION: Mesa College
7250 Mesa College Dr
San Diego, CA 92111

DATE: Thursday, March 5, 2026

TIME: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Registration:
Schools: Scan the QR Code!

Employers: Contact Ernesto Rivera at ernesto.rivera@sdcoe.net for more information





san diego county office of EDUCATION
FUTURE WITHOUT BOUNDARIES™

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE

Comienza con un Sueño

"It begins with a dream..."

Calling all UC San Diego Students, Staff, Alumni and community volunteers!

Sign up:



Benefits

- Free UC San Diego T-Shirt
- Free Breakfast and Lunch
- Make new friends and campus connections!
- Current students can get co-curricular record hours

Responsibilities will include

- Event setup
- Food distribution
- Guest wayfinding
- Workshop support
- Bus coordination and parking support
- Greeters and attendee resource
- Registration support

Saturday, March 14, 2026
Several Volunteer Time Blocks Available

EAOP **TRiO** **UC San Diego**
CENTER FOR RESEARCH ON EDUCATION, ASSESSMENT AND TEACHING EXCELLENCE



SDSU CAREER FAIRS 2025-2026

11 SEPTEMBER	STEM CAREER AND INTERNSHIP FAIR
25 SEPTEMBER	FOWLER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CAREER FAIR
2 OCTOBER	GRADUATE SCHOOL FAIR
10 OCTOBER	EDUCATION CAREER FAIR
16 OCTOBER	FALL CAREER & INTERNSHIP FAIR
23 OCTOBER	SDSU IMPERIAL VALLEY CAREER & INTERNSHIP FAIR
6 OCTOBER	PART-TIME AND SEASONAL JOB FAIR
12 OCTOBER	STEM CAREER AND INTERNSHIP FAIR
6 NOVEMBER	SPRING CAREER AND INTERNSHIP FAIR
5 FEBRUARY	FOWLER COLLEGE OF BUSINESS CAREER FAIR
27 FEBRUARY	JUST IN TIME CAREER FAIR
12 MARCH	SUMMER CAREER FAIR
9 APRIL	
28 MAY	Open to the public

SDSU Division of Student Affairs and Campus Diversity Career Services



Urban League San Diego County San Diego Foundation University of San Diego

Golden Pyramid Scholars & College Signing Day Program

Sunday, May 17, 2026, 2:00 p.m.
at the University of San Diego
Shiley-Theatre, 5998 Alcalá Park San Diego, CA 92110



Application Now Open

We are thrilled to announce our Scholars Program, designed to empower ambitious individuals to achieve academic goals. Let's create a better tomorrow through educational achievement! Find out how you can get involved.

kea@sdu.org

Things that set us apart:

- Scholarships ✓
- Motivational Messages ✓
- Financial Assistance ✓
- Mentorship Opportunities ✓
- Networking and Community ✓

Use this QR Code or the Link Below:
<https://form.jotform.com/260115221606140>

SDGE **SOAP**

WWW.SDUL.ORG

Partner Announcements

AMERICA'S SBDC | **LOGAN HEIGHTS** | **San Diego Foundation** | **The City of SAN DIEGO**

INTERESTED IN THE NEXT LEEP COHORT?

THE LOGAN HEIGHTS CDC EMERGENT ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAM (LEEP) IS AN INTENSIVE 6-WEEK PROGRAM DESIGNED TO SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS AND ENTREPRENEURS WHO WANT TO GROW THEIR BUSINESS.

YOUR BUSINESS, YOUR FUTURE

- Develop a business plan**
Each week we cover new topics with guest experts, with the goal of helping you create an effective business plan to grow your company.
- Support network for growth**
Join a network of entrepreneurs committed to growth. LEEP offers expert workshops, mentoring, and support to help you grow.
- Grand Prize - \$5,000**
Those who complete the program and have their business permits will be able to compete for the grand prize of \$5,000.

Spring Cohort (English): Begins in April
Fall Cohort (Spanish): Begins in October

Logan Heights CDC
3040 Imperial Ave.
San Diego, CA 92102

Interested?

MORE INFORMATION
619-858-0563 or info@loganheightscdc.org

EIS Elementary Institute of Science

PEER TUTORING PROGRAM

Offered by the Giving Circle Foundation

FREE!

SIGN UP NOW

Personalized Support

Register with the QR code or visit eisca.org

SCAN

- Saturdays at EIS
- 10:00am - 12:00pm
- 10yrs old and older
- Registration Required!
- Math
- Science
- English
- History
- Test Taking

HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES PRESENTS

Baby Steps

CLASS INFORMATION

Currently all HDS services can be accessed virtually from the comfort of your home at no cost. For further details or to schedule a class call: (619)515-2406. Monday (Zoom Platform):

- 09:00am - 10:00am (0-6 months)
- Tuesday (Zoom Platform): 01:00pm - 02:00pm (0-6 months)
- Wednesday: 11:00am - 12:00pm (0-6 months)
- Thursday: 09:00am - 10:00am (0-6 months)

*Schedule and availability is subject to change.

Caregivers long to provide the best for their newborn baby. Baby Steps offers groups to help caregivers learn strategies and identify support such as:

- Understand your baby's cues and how to respond to them
- Build a stronger bond with your baby
- Learn Infant Massage techniques to help your baby relax and sleep
- Develop self-confidence in caregiving
- Connect with other caregivers

The groups are for caregivers and their children age **birth up to 15 months** (or prior to walking) and expectant caregivers. Classes are provided at no cost.

For program locations, start dates/times, and all other questions, please contact us.

Healthy Development Services
Central Region
2044 First Ave Suite 200
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 515-2406

AAP-CAB American Academy of Pediatrics
First 5 San Diego

UDW RESOURCE CENTER

FAMILY CHILD CARE EDUCATOR APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

JOIN OUR INTEREST LIST!

Do you want to pursue a career on Early Childhood Education and want to have your own business?

Apprentices will get hands-on training on how to start and manage your own Family Child Care businesses while working as assistants.

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Accredited College Courses
- On-the-job paid training and stipends as an apprentice.
- Business Management Training
- A Community of Support

MORE INFORMATION:
(619) 381-4277
nhernandez@udwresourcecenter.org

www.udwresourcecenter.org 7777 Alvarado Rd Suite 116, La Mesa, CA 91942 (by appointment only)

Partner Announcements



**FREE
ENGLISH &
CITIZENSHIP
CLASSES**



**TUESDAY
MARTES**

**ESL/CLASES DE INGLÉS
5PM A 7:15PM**

**WEDNESDAY
MIÉRCOLES**

**CITIZENSHIP CLASSES/
CLASES DE CIUDADANÍA
5PM A 6PM**

**WEDNESDAY
MIÉRCOLES**

**ESL/CLASES DE INGLÉS
6PM A 7:15PM**

¡OFRECEMOS CLASES NIVEL BÁSICO Y INTERMEDIO!

¿Preguntas?

☎ (619) 232-5181

📍 2258 Island Avenue
San Diego, CA 92102

SHERMANHEIGHTSCC.ORG

**SHERMAN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTER
PRESENT**



¿READY TO START A FOOD BUSINESS IN 2026?

Program Highlights for Entrepreneurs
Free course in Spanish aimed at providing culinary techniques, necessary permits, and basic business knowledge to start and/or formalize a food business (catering, home-based food businesses, street vendors, etc.)

In-person course once a week, Thursdays from 11 am - 2 pm, from March 12th to April 30th, with a graduation ceremony planned for May 5th.
The course takes place at the Sherman Heights Community Center.

We invite you to participate in our:
Information Session and Artisan Chocolate Workshop

📅 February 26, 2026
📍 In-person
🕒 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Scan the QR code to fill out the Sherman Cocina application and participate in the chocolate workshop led by @Ama.Cacao. Limited space available.








QUESTIONS? PLEASE CALL US AT
619.232.5181 OR EMAIL US AT
vero@historicbarriordistrict.org

shermanheightscs.org

**HIGHER EDUCATION
NAVIGATION WORKSHOPS**



SERVICES

- Assistance with application for FAFSA/CADAA
- Assistance with application for community college, university or vocational training
- Individualized information sessions on higher education
- Workshop on higher education
- Workshop on FAFSA/CADAA



SCAN ME!



ELIGIBILITY

- Ages 17+
- English Language Learners
- San Diego County Residents

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?

✉ ZEYNAB.JASIM@RESCUE.ORG

☎ (619) 663-5348

IRC Career Programs

Learn. Grow. Succeed.



NOT SURE WHERE TO START YOUR CAREER JOURNEY?

IRC San Diego supports **YOUTH** with career training, coaching, and job-ready skills

Your future career is calling ✨



WE OFFER

- One-on-One Career Coaching
- Network of training partners
- Financial Coaching
- Job Placement Assistance
- Mentorship

Apply



Examples of Career Pathways

Healthcare (Medical Asst., Dental Asst., Pharm Tech)
Office Professional Training, Affordable Housing Manag. & Admin, Helpdesk Technician and more

Eligibility

Youth 18–26
Low-to-moderate income
City of San Diego residents (priority)
Immigrant Background
Authorized to work in the US
Speak, read, and write English
Other Eligibility Criteria May Apply



contact us

Google # (619) 663-9182
Reem.Faraj@rescue.org

Partner Announcements

SAN DIEGO COUNTY BUILD PROGRAM

Supports small businesses and nonprofits in overcoming bonding and insurance barriers when applying for contracts with the County of San Diego.



Why It Matters?

The County has millions of dollars available, but many small organizations are held back by high bonding and insurance costs, confusing requirements, and difficulty finding the right providers.



Who Should Apply?

Small businesses and nonprofits that are:

- San Diego County-based
- Interested in County contracts
- New or First-time government contractors

What You Receive

- 1-on-1 coaching with bonding & insurance experts
- Personalized business assessment
- Guidance on affordable coverage
- Subsidies for bonding/insurance (when eligible)
- Access to Funding Readiness program



APPLY TODAY

foundersfirstcdc.org/sd-county-program



SAN DIEGO COUNTY CORE PROGRAM



What is Compliance, Operations, and Readiness Education (CORE) Program?

A free program that provides 1-1 bookkeeping support, funding readiness education, and labor compliance training in partnership with the County of San Diego.



Who Should Apply?

Small businesses that:

- Operate in San Diego County
- 2+ years in Business
- 2 - 10 Employees

What You Get

- Bookkeeping Support
- Compliance Training
- Funding Readiness Education

Why It Matters

Strengthen your operations, avoid costly mistakes, and improve financial stability.

Free bookkeeping, funding readiness education, and compliance training to help small San Diego businesses operate more confidently.



APPLY TODAY

foundersfirstcdc.org/sd-county-program



BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER

The Business Resource Center is a dedicated community space for entrepreneurs at any stage to gain access to resources.

FREE RESOURCES & WORKSPACE

TAKE YOUR BUSINESS TO THE NEXT LEVEL!



Workshops

Free workshops focused on business needs for new and seasoned entrepreneurs.

1-on-1 Business Coaching

High impact coaching sessions with experts focused on the direct needs of individual business owners.

Business Needs Assessment

Free business needs assessments and referrals to community business resources that are free and low-cost.

Podcasting Equipment

Reserve space and professional recording equipment to create content that reaches new customers and engages your returning customers.

Visit Us

César E. Chávez Campus
Room 107
1901 Main St
San Diego, CA 92113

Mon: CLOSED
Tues - Thurs: 10am - 6pm
Fri: By Appointment Only

www.theprogramlabs.org/businessresourcecenter



BUSINESS ACCELERATOR

4-month free program with workshops and mentoring designed to help you build your network, increase your confidence and scale your business.

Scan for More Info



WE HELP WITH



BUSINESS FINANCIALS

Hands-on assistance from experts to craft a solid financial plan and budget.



FINDING MORE CUSTOMERS

Working sessions to build a marketing plan, brand, and outreach strategy that delivers more paying customers.



SELLING WITH CONFIDENCE

Development of a sales skills and processes that help you close more sales by understanding your sales pitch and customer needs.



PERSONAL BUSINESS COACHING

Get matched with an individual mentor and receive 1-on-1 business coaching to help you develop solid business structure and connections.

CONNECT WITH US

César E. Chávez Campus
Room 107
1901 Main St
San Diego, CA 92113

www.theprogramlabs.org/businessaccelerator

Alex@theprogramlabs.org

Partner Announcements



March 2025 TECH ON THE GO SCHEDULE

Our Tech on the Go program supports San Diegans who need IT assistance and is made possible through the support and sponsorship of the City of San Diego.

- Offers free basic computer skills classes.
- Provides free basic tech support (questions/how-tos).
- Promotes affordable devices through our Low-Cost Computer Program.
- Partners with workforce development partners to create tech skills training.

Class Structure	HOUR 1:	HOUR 2:	Scan this QR code
Our classes can help teach you how to be confident with your devices. Our structure is as follows:	Class discussion on monthly topic	Q&A for basic tech questions	
			for more information

Cathy Hopper Clairemont Friendship Center 4425 Bannock Ave. Mondays 10 am - 12 pm <i>Email Series</i>		Sherman Heights Community Center* 2288 Island Ave. Tuesdays 10:30 am - 12:30 pm <i>Video Calls Series</i>	
3/2	Email I: Email Basics	3/3	Video Calls I: Introduction
3/9	Email II: Email Features	3/10	Video Calls II: Zoom
3/16	Email III: Efficiency and Productivity	3/17	Video Calls III: FaceTime + Google Meet
3/23	Email IV: Security and Best Practices	3/24	Video Calls IV: Messenger + WhatsApp
3/30	Open Office Hours	3/31	Holiday

Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library 8148 Market St. Thursdays 10 am - 12 pm <i>Google Apps for Everyday</i>		The San Diego LGBT Community Center 3809 Centre Str Thursdays 4 pm - 6 pm <i>Smartphone Part 2</i>	
3/5	Gmail and Google Contacts	3/5	Organizing Your Smartphone
3/12	Google Drive and Google Files	3/12	Find My Device
3/19	Google Photos and Google Maps	3/19	Smartphone Emergency Essentials
3/26	Google Docs and Google Sheets	3/26	Searching and Installing Apps

Otay Mesa-Nestor Library* 3003 Coronado Ave. Fridays 10 am - 12 pm <i>Video Calls Series</i>		City Heights/Weingart Library* 3795 Fairmount Ave. Saturdays 10 am - 12 pm <i>Open Office Hours</i>	
3/6	Video Calls I: Introduction	3/7	Open Office Hours
3/13	Video Calls II: Zoom	3/14	Open Office Hours
3/20	Video Calls III: FaceTime + Google Meet	3/21	Open Office Hours
3/27	Video Calls IV: Messenger + WhatsApp	3/28	Open Office Hours

*Class discussion in Spanish; Q&A is offered in Spanish and English



sandiego.gov/sdaccess

Need Tech Help and Tech Resources?

The City of San Diego and C2K partner to offer free Digital Navigator services. Drop-in or call for assistance.
1(800)350-6945

MARCH 2026 DIGITAL NAVIGATOR SCHEDULE

Central Library 330 Park Blvd.	Park de la Cruz Recreation Center 3911 Landis St.
English/Spanish Monday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm English/Arabic/French *Tuesday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm	English/Spanish *Tuesday: 9:00 am - 11:45 am English/Arabic/Spanish Thursday: 9:00 am - 11:45 am
City Heights Library 3795 Fairmount Ave.	Valencia Park/Malcolm X Library 5148 Market St.
English/Arabic/French Monday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm English/Tagalog/Spanish Wednesday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm	English/Tagalog Thursday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm English/Chaldean/Spanish Saturday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm
Cathy Hopper Rec Center 4425 Bannock Ave.	Skyline Hills Library 7900 Paradise Valley Rd.
English/Arabic/French Wednesday: 9:00 am - 11:45 am	English/Tagalog Monday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm
Logan Heights Library 567 S. 28th St.	Otay Mesa - Nestor Library 3003 Coronado Ave.
English/Tagalog *Tuesday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm	English/Chaldean/Spanish Wednesday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm
San Ysidro Library 4235 Beyer Blvd.	
English/Arabic/French Thursday: 11:30 am - 3:15 pm	

*Libraries and Rec Centers will be closed on Tuesday, March 31st in observance of César Chávez Day.



DIGITAL NAVIGATOR PROGRAM

Got tech questions?
We've got answers!

Visit us at select libraries and locations around the city to learn about discounted internet, low-cost computers and get one-on-one tech support.
Scan the QR code for this month's schedule.

Call our helpline to learn more
1-800-350-6945



English | Spanish | Tagalog | Cantonese | Urdu | Hindi





Partner Announcements

Mobility Health Sustainability Community Collaboration Safe Streets Active Transportation Climate Action

5TH ANNUAL TRANSPORTATION JUSTICE EXPO

THE URBAN COLLABORATIVE PROJECT CALIFORNIA STRATEGIC GROWTH COUNCIL
California Department of Conservation

Saturday, April 11 | 10 AM - 2 PM @ Market Creek Plaza
310 Euclid Ave, San Diego, CA 92114

SAVE THE DATE!

- Learn about transportation justice & clean mobility.
- Explore careers in transit, planning & sustainability.
- Connect with community organizations shaping climate action and mobility in the San Diego region.
- Access free community resources and services.
- Shape the future of transportation in your community.

Interested in Sponsoring or Volunteering?
Contact: events@ucproject.org

RSVP to Exhibit:
bit.ly/tjexpo5



Movilidad Salud Sostenibilidad Comunidad Colaboración Calles seguras Transporte Activo Acción climática

PROJECT READY 2.5

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

ENROLLMENT OPEN NOW

Education Youth Advocacy Program
The Urban League of San Diego County and Doors of Change are partnering to support youth who face multiple barriers, including housing and learning challenges.

Ages 14-24

Free! Incentives! Gift Cards! Mobile Devices!

- Safe Shelter & Housing Assistance
- Access to Basic Needs (i.e. Food, Clothing...)
- College & Cas & Career Readiness
- Life Skills, Social Justice, Leadership Skills & Mentorship

SCAN HERE



Register Now!

<https://sdul.org/csi-pr-2-5-pathways-to-success/>

Urban League San Diego County
kea@sdul.org
(619) 266-6237
www.sdul.org

DOORS OF CHANGE
CaseManager@doorsofchange.org
(760) 415-0009
www.doorsofchange.org

Urban League San Diego County



Register Today for Open Enrollment for New & Continuing Students

ULSDC PROJECT READY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In-person - Free

This program focuses on:

- Mentorship,
- Leadership Development,
- Historical and Cultural Literacy,
- Scholarships and Money for College,
- College Tours,
- National Urban League Youth Summit (Travel out of Town & Stay on a college campus with 300 plus students)
- National Case Competitions, and
- Career Preparation & Exploration
- Social Justice & Public Speaking
- Incentives, Swag, Gift Cards, and Money for College

REGISTER TODAY USING QR CODE



<https://form.jotform.com/251430870925154>

Contact Kea Hagan at:
619.266.6265; kea@sdul.org

Partner Announcements

Beginning July 23, 2025! **I AM HERE: Vital Document Legal Hotline for Youth**

A free, dedicated state-specific legal assistance hotline for youth experiencing homelessness.

1-800-870-DOCS

Baker McKenzie. NATIONAL NETWORK for YOUTH

**Voicemails are welcome and will be returned.

I AM HERE: Vital Document Legal Hotline for Youth | 1-800-870-DOCS

We are excited to announce a new hotline for youth experiencing homelessness! The [I Am Here: Vital Document Legal Hotline for Youth](#) is a partnership between the National Network for Youth and Baker McKenzie.

- **Phone Number:** 1-800-870-DOCS (1-800-870-3627)
- **Start Date:** Wednesday, July 23, 2025
- **Hours:** Every Wednesday from 12 to 8 PM Eastern | 11 AM to 7 PM Central | 10 AM to 6 PM Mountain | 9 AM to 5 PM Pacific
- **Voicemails:** Outside of working hours, callers can leave voicemails that will be returned.
- **Callers:** Young people experiencing homelessness.
- **Phone Operators:** Legal professionals from Baker McKenzie and pro bono lawyers from other corporations.
- **Goal:** Provide state-specific guidance on obtaining vital documents.

FILE YOUR TAXES FOR FREE!

Individuals and families earning less than \$70,000 per year may qualify for **FREE** tax filing assistance!

Expert tax preparers will check if you qualify to claim the following tax credits to put more money back in your pocket.

- Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC)
- California EITC (CalEITC)
- Child tax credits
- Additional eligible tax credits

Let us help you get the money you qualify for!

Call 2-1-1 or go to myfreetaxes.org to learn more!

This program is brought to you by the San Diego County EITC Coalition and the following partners:

LOW COST COUNSELING SERVICES

SDSU CENTER FOR COMMUNITY COUNSELING AND ENGAGEMENT

We offer **online and in-person** appointments. Come and talk with our counselors about life stress, political worries, work anxiety, coming out, relationship challenges, parenting stress, or ANY other issue.

- ✓ INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING
- ✓ COUPLES COUNSELING
- ✓ FAMILY THERAPY
- ✓ \$15 PER SESSION

CONTACT US Web: www.cce.sdsu.edu Phone Number: 619-594-4918 Location: 4283 El Cajon Blvd. #215 San Diego, CA 92105

LOGAN HEIGHTS Legal Services **SDVLP** SAN DIEGO VOLUNTEER LAWYER PROGRAM

WALK-IN OFFICE HOURS

2ND WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH

9AM - 12 PM

3040 IMPERIAL AVE. SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

⚠ The San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program provides free legal services for micro-businesses and nonprofits **every second Wednesday of the month.**

Don't miss this opportunity to obtain expert legal advice and support!

SERVICIOS SIN CITA PREVIA

2DO MIERCOLES DE CADA MES

9AM - 12 PM

3040 IMPERIAL AVE. SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

⚠ San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program ofrece servicios legales gratuitos para micro-empresas y ONGs **el segundo miércoles de cada mes.**

¡No pierdas esta oportunidad de obtener asesoramiento legal!

Partner Announcements

COMMUNITY POWER EFFICIENT REFRIGERATION PROGRAM



Who is San Diego Community Power?
San Diego Community Power is your community-driven clean energy provider. We are a locally run, not-for-profit public agency serving the San Diego region with cleaner energy and reinvesting in our community through customer programs.

About Community Power's Efficient Refrigeration Program
Community Power is providing energy-efficient refrigerators and freezers at no cost to corner stores to stock California-grown fresh foods, thanks to funding from the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).

What Do You Get?

- Up to two pieces of equipment**
View available equipment on back
- Energy assessment of your store (optional)**
- Resources on sourcing, stocking and selling produce**

Why Apply?
In 2022, the Nutrition Policy Institute surveyed 51 storeowners from the CDFA Healthy Stores Refrigeration Grant Program.

- 78%** Increase in customers
- 94%** Increase in ability to sell produce
- 97%** Satisfaction rate
- 79%** Increase in profitability

Eligibility

- Corner store or small business
- Located in a low-income or low-food access area
- Sells or donates a limited selection of foods and other products
- Currently accepts or is in the process of applying for EBT/SNAP/CalFresh benefits
- Must be a Community Power customer

Program Availability Limited

Scan the QR code or visit the link to apply.
SDCommunityPower.org/Efficient-Refrigeration



Serving Older Adults and Veterans 60+

JFS Fix-It Service

Helping You Lead A Safe & Independent Life At Home



When you or someone you care about is concerned about fall prevention, JFS Fix-It Service provides a four-point safety check, along with minor safety repairs and modifications to improve your mobility and security at home. All services are completed free-of-charge by our amazing volunteers.

No Cost Safety Items For Low-Income Older Adults

- Help with task lighting/nightlights/light bulbs
- Small cooking appliances – such as toaster ovens and microwaves
- Bathroom safety items – such as shower chairs, non-slip rugs, and safety rails
- Cleaning equipment – such as carpet sweepers, microfiber mops, and vacuums
- Portable heating/cooling units - such as room fans and small heaters
- Carts to help transport laundry and groceries

(858) 637-3210 • www.jfssd.org/FixIt

Program funded by a grant from San Diego County Aging and Independence Services to provide relief to unpaid caregivers of people aged 60 and older. A caregiver can be a friend or neighbor who checks in by phone or in person.



MAAG NEXT LEVEL & GRID ALTERNATIVES PRESENT

THE FUTURE OF SOLAR JOBS

Learn to install solar panels and gain valuable skills for a growing industry. Get support services to help you succeed.



1 Hands On Training
Learn practical skills from experienced instructors in a real-world setting.

2 Support Services
Get help with resume writing, interview preparation, and additional supports to secure your next job.

3 Career Advancement
Build your skills and knowledge to advance your career in the clean energy field.

CONTACT US
Pedro Estrada Jr.
MAAG Workforce Development Program Coordinator
(619) 746-3952
pestrada@maagproject.org
Eliabetta Baratt
GRID Alternatives Workforce Development Workforce Coordinator
(619) 539-5289
ebaratt@gridalternatives.org

ELIGIBILITY

- ✓ 18+ years of age
- ✓ Unemployed or Underemployed
- ✓ Low Income
- ✓ Authorized to work in the US
- ✓ High School/GED Preferred




CONTACT US:  

HOUSING OUR YOUTH

YMCA YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES



The Housing Our Youth (HOY) program offers specialized support for youth and young adults ages 16–24 in San Diego County who are at-risk of, or currently experiencing, homelessness. Participants enrolled in the program may receive services such as housing assistance and connection, resource navigation, employment and education support, and other wraparound services tailored to help them achieve stable housing and work toward self-sufficiency. For more information or to explore enrollment in the program, scan the QR code below to complete an inquiry form.

WHO DO WE SERVE?
Young adults up to and including the age of 24, who are facing homelessness throughout San Diego County.



WHAT SERVICES DO WE OFFER?
Our goal is to interrupt poverty and provide youth with the skills and tools to lead a financially independent and successful life. Our services include the following:

- MENTORING & CASE MANAGEMENT
- PERSONAL DEVELOPMENTAL WORKSHOPS
- HOUSING ASSISTANCE & PLACEMENT
- WORK READINESS TRAINING
- EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATIONAL COORDINATION
- FINANCIAL LITERACY
- PARENTING SUPPORT
- BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT

Youth & Family Services is the lead organization for this project. We are working in collaboration with youth-serving organizations across the entire San Diego County. Members of the Housing Our Youth Collaborative include:

- Home Start
- North County Lifeline
- San Diego LGBT Community Center
- San Diego Youth Services
- SECS
- Urban Street Angels
- YMCA Youth & Family Services



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
SCAN our QR code to view our HOY Inquiry (Interest) Form or Contact David Baker at (760) 908-9126. Questions can be sent to hoey@ymcasd.org



Partner Announcements



SENIOR SOLUTIONS

TRAVELERS AID
A helping hand along the way

TRAVELERS AID SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO

What We Provide

- Quick in-take assessment to identify your transportation needs
- Transportation solutions on the spot:
 - SDM Pronto cards
 - MTS Access Tickets
 - MTS Day Passes

For More Information:
Email: lorena@travelersaidsandiego.org
Phone: (619) 295-8393 ext. 306

TO QUALIFY:

- Extremely low income
- Reside housed/unhoused in Promise Zone
- Immunocompromising condition
- Proof of medical/housing appointment

Walk In Services
No appointment needed
Location: 1501 Imperial Ave
San Diego, CA 92101

Mondays from 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM
Wednesdays from 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Thursdays from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Subject to change. Call to verify date and hours
Funded by the San Diego Promise Zone
Partner Growth Fund
07/25 to 6/30/26

revised: January 2026



JFS AGING CARE SERVICES

Jewish Family Service
Moving Forward Together

Helping You Lead a Safe and Independent Life at Home

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, falls are the leading cause of injury for older adults, and 60% of those falls happen at home. Jewish Family Service is dedicated to keeping older community members safe at home by taking steps to prevent accidents and injury.

In partnership with the City of San Diego, we offer the following items at no cost for low-income older adults.

- Bathroom safety non-install items, such as shower chairs, nightlights, nonslip rugs, and support rails
- Canes and rollators
- Carts for transporting groceries and laundry
- Small cooking appliances, such as toaster ovens and microwaves
- Portable heating and cooling units, such as room fans and small heaters

To request any of the items listed above and learn how we can make living at home even safer, call (858) 637-3210.

The City of **SAN DIEGO**



SAN YSIDRO HEALTH | MOBILE HEALTH SERVICES

San Ysidro Health operates Mobile Health Services Units, providing healthcare services to children aged 2 months to 17 years in San Diego County.

OUR SERVICES:

- Well Child Visits (2 months -17 years)
- Immunizations (bring your child's shot record)
- Minor Sick Visits
- Sports Physicals
- TB Testing (All ages)
- WIC Hemoglobin Test



For more information scan the QR Code or visit <https://www.syhealth.org/services/mobile-health-services>

Office Hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM
To schedule an appointment or more information please call (619)662-4199

Medi-Cal and Uninsured accepted

www.syhealth.org | Follow us @sanysidrohealth



IRC Career Programs
Learn. Grow. Succeed.

START A CAREER IN HEALTHCARE

Certified Medical Assistant
Certified Nurse Assistant
Dental Assistant and more

Career help for ages 18-26, get started now

WE OFFER

- One-on-One Career Coaching
- Network of training partners
- Financial Coaching
- Job Placement Assistance
- Mentorship

Eligibility

- Youth 18-26
- Immigrant Background
- Authorized to work in the US
- Speak, read, and write English
- Other Eligibility Criteria May Apply

THE FUTURE DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU DO TODAY

Apply



Contact Us

Google # (619) 663-9182
Reem.Faraj@rescue.org

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

A.J. Muste Foundation for Peace + Justice

The A.J. Muste Foundation for Peace + Justice supports grassroots movements advancing human rights, equality, and efforts to dismantle systems of social, economic, and political oppression. Through its Rapid Response Grants program, the Foundation provides emergency funding to U.S. organizations engaged in nonviolent activism. Grants support organizing events, direct actions, and other time-sensitive efforts responding to urgent needs or emerging political opportunities.

Award Amount: Up to \$5,000

Deadline: March 6, 2026



Deaf Organizations Fund

The Deaf Organizations Fund provides unrestricted Impact Grants to organizations and programs serving Deaf communities. Funding supports immediate community needs, such as food security, housing, safety supports, and access to mental health services. The focus is also on long-term organizational sustainability through capacity-building, fundraising, and operational support. Priority is given to organizations strengthening services and resources for Deaf community members.

Award Amount: \$20,000

Deadline: March 10, 2026



CAPTRUST Community Foundation

The CAPTRUST Community Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations across the U.S. that enrich the lives of children, particularly those facing illness, disability, abuse, poverty, or family instability. The Foundation's Partnership Grant Program annually awards one Charity of Choice grant of \$100,000 or more, along with additional national grants of \$25,000. The Foundation also offers Crisis Grants to support charities assisting families affected by natural disasters or other major crises.

Award Amount: Multiple grants up to \$25,000 and one grant of \$100,000+

Deadline: March 13, 2026





INSIDER TIP!



The Promise Zone can support Partner grant applications by providing a Letter of Support! Reach out to Chris at ChSanchez@sandiego.gov for more information.

Energy Storage Innovations Prize – Round 2 Reopened



The U.S. Department of Energy has reopened Round 2 of the Energy Storage Innovations Prize, offering renewed opportunities to advance cutting-edge energy storage solutions that strengthen grid resilience and support clean energy deployment. The prize encourages innovative concepts across technology development, system integration, and real-world applications. This opportunity is ideal for startups, research teams, entrepreneurs, and cross-sector partnerships working on scalable energy storage innovations with the potential to accelerate the clean energy transition.

Award Amount: \$10,000 - \$50,000
Deadline: March 13, 2026



**U.S. DEPARTMENT
of ENERGY**

Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation



The Phillip and Edith Leonian Foundation funds projects that support the education, preservation, and dissemination of documentary photography created by U.S. photographers. Funding supports educational programs for K-12 students and adults, professional development opportunities, archival and preservation work, exhibitions, and community-based or individual documentary photography projects. Priority is given to programs that expand photography education and learning opportunities at all levels.

Award Amount: \$5,000 - \$25,000
Deadline: March 15, 2026



NFL Foundation Grassroots Program



The NFL Foundation Grassroots Program provides funding and technical assistance to improve the quality, safety, and accessibility of local football fields in eligible NFL target markets. The program supports nonprofit community organizations and middle and high schools serving low- to moderate-income communities. Grants support facility upgrades such as lighting, seating, field resurfacing, and turf installation. Funding prioritizes projects that upgrade existing facilities, demonstrate strong community use, and include partnerships supporting youth sports and safety.

Award Amount: Up to \$250,000
Deadline: March 20, 2026



Department of Agriculture


 The National Institute of Food and Agriculture supports transdisciplinary research, education, and extension projects through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative – Strengthening Agricultural Systems program. Funding supports projects that expand markets for agricultural and forestry products, address plant and animal pests and diseases, combat food and diet-related chronic disease, and advance artificial intelligence in K-12 food and agricultural sciences. Eligible applicants include colleges and universities, land-grant institutions, Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges, and state agricultural experiment stations working to improve farm viability, food systems, and quality of life for farmers.

Award Amount: \$1,000,000 - \$10,000,000

Deadline: March 26, 2026



Federal Funding to Recruit Staff for Nursing Homes

 The Nursing Home Staffing Campaign funds organizations that recruit and support nurses to work in nursing homes or state inspection agencies. Grants support financial incentives such as loan repayment and stipends for registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical or vocational nurses (LPNs/LVNs) who commit to working in these roles for three years. Eligible applicants include colleges and universities, nonprofit organizations, and national nursing associations. The program aims to help nursing homes hire and retain qualified nursing staff and improve resident care.

Award Amount: \$1,760,000 – \$20,000,000

Deadline: March 27, 2026



Rachel's Network Catalyst Award


 Rachel's Network's Catalyst Award recognizes women environmental leaders of color across the U.S. and its territories who are advancing solutions for a healthy planet. Each awardee receives a personal award, a grant to their organization (if applicable), leadership development support, and national recognition. Applicants must identify as a woman of color (inclusive of people of color who identify as non-binary) and have at least 10 years of experience in environmental work. Leaders from a wide range of fields, including education, research, health and wellness, law, and the arts, are encouraged to apply.

Award Amount: Up to \$15,000

Deadline: March 31, 2026





INSIDER TIP!



The Promise Zone can support Partner grant applications by providing a Letter of Support! Reach out to promiszone@sandiego.gov for more information.

Frances R. Dewing Foundation



The Frances R. Dewing Foundation supports innovative early childhood education programs for children through sixth grade. Grants provide seed funding for new or experimental projects, including creative daycare initiatives, that have the potential to create broader community or educational impact. Support is available to U.S.-based nonprofit organizations and public education entities.

Award Amount: \$2,500–\$25,000
Deadline: April 1, 2026

Frances R. Dewing Foundation

Foundation for Women’s Wellness



The Foundation for Women's Wellness supports innovative early-stage research and professional development to improve women's health. Research Awards fund short-term studies at U.S. medical institutions focused on major women's health concerns, including cardiovascular disease, female cancers, hormone-related health, and diseases disproportionately affecting women. Fellowship Awards support emerging physicians and scientists pursuing advanced training in women's health disciplines.

Award Amount: \$5,000 or \$25,000
Deadline: April 3, 2026



ProLiteracy



ProLiteracy's Literacy Opportunity Fund provides general operating grants to U.S.-based nonprofit organizations delivering direct adult literacy services. Funding supports core expenses such as salaries or teacher stipends, instructional supplies, equipment, space rental, and program costs. Grants may also be used to launch new literacy initiatives or strengthen existing programming. Eligible applicants must work directly with adult learners to improve literacy and basic education outcomes.

Award Amount: Up to \$6,000
Deadline: April 3, 2026





INSIDER TIP!



The Promise Zone can support Partner grant applications by providing a Letter of Support! Reach out to promiszone@sandiego.gov for more information.

Environmental Protection Agency



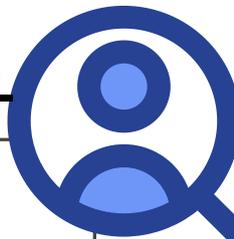
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s Wildfire Smoke Preparedness program aims to reduce the health impacts of wildfire smoke in community buildings. Support is available for smoke readiness planning, outreach and training, air quality monitoring, portable air cleaners, and the creation of cleaner air spaces or shelters. Grants may also fund HVAC upgrades, repairs, and weatherization to improve indoor air quality. Projects must focus on public buildings or facilities that strengthen community preparedness against wildfire smoke.

Award Amount: Up to \$2,500,000

Deadline: April 3, 2026



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.



Office of the City
Treasurer

City Spotlight: Office of the City Treasurer

The City of San Diego's Office of the City Treasurer plays a critical role in managing City finances and delivering essential services to residents and businesses.

From Business Tax Certificate registration and Short-Term Residential Occupancy (STRO) licenses to parking permits and citation payments, the Office of the City Treasurer helps community members stay compliant and access important City services.

To make things easier and more accessible, residents can complete many services online, including business tax registration, parking permit applications and appeals, STRO licensing and reviewing Transient Occupancy Tax information. In-person assistance is also available for those who prefer direct support.

The department also works closely with community partners to support local businesses and expand outreach. Through collaboration with the County Public Defender's Office, the Homeless Court Program provides eligible participants an opportunity to resolve parking citations and reduce financial hardship, helping individuals move toward greater stability.

Serving more than 19,000 walk-in customers annually and handling over 100,000 incoming calls in 2025, the Office of the City Treasurer remains committed to accessible, responsive service for the San Diego community.

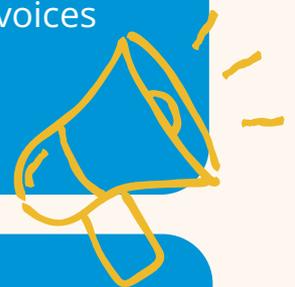
To learn more about available services and resources, visit sandiego.gov/treasurer.

Civic Engagement in the Promise Zone

1 Community Input on City Budget

The City Council will hold an evening budget meeting on Tuesday, March 10 at 6 p.m., offering residents an opportunity to learn more about the City's finances and provide public comment on decisions that impact our communities. Additional evening budget meetings are scheduled for May 4 at 6 p.m. and May 18 at 6 p.m. Community voices play an important role in shaping budget priorities

Learn more at sandiego.gov/iba/key-dates.



2 City of San Diego Invites Residents to Help Improve Access to City Council Information

The Office of the City Clerk is hosting community listening sessions to hear directly from residents about how they access City Council agendas, notices and other public information. These sessions are part of the City's ongoing effort to make local government more transparent, accessible and easier to engage with for all San Diegans.

Community members are encouraged to attend in person or virtually and share their feedback by participating in a public engagement survey. Learn more and get involved at sandiego.gov/listening.



3 Expanded Parking in Balboa Park for City of San Diego Residents

Beginning Monday, March 2, City of San Diego residents who have been verified through an online portal will be able to park for free all day at seven of the 12 parking lots within Balboa Park. Parking fees will still be charged in the remaining five, premium parking lots, though verified City residents pay half price online.

For more information, [visit Inside San Diego](#).



Civic Engagement in the Promise Zone

4

Open Consolidated Plan Advisory Board Positions

The **Consolidated Plan Advisory Board (CPAB)** serves in an advisory capacity to the Mayor, City Council and City Manager on policy issues related to the allocation of federal U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grants.

There is **one vacancy** in the Promise Zone:

Council District 9 (Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera)

If you are interested in serving on the Consolidated Plan Advisory Board, an application may be submitted online and is available here: onboard.sandiego.gov.

For more information about the role of a CPAB member, email Nadine Hassoun at NHassoun@sandiego.gov.



5

Use the Get It Done App

It's 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



C2K DIGITAL NAVIGATOR

A Digital Navigator helps community members access affordable internet and devices while providing hands-on support with everyday technology skills, such as using email, apps and basic computer programs, through in-person assistance and a helpline.

CAL COAST 2026 SUMMER INTERNSHIP

California Coast Credit Union is offering a resume-building, paid summer internship. Cal Coast has multiple opportunities in various departments for students to choose from. \$18/hour.



TRAFFIC SIGNAL TECHNICIAN I

A Traffic Signal Technician I installs, maintains, and repairs traffic signal systems and electrical equipment, troubleshoots wiring and digital controls and operates specialized vehicles and lift equipment to keep signals functioning safely and reliably.

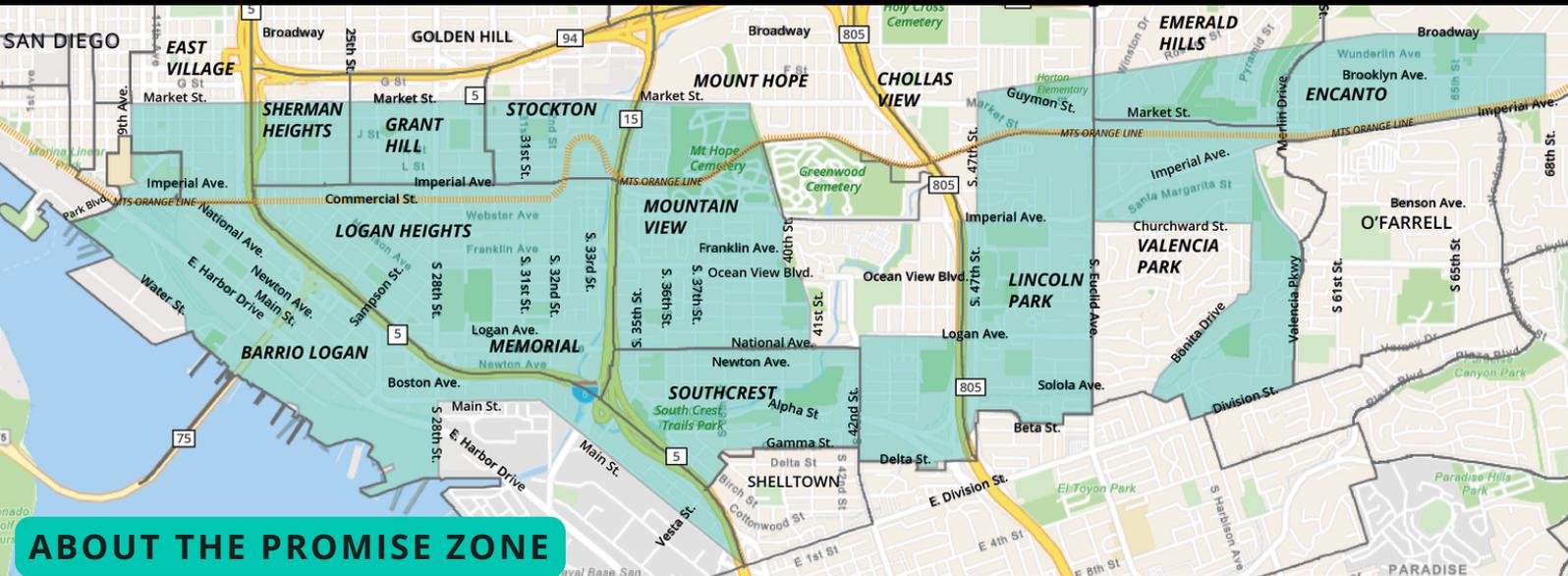


Looking for more roles? Check out additional job boards:

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

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

San Diego Clean Energy [Career Map](#)



ABOUT THE PROMISE ZONE

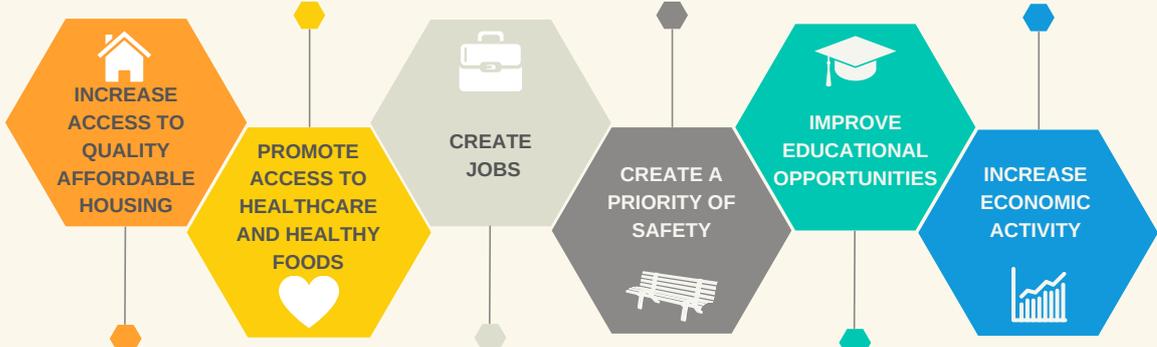
In 2016, the San Diego Promise Zone became one of 22 federally designated Promise Zones in the United States and one of only four in California. The San Diego Promise Zone covers a 6.4-square-mile targeted area with more than 80,000 residents that spans East Village and Barrio Logan east to Encanto. 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 (CBOs), direct service providers, residents and business owners work with government agencies to enhance collective impact, streamline resources and deliver comprehensive support.

Between 2016 and 2023, the unemployment rate decreased from 14% to 10%, and the poverty rate fell from 35% to 20% (ACS, 2016-22). We recognize there are many factors that contribute to these numbers. We do know that in the eight years since the designation, targeted efforts from the City and CBOs have supported improvement in these areas; however, we recognize there is still plenty of work to do to continue advocating for our Promise Zone residents.

- 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.

WORKING GROUP GOALS



- Create and preserve affordable housing.
- Support renters, first-time homebuyers and people without housing.
- Cultivate opportunities for career exploration, applied learning and youth leadership.
- Create meaningful summer employment experiences for teenagers.
- Increase the number of students meeting school readiness and grade-level expectations.
- Increase educational and career supports for opportunity youth.



Promise Zone Staff

Amairany Macias, **Communications Associate VISTA** / AmairanyM@san Diego.gov

Amber Joy Weber, **Promise Zone Program Manager** / AJWeber@san Diego.gov

Chrishael Rose Sanchez, **Grants & Research Associate VISTA** / ChSanchez@san Diego.gov

Daniella Salgado, **Communications Associate VISTA** / SalgadoD@san Diego.gov

Roosevelt Williams III, **Community Development Specialist** / RooseveltW@san Diego.gov

