



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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City of San Diego Seeks to Improve Resources for Families and Young People

FEEDBACK GATHERED AT COMMUNITY TOWN HALLS WILL INFORM DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD AND YOUTH MASTER PLAN

SAN DIEGO – To help create its first-ever Child and Youth Master Plan, the City of San Diego will hold nine town hall forums to gather community input on services available to families and young people. The town hall meetings begin on Saturday, May 20, 2023, and will be held virtually.

The [Child and Youth Master Plan](#) will eventually become a roadmap to create a citywide shared vision of services, programs and resources that support equitable cross-generational solutions to uplift the voices of children, youth and families in San Diego.

“Creating the first-ever child and youth master plan is important to building a San Diego that considers all ages when creating equal access to opportunities and resources,” said Andrea O’Hara, Executive Director of the Office of Child and Youth Success. **“These town halls provide an opportunity for our community to discuss critical issues affecting our youngest San Diego residents so that we may consider those challenges and create solutions that put residents first.”**

The virtual, multilingual town halls will be held for all nine City Council districts and will feature opening remarks by each respective Council Member. Council President Sean Elo-Rivera will kick off the town hall meeting series at [the event scheduled](#) for May 20 at 10 a.m. Participants are encouraged to register in advance on the [City’s website](#).

The town hall forums, held via Zoom, will include breakout rooms to focus on topics including access to child care and youth camps, financial and workforce opportunities, youth empowerment and other engaging activities. Organizers urge young people, specifically those ages 14 and up, to attend these town halls and voice concerns and suggestions in the various breakout room discussions.

“The City of San Diego – like the rest of the region and elsewhere – faces real challenges regarding the scarcity and lack of affordable childcare and early learning options that meet the needs of families,” said Tara Ryan, Program Coordinator for the City’s Office of Child and Youth Success. **“Increasing availability and access to quality preschool and programs for infants, toddlers and school-age children are critical not only for the growth and development of our youngest citizens,**

but also for ensuring necessary and equitable support for San Diego’s diverse families to enable them to work and thrive.”

In developing the Child and Youth Master Plan, the City’s Office of Child and Youth Success is leading the effort in collaboration with SAY San Diego, House of Restoration Community Connects Inc., Alliance San Diego and David’s Harp Foundation.

Following the nine town hall meetings, in-person focus groups will also be held to generate ongoing conversations. Then, the final phase of the Child and Youth Master Plan development will be led by cross-sector steering committees, which will include a broad range of organizations, institutions and individuals.

To learn more about the Child and Youth Master Plan and to register for virtual town halls or sign-up to participate in steering committees, visit sandiego.gov/child-youth-success.

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