



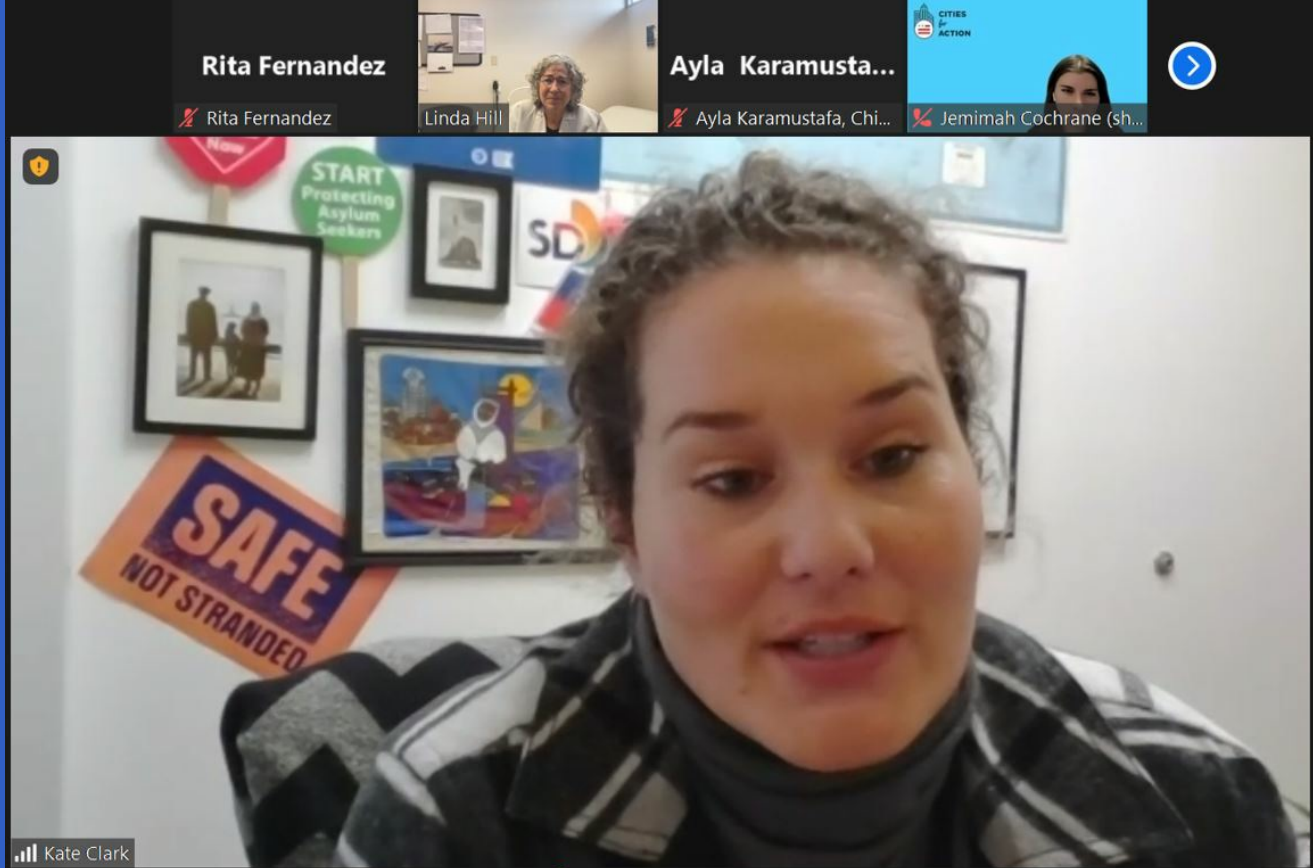
Newsletter | January 2023

Mayor Todd Gloria created the Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) in July 2022 to ensure that the City of San Diego is addressing the needs of our diverse immigrant and refugee communities and to develop resources and inclusive policies for immigrants in San Diego. We encourage you to share this newsletter with your family, friends, and colleagues. Thank you for your support!

The Month in Review

Cities for Action Call with JFFSD

On January 4, 2023, Cities for Action hosted Jewish Family Service (JFS) of San Diego on a call to discuss best practices for emergency shelter and medical intake for asylum seekers. Kate Clark, Senior Director of Immigration Services at JFS and Linda Hill, Director of the UCSD/SDSU General Preventive Medicine Residency, which partners with JFS, spoke about their process for integrating newly arrived asylum seekers into their shelters and the medical intake process they use to screen people for Covid-19 and other health and mental health concerns. Over 70 participants from cities across the country joined the call.



State of the City Now Available in Multiple Languages

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria delivered his third State of the City (SOTC) address on January 11, 2023. Mayor Gloria detailed the considerable progress on the City's top issues and made several announcements, including an executive order that will expedite City approval of affordable housing projects to 30 days. This year's SOTC is now available online, and has been translated into Arabic, Chinese, Filipino, Spanish and Vietnamese.

[Read the SOTC Address](#)

White House Welcome Corps Briefing

A photograph of three people standing on a white porch. On the left is a woman wearing a black hijab and a dark blue jacket. In the center is an older woman with short, curly grey hair, wearing a dark blue jacket. On the right is a man with dark hair and a beard, wearing a red and black plaid shirt. They are all smiling at the camera.

Sponsoring Refugees. Strengthening Communities.

On January 24, the White House held a webinar to discuss the new “Welcome Corps” program the Biden administration is implementing as part of its refugee resettlement efforts. The program was designed to create a public/private flagship initiative to connect private sponsors with newly arrived refugees. The sponsors will welcome the refugees into their communities, help connect them with healthcare and educational services, employment opportunities, and housing support. The goal of the program is to get 10,000 Americans to sign up as sponsors and aid 5,000 refugees in order to help meet the Biden administration’s goal of welcoming 125,000 refugees into the United States in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023.

For more information on the program and how to become a sponsor, visit welcomecorps.org

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria Honored with the Antonio Villaraigosa Leadership Award

On January 18th, the Latino Leaders Network convened the 37th Tribute to Mayors and honored Mayor Gloria with the Antonio Villaraigosa Leadership Award at The St. Regis in Washington, D.C. The Antonio Villaraigosa Leadership Award is presented to a mayor from a city with a significant Latino population who has exhibited an outstanding commitment to bringing diverse communities together. Many officials offered their remarks, including Mayor Francis Suarez of Miami, the U.S. Conference of Mayors President, Julie Chavez Rodriguez, Senior Adviser and Assistant to the President and Director of the Office of Intergovernmental

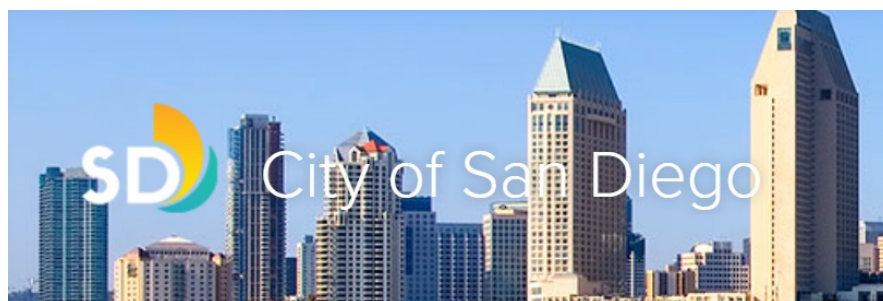


Meet Our New Intern: Meghan Zavala

Meghan is a second-year Master of Public Policy (MPP) student at UCSD's School of Global Policy and Strategy, focusing on immigration policy and quantitative data analysis. She received a BA in International Studies from UC San Diego in 2015. In the time between undergraduate and graduate school, Meghan worked in the community-based nonprofit sector in North County San Diego. As she became more familiar with organizations serving migrant communities and working in immigration advocacy, she decided to pursue a Master of Public Policy to deepen her knowledge and analytical skills. Meghan has worked as a research assistant for the Center for US-Mexican Studies at UCSD and as an intern at SANDAG on the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry project. She is excited to continue advocacy work for policy solutions with the immigrant community in San Diego.



Join the OIA Team!



Program Coordinator: OIA is now hiring a full-time Program Coordinator! Reporting to the Executive Director of OIA, the Program Coordinator will serve a crucial role at the City by assisting in the development of OIA's flagship initiatives, including but not limited to language access, economic opportunity, citizenship and civic engagement, and legal services. The Program Coordinator will also serve essential functions by supporting the OIA team, including the Executive Director, by managing interns and the city's overall community outreach priorities.

The optimal candidate will be a person dedicated to public service and that is passionate about supporting immigrants and refugees who are building new lives in San Diego. The

Program Coordinator will be an innovative, passionate, strategic, and collaborative person with the ability to effectively create key partnerships to amplify resources. The candidate will be able to demonstrate a track record in strategic planning and program management and will be purposeful in creating decision-focused and action-focused plans from start to completion.

If you are interested in applying for the position or learning more, click on the link below.

Program Coordinator Application

Summer Interns: The Office of Immigrant Affairs (OIA) at the City of San Diego is currently looking for interns to work on immigrant affairs projects including research and analysis, community outreach, written projects, and other duties.

Interns will report directly to the Executive Director of Immigrant Affairs and will receive projects from other OIA staff as well. Internships are open to undergraduate and graduate students on a part-time basis of 15-25 hours a week. Interns support a range of assignments, but internships can be specialized on policy, communications, or outreach.

To apply: Please email a cover letter, resume, and writing sample to Rita Fernandez, Executive Director, Office of Immigrant Affairs at RSFernandez@sandiego.gov.

Resources and Announcements



WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOUTH TUTORS!

We are recruiting tutors for this upcoming school semester! Take a look at the requirements to see if you are a good fit for our volunteer role.

- Monday/Wednesday 3:45 pm - 5:45 pm at Hoover High School
- Thursday 3:35 pm - 5:45 pm & Tuesdays 2:15 pm - 4:30 pm at Crawford High School
- Tutors should be able to participate a minimum of once a week for at least 3 months
- Experience with refugee/immigrant populations preferred
- Experience working with youth preferred but not required



For more info, contact our Volunteer Coordinator: Azalea.Buch@rescue.org



2023 TAX SEASON IS ALMOST HERE!



The IRC will be providing free filing services to qualified individuals as part of the IRS VITA program. This service will be offered at IRC EL Cajon and JFS - Mission Gorge from January 23 - April 18. Services are available in English, Spanish, Russian, Ukrainian, and Georgian.

Call 2-1-1 or go to myfreetaxes.org to schedule an appointment.

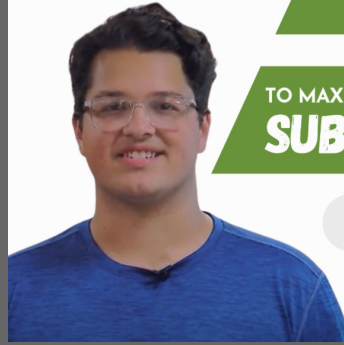
El IRC estará ofreciendo servicio de declaración de impuestos gratuito para individuos que formen parte de el programa Servicio de Impuestos Internos (SII) de VITA. Estos servicios se ofrecerán en el IRC de El Cajon y en JFS - Mission Gorge a partir de enero 23 - abril 18. Estos servicios se ofrecerán en Inglés, Español, Ruso, Ucraniano y Georgiano.

Llame al 2-1-1 o visita la página myfreetaxes.org para agendar una cita.

The San Diego Unified School District is currently conducting community outreach to remind students to apply to the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application.

More information and resources are available [here](#).

With the help of financial aid... I'm going to be a science teacher.



FAFSA OR CADAA

Free Application for Federal Student Aid
California Dream Act Application

TO MAXIMIZE YOUR FINANCIAL AID OPTIONS
SUBMIT BY MARCH 2

Need help with your application?
Reach out to your high school counselor.



studentaid.gov | csac.ca.gov





DEDICATED
TO BUILDING
THRIVING
COMMUNITIES

WE'RE HIRING

Somali Family Service of San Diego

OPEN POSITIONS

- Case Manager for Afghan Refugee Assistance Program (ARAP)
- Program Coordinator for Afghan Refugee Assistance Program (ARAP)
- Engagement Manager for SHIFA360 Community Health Worker Training Project
- Business Counselor for Afghan Family Childcare Program (AFCC)

CONTACT US

Send your resume and coverletter to

HR@SFSSD.ORG



La Maestra is Offering Free Healthcare Enrollment Assistance



LA MAESTRA
COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS
City Heights · El Cajon · National City · Lemon Grove



COVERED
CALIFORNIA

**Need health insurance?
We can help!**



Free Enrollment Assistance! STOP BY TODAY!

We're here to help

Rates are based on income, family size, age, zip code, and insurance plan selected by you

Covered CA Income Limit:

1	\$18,755	\$51,520
2	\$25,268	\$69,680
3	\$31,782	\$87,840
4	\$38,295	\$106,000
5	\$44,809	\$124,160

All numbers listed are estimates.

What you'll need to enroll

The following is needed for every household member who will be covered:

- Proof of current household income
- California ID or Driver's license
- US Passport, Legal resident card or naturalization certificate of citizenship
- Birthdate
- Home Zip Code
- Social security number /card
- Taxpayer Identification number

Call La Maestra Helpline Today!

619-269-1254 or

Email: Chad_Team@lamaestra.org

CITY HEIGHTS

4167 Fairmount Ave, Unit 1A
4147 Fairmount Ave
4060 Fairmount Ave
San Diego, CA 92105

Monday- Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

NATIONAL CITY

217 Highland Ave
National City, CA 91950

Wednesday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

EL CAJON

165 South First St.
El Cajon, CA 92019

Monday- Friday
8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Policy Updates & Other News

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced the [expansion of Title 42 and Process for Nicaraguans, Haitians, and Cubans Applying for Entry](#): On January 5th, DHS outlined plans to expand Title 42 to expel asylum seekers from Nicaragua, Cuba, and Haiti and increase the use of expedited removals for nationalities that cannot be processed under Title 42. The department also announced that the CBP One app will be used as the mechanism for asylum seekers to schedule their appointment(s) at a U.S. port of entry. DHS plans to grant temporary parole, including work authorization, for up to 30,000 nationals from Haiti, Cuba, Nicaragua, and Venezuela who apply online through the app and are eligible based on a background check, health requirements, and U.S. sponsor documentation.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) [Proposed Fee Rule Changes](#): USCIS has issued a notice of its proposed fee schedule, which includes both increases and decreases in certain fees for immigration applications. New measures include a proposal to incorporate biometrics costs into the main application fee, establish separate fees for some nonimmigrant

classifications, and institute lower fees for certain forms filed online, among others. However, the proposed rule would not change fee waiver eligibility requirements. Under the proposed fee schedule, USCIS would expect to receive an average of \$5.2 billion per year during FY 2022 and 2023, which would generate an additional \$1.9 billion per year on average. There is a 60-day public comment period which ends March 6, 2023. Fees will not change until and if the final rule goes into effect, after the public comment period and after USCIS reads and responds to each comment.

Secretary Mayorkas Extends and Redesignates Somalia for Temporary Protected Status for 18 Months: On January 12th, DHS announced the extension of TPS for Somalis for 18 months, from March 18, 2023, through September 17, 2024. The humanitarian crisis in Somalia is ongoing and rife with violent conflict and natural disasters, making it continually unsafe for Somalis to return. The redesignation of TPS will allow additional Somali nationals to receive benefits under TPS, which DHS estimates will apply to 2,200 Somalis. A Federal Register notice will soon be published with details on the timeline, procedures, and eligibility criteria for new applicants and those renewing their status under TPS.

DHS Announces Process Enhancements for Supporting Labor Enforcement Investigations : On January 13th, DHS outlined a new process for immigrant workers to request temporary protection from removal through deferred action or parole in place. This process will take place if a federal, state, or local agency is investigating labor exploitation that the immigrant worker is subject to or has witnessed. The labor agency must submit a letter to DHS on behalf of the worker supporting the request, which can also include a request for employment authorization for the noncitizen if they demonstrate "an economic necessity for employment."

Asylum Applicants Can Now File Form I-765 Online: USCIS announced that certain asylum applicants can now file Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization (EAD), online. To file an EAD online, you must first visit my.uscis.gov to create a free USCIS online account. Online filing for Form I-765 is only available to certain categories of applicants. If you submit Form I-765 online and you are not filing under an eligible category, USCIS may deny your application without refunding the fee. To learn which employment authorization categories allow for online filing, visit the [Forms Available to File Online](#) page on the USCIS website.

USCIS Extends Green Card Validity for Conditional Permanent Residents with a Pending Form I-751 or Form I-829: USCIS is extending the validity of Permanent Resident Cards (Green Cards) for petitioners who properly file Form I-751, Petition to Remove Conditions on Residence, or Form I-829, Petition by Investor to Remove Conditions on Permanent Resident Status, for 48 months beyond the card's expiration date. This change started on January 11, 2023, for Form I-829 and started on January 25, 2023, for Form I-751. The change is being made to accommodate current processing times for the two forms, which have increased over the past year. USCIS has also updated the language on Form I-751 and Form I-829 receipt notices to reflect the extended date validity. By presenting an updated receipt notice with an expired Green Card, an individual may remain authorized to work and travel for 48 months from the expiration date on the front of their expired Green Card.

USCIS Extends COVID-19-related Flexibilities: USCIS is extending certain COVID-19-related flexibilities through March 23, 2023. Under these flexibilities, USCIS will continue to consider a response received within 60 calendar days after the due date set forth in certain requests or notices before taking any action, if the request or notice was issued between March 1, 2020, and March 23, 2023. In addition, USCIS will continue to consider Form I-290B, Notice of Appeal or Motion, or Form N-336, Request for a Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings, if the form was filed up to 90 calendar days from the issuance of a decision made by USCIS, and the decision was made between Nov. 1, 2021, and March 23, 2023. Barring any other pandemic-related difficulties, USCIS anticipates that this will be the final extension of these accommodations. The original flexibility regarding due dates, which was announced in March

2020, became a permanent policy on July 25, 2022. You can visit uscis.gov/coronavirus for USCIS updates related to COVID-19.

For any other inquiries please contact us via email at ImmigrantAffairs@saniego.gov.

Thank you,
Office of Immigrant Affairs



Visit our
Website



Office of Immigrant Affairs - City of San Diego | 202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

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