

City of San Diego

Weekly Immigrant Affairs Update

Federal Update: On Aug. 5, the [White House announced](#) a designation of Deferred Enforced Departure, DED, for Hong Kong for 18 months. DED provides protection from removal as well as work authorization. Unlike Temporary Protected Status, there is no registration process for DED protection, but you must still apply for work authorization—beware of fraud and scams.

CITY PROGRAMS & SERVICES

- On July 19, the City of San Diego announced a new citywide initiative called **Homes for All of Us**. The initiative includes the [Homes for All of Us Implementation Proposal](#), as well as a citywide community plan update framework called [Blueprint San Diego](#) and the creation of a Middle Income Housing Working Group. Through updates to the Land Development Code, the initiative aims to incentivize and **promote new housing opportunities that San Diegans of all income levels can afford**. See [here](#) for more.
- The [City of San Diego](#) and [County](#) COVID-19 emergency housing assistance programs can pay **100% of unpaid and future rent** to landlords and tenants for eligible households, [regardless of immigration status](#).

NEW DATA, REPORTS, & PODCASTS

- The [Centre for Migration Studies of New York \(CMS\)](#) released [estimates of the US undocumented and eligible-to-naturalize populations](#) and updated its Democratizing Data mapping tools. CMS estimates that **10.35 million undocumented immigrants** and **8.1 million immigrants who are eligible to naturalize** reside in the United States. See [here](#) for sub-state level data and [here](#) for national and state level data. Based on sub-state level data for the City of San Diego, we have **63,000 undocumented neighbors** and over **74,000 residents who are eligible to be naturalized**.
- See this [resource guide](#) from the [International Refugee Assistance Project \(IRAP\)](#) on the [new Afghan refugee program](#). IRAP will update this site as more information becomes available. To refer Afghans to this program, see [here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

- The [City of San Diego's American Rescue Plan Act \(ARPA\) Microgrant Capacity Building Grant](#) is intended to assist nonprofit organizations who support small businesses with COVID-19 recovery efforts. Funding amounts range between \$5,000-\$20,000. Send questions to Sean Karafin, Neighborhood Investment Manager, at SKarafin@sandiego.gov or 619-236-6493.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

- The **San Diego USCIS District** will be hosting a webinar on how to **set up a myUSCIS.gov account** and walking through the **online application for the N-400**, Application for Naturalization, including taking questions. Join via Microsoft Teams [here](#) on **Tuesday, August 31, 4:00-5:30 pm**.
- On Aug. 4, Mayor Gloria met with **Baja California's Secretary of Health, Dr. Alonso Pérez Rico**, to discuss COVID-19 vaccination and case rates in Baja. They discussed the urgency of reopening the border and a new program to vaccinate vulnerable migrants there.
- [Welcoming Week](#) is **September 10-19**, and [Citizenship Day/Constitution Day](#) is **September 17**. This year, we would like to highlight all the important work you and your organizations do to make San Diego a **welcoming and inclusive community**. If your organization has an event (virtual or in-person) planned in that time frame, send it to Farhat Popal for inclusion on the [Welcoming San Diego](#) calendar of events for Welcoming Week so we can amplify your work! Stay tuned for more.

If someone at your organization would like to receive this update, you have ideas for improvement, or you no longer wish to receive these updates, please email Farhat Popal, Immigrant Affairs Manager, at FPopal@sandiego.gov.