

JULY 2023 / NEWSLETTER



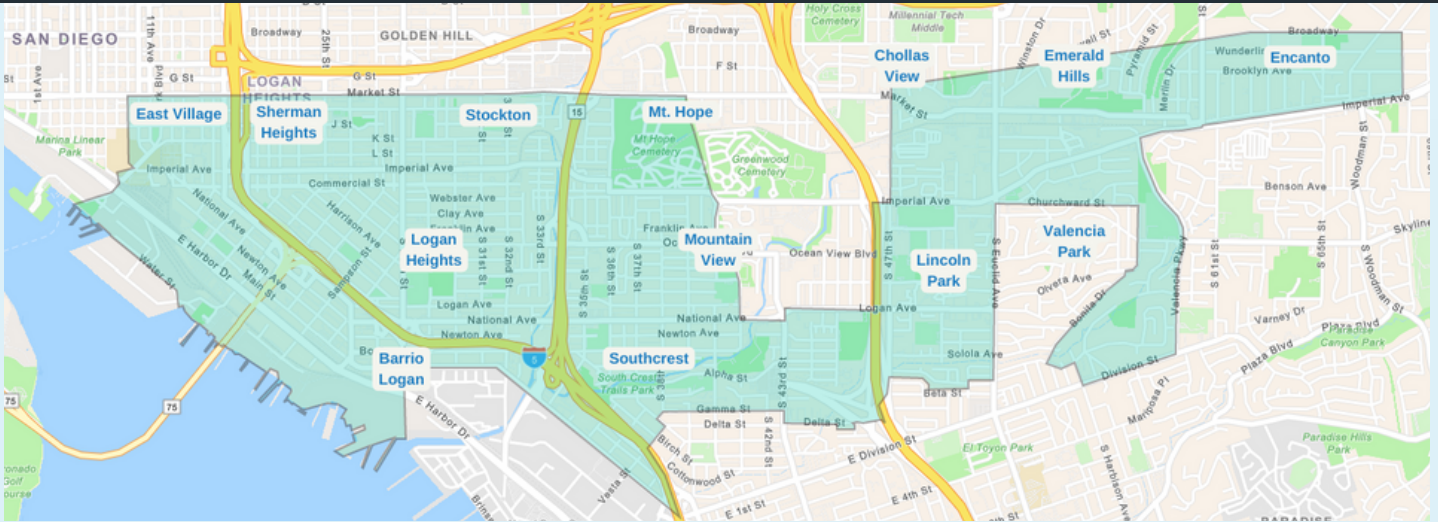
Credits: San Diego Union Tribune

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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"



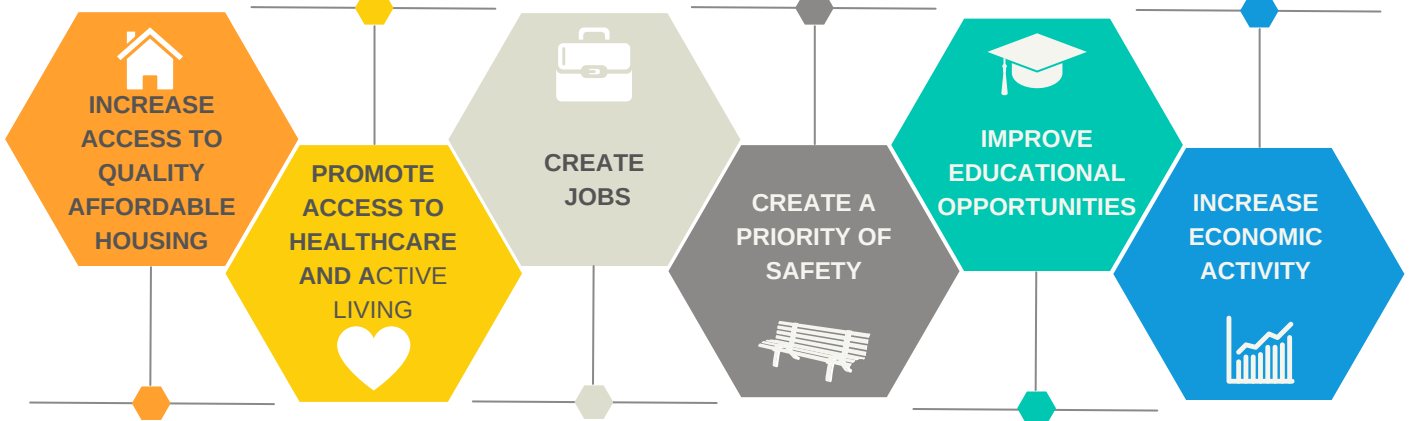
About the Promise Zone

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, direct service providers, residents, and business owners work with government agencies to enhance collective impact, streamline resources, and deliver comprehensive support.

Since 2016, the unemployment rate has decreased from 14.9% to 6.7%, and the poverty rate has fallen from 38.3% to now 22.1% (ACS, 2016, 2021). We recognize there are many factors that contribute to these numbers. We do know that in the 7 years since the designation, targeted efforts from the city and community-based organizations have supported some improvement in these areas, however, we recognize there is still plenty of work to do to continue improving the lives of our Promise Zone residents.

Working Group Goals

- 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



- 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

A MESSAGE TO OUR PARTNERS & MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Happy Summer from the San Diego Promise Zone! We hope you are enjoying everything San Diego summers have to offer, including many amazing volunteering, collaboration and partnership opportunities!

We are also happy to announce that starting this month we will begin to include member spotlights! This is nomination-based opportunity where we encourage you to share the impact of community members' service in the SDPZ. [Click here to nominate a member for the August newsletter!](#)

STAY CONNECTED!

IN THE NEWS!

Excessive heat inland this week as temps climb well above normal

[*Find cooling zones here!*](#)

.....
County Adopts New \$8.17 Billion Budget

.....
Barrio Station in desperate need of lifeguards to reopen community pool

.....
San Diego's First 'Safe Sleeping' Legal Camping Location for Homeless to Open Thursday



MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

WILL SMITH



FAREWELL WILL!

We are sad to share that Will Smith, our Communications Associate, had his final day with the Promise Zone last month. Will led the creation of our monthly newsletters, supported multiple working groups, and was key in pulling off our Career Expo earlier this year. We thank Will for all his work over the past year and wish him the best in his future endeavors!

"Since the beginning of my service last year, I have discovered my love for the City of San Diego, community service, and digital communications.

None of these discoveries would have been possible without the AmeriCorps program and most importantly, the San Diego Promise Zone. Our collective team embodies a commitment to finding creative solutions to complex issues. Our Working Group meetings have spurred conversations involving incorporating childcare into affordable housing, creating safer biking routes throughout San Diego, and countless other topics.

Above all, my time with the Promise Zone has taught me the power of collaboration. From April's Career Expo which brought in over 200 San Diego youth to our Business Walk, the team has continuously leveraged our Partner network to better the quality of life of over 85,000 Promise Zone residents.

I will be forever grateful for the growth and lessons my time with the City brought me.

Thank you for a year of relationship building, service, and learning."

-Will Smith

Economic Activity Working Group Highlight

Our working groups will not meet during June and July. We look forward to resuming meetings in August. Read below for last month's updates!

Economic Activity hosted a Business Walk in the Logan Height corridor along Imperial Avenue between 19th Street and 32nd Street on June 28th. A "Business Walk" is an afternoon dedicated to learning more about local businesses through face-to-face conversations, building relationships, and helping our Economic Development Department better serve small business owners. Local business leaders, government representatives, and partner organizations visited business owners with the intention of the following:

- Enhancing the working relationships between local government, Promise Zone community-based organizations, and local businesses
- Providing local businesses with educational resources; and
- Assisting the City of San Diego and community organizations in Logan Heights with the development of future initiatives to better serve the business community

Debrief: Business Walk findings will soon be shared with our partners. In the meantime, **Office Hours** will be held at the **Logan Heights Community Development Corporation (3040 Imperial Ave., San Diego CA 92102) between 2:00-4:00PM**. Office Hours will allow business owners to interact with City staff to inquire about resources and express their small-business concerns.

Future Meetings: If you don't already have the calendar invites for the upcoming meetings, please reach out to us to be added! Click here to view the calendar!

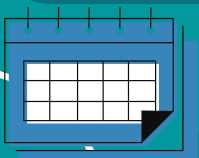
GET INVOLVED

BECOME A WORKING GROUP CO-CHAIR

Are you interested in creating tangible change in Promise Zone neighborhoods? A co-chair role requires a time commitment of three to four hours per month, and has a great impact on the working groups advancing shared goals.

- **Housing Affordability** is seeking a co-chair with experience in the creation of affordable housing or supporting renters, the unhoused, and homebuyers in San Diego.
- **Safety** is looking for two co-chairs who can help re-energize the working group and spur the group to meet on a regular basis.

If you are interested, or would like to nominate someone for the position, **email Melissa Elder at melder@sandiego.gov**.



PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS



JULY 24

A Force for Change

Dr. Michael Eric Dyson will be featured in this month's UC San Diego Lecture series to discuss racial equity, social justice, and much more. This event will take place at UCSD Park & Market between 5-7PM. [RSVP now!](#)

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JULY 29

IWC Primary Care Open House

If you are currently looking for a new provider, IWC Primary Care is hosting an open house on July 29 between 10AM-1PM! [Check out their website for more details!](#)

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JULY 31

5th Annual STEM Day for Youth

NNOA STEM Youth Day Committee in collaboration with the National Naval Officers Association is hosting a hands-on STEM demonstration event for students in grades 6-12. Multiple \$500 scholarships will be awarded. [Register here!](#)

The poster features a woman with a surprised expression holding a fan of cash. The text includes the Urban League logo, the event title, date, time, and location (via Zoom), and a partnership with Westpac Wealth.

Financial Equity Series Part 1:
Intro to Financial Independence
July 13, 2023 6pm | via Zoom
Knowledge is the first step to financial freedom
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH WESTPAC WEALTH

The poster features a young man in a purple hoodie looking down. The text includes the event name, date, time, location, and a special live performance by B+ Side Players.

REG FEST
START HERE. START NOW.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 19
3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
César E. Chávez Campus • 1901 Main St., San Diego
Special Live Performance by **B+ SIDE PLAYERS**

PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS



MENTORS NEEDED

Urban League San Diego County

We Offer:

- Mentorship Training ✓
- Networking Connections ✓
- Learn from Youth and our Families ✓
- Opportunities for Companies and Organizations to Give Back ✓

REGISTER NOW

619.266.6265

www.sdul.org



EMPLOYEE RETENTION CREDIT

IRS Communications & Liaison is hosting a ERC webinar to discuss how individuals can use this credit, ERC compliance, and the ability to detect ERC fraud. This webinar will be hosted on July 25th from 11:00AM to 12:20PM. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

JACOBS CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD INNOVATION

The **Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation** is currently accepting applications for community members to join their board! Volunteers serve a 3-year term on the board. Deadline to apply is July 31. [Apply today!](#)



Urban League San Diego County

Register Today for Open Enrollment for New & Continuing Students

PROJECT READY SAN DIEGO

KEA HAGAN
Chief Marketing & Community Impact Officer

BRITNI BINGHAM
Education Program Manager

FRED MOORE
Motivational Case Management Specialist

ORIENTATION AUGUST 24, 2023

REGISTER TODAY USING QR CODE



PARTNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Business Resources for Economic Developers

Presenting four webinars to better equip economic developers to help their businesses grow and become more resilient

<p>Exporting and FDI</p> <p>July 11</p> <p>10:00 AM to 11:30 AM</p> <p><i>Hear how to help businesses expand their markets globally</i></p>	<p>Access to Capital</p> <p>July 20</p> <p>1:00 PM to 2:30 PM</p> <p><i>Hear from lending experts on funding for businesses at all stages</i></p>	<p>Business Assistance</p> <p>July 25</p> <p>11:00 AM to 11:30 AM</p> <p><i>Hear of services and technical assistance available to businesses</i></p>	<p>Resources for Ag Producers</p> <p>July 27</p> <p>10 to 11:30 AM</p> <p><i>Hear of programs for rural areas and agricultural producers</i></p>
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Register here



For more information, please contact Malinda Matson at mmatson1@eda.gov



USC Non-Profit Resilient Leaders Program

INFORMATION SESSION # 2

- Monday, July 21; From 11:00 am - 11:30 am
- Register Here for the zoom link

WHY CHOOSE US?

This is a unique and valuable opportunity for you to expand your leadership abilities. You will learn how to contribute to the strength and resilience of your organization and the non-profit sector as a whole. Together, we can empower more leaders to drive positive change and create a lasting impact. You will also develop your network and join our USC Program Alumni Network

OUR STORY

The USC NPRL Program is a 10-week course that supports the growth and development of local, diverse nonprofit leaders. This program provides leaders with access to new information and resources, practical strategies and opportunities to engage and network with strategic thought partners.

OUR VISION

Cultivate the growth and development of nonprofit leaders who support positive transformational change in our communities.

We Value: Purpose, Courage, Strength, Dedication, Perseverance

OUR MISSION

The purpose of the program is to provide a valuable learning experience for nonprofit leaders to engage in strategy development, develop their organizational and leadership capacity, and build a collaborative network that supports transformational change within their organizations to better serve their communities.

CONTACT US

- www.uscnonprofitprogram.com
- AlexSmit@usc.edu

Scan Here



PLANNING GROUP WORKSHOP

LEARN HOW TO APPLY FOR RECOGNITION

July 11, 2023 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. University Community Branch Library	July 17, 2023 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. College-Rolando Branch Library	July 24, 2023 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. San Ysidro Branch Library
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Dinner provided for in-person attendees. RSVP by scanning QR code or visit www.sandiego.gov/planninggroups

Questions? Email SDPlanningGroups@sandiego.gov





GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



Humanities For All Project Grants

California Humanities is supporting locally initiated public humanities projects that respond to the needs and interests of Californians and encourages greater public participation in humanities programming, particularly by new and/or underserved audiences.

Application Deadline: July 17, 2023

Far South/Border North Round II

This opportunity allows nonprofit organizations in San Diego and Imperial counties to hire artists and cultural practitioners from San Diego and Imperial counties. FSNB -Round II is the second phase of a job creation program designed to increase opportunities for artists and cultural practitioners to engage in public work.

Application Deadline: July 19, 2023

Justice40 Accelerator

The Justice40 Accelerator will support community-based and community-led groups/organizations working at the frontlines of environmental crises and advancing community-driven climate solutions.

Application Deadline: July 31, 2023

Just Pax Fund

The JustPax Fund provides financial and logistical support up to \$25,000 to individuals and organizations working for effective change in the realm of gender justice, environmental justice, and/or economic justice.

Application Deadline: August 1, 2023



GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



SBA Native American Micro Enterprise Business Services

SBA is seeking proposal of efforts that center around unique and innovative approaches to addressing the many challenges facing Native American firms and other eligible firms today, including, but not limited to teaming with other businesses, and re-energizing small businesses.

Application Deadline: August 5, 2023

Life Comes From It Grant

Life Comes From It is reviewing requests for funding to support people of color-led projects that focus on restorative justice, transformative justice, indigenous peacemaking and land-based initiatives.

Application Deadline: Rolling

Parker Grant

The Parker Foundation is accepting applications from nonprofit organizations that provide services that improve people's lives throughout the San Diego region.

Application Deadline: Rolling

Life Comes From It



CAPACITY BUILDING

Insider Tip!

We can support partners' grant applications by providing a [Letter of Support](#).

MY TOOLKIT

Candid.

[Three top tips for writing grant proposals](#)

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[Free books to help you plan for fundraising success](#)

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San Diego Promise Zone Partner Financial Assistance



in partnership with



Applications Open July 10!

Award Amount : Minimum of \$1,500 to a maximum of \$10,000 per qualifying applicant

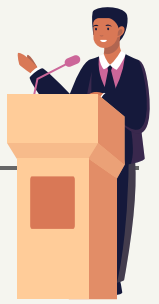
This grant will support your non-profit reach new levels of success by increasing capacity building, community outreach, and workforce development meant to support efforts of Promise Zone partners.

Non-profits looking to collaborate with Cal Coast Credit Union to provide financial literacy opportunities to communities within or providing services to those within the San Diego Promise Zone are encouraged to apply.



[Click HERE to Register for the Technical Assistance Workshop July 20, 2023 from 2:30 to 3:30 PM](#)

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT



[WATCH CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS](#)

[WATCH COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS](#)

- **Creative City** / The City of San Diego is holding Creative City pop-up events throughout the summer where you can learn more about the Creative City cultural planning process, share your insights into the creative future of our city and your neighborhood and surrounding communities, and help create something unique in hands-on art-making experiences. Fun for all ages, and refreshments will be provided (while supplies last!). Event dates: July 21-29, 2023. [Click to learn more!](#)
- **State Digital Equity Plan** / The State of California is creating a plan to ensure vulnerable communities and covered populations in California have the access they need to succeed in the digital age. [Learn more.](#)
- **Our Family, Our Story** / Outside lens is hosting eight FREE workshops designed for teens in the military to learn about photography as a tool for self-expression and story telling. Workshops run between July 13 - August 17. Space is limited. [Register!](#)
- **World Design Capital 2024** / World Design Capital San Diego Tijuana 2024 is excited to invite the regional community to participate by showcasing our rich design history and how it is transforming the region. [Submit your artwork here!](#)
- **Partnering for Progress** / The heart of this initiative is to increase public infrastructure engagement and streamline community outreach. [Click here to learn more and take a quick survey to share your experience about a project!](#)

Get It Done 

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"



OPPORTUNITY BOARD

Informal Job Database, solicitation for services



AmeriCorps

PROMISE ZONE VISTA LEADER

Join our team as an AmeriCorps VISTA Leader to help recruit and mentor other VISTA members, provide training, and grow your leadership skills while supporting important work in the PZ. [Apply Here!](#) Or [check out other positions below!](#)



OUTSIDETHELENS

YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Join Youth Council, a free, digital media arts and college/career readiness program for 8th to 12th graders to explore photography, film, video, design, and art. All abilities and experience levels welcome! [Apply Here!](#)



Center for Employment Opportunities

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & RESTARTING YOUR CAREER

CEO offers former prisoners the necessary capital to advance their careers. [Join today!](#)



OUTREACH COORDINATOR

Kitchens for Good is actively seeking a talented individual who has a passion for food, community, and interested in transforming lives through culinary arts. [Apply Today!](#)

CHECK OUT THESE AMERICORPS VISTA POSITIONS!

San Diego Promise Zone - [Civic Engagement VISTA Associate](#)

San Diego Promise Zone - [Grants & Research Associate](#)

STAY CONNECTED TO THE PROMISE ZONE!



Promise Zone Staff

Melissa Elder, **Promise Zone Program Coordinator** / MElder@sanidiego.gov

Roosevelt Williams III, **Program Specialist** / RooseveltW@sanidiego.gov

Isobel Varney, **Grants and Research Associate VISTA** / IVarney@sanidiego.gov

Nathaniel Hillman, **Grants and Research Associate VISTA** / NHillman@sanidiego.gov

Bryan Bello, **Management Intern** / BBello@sanidiego.gov

