

September 2023

# 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"*

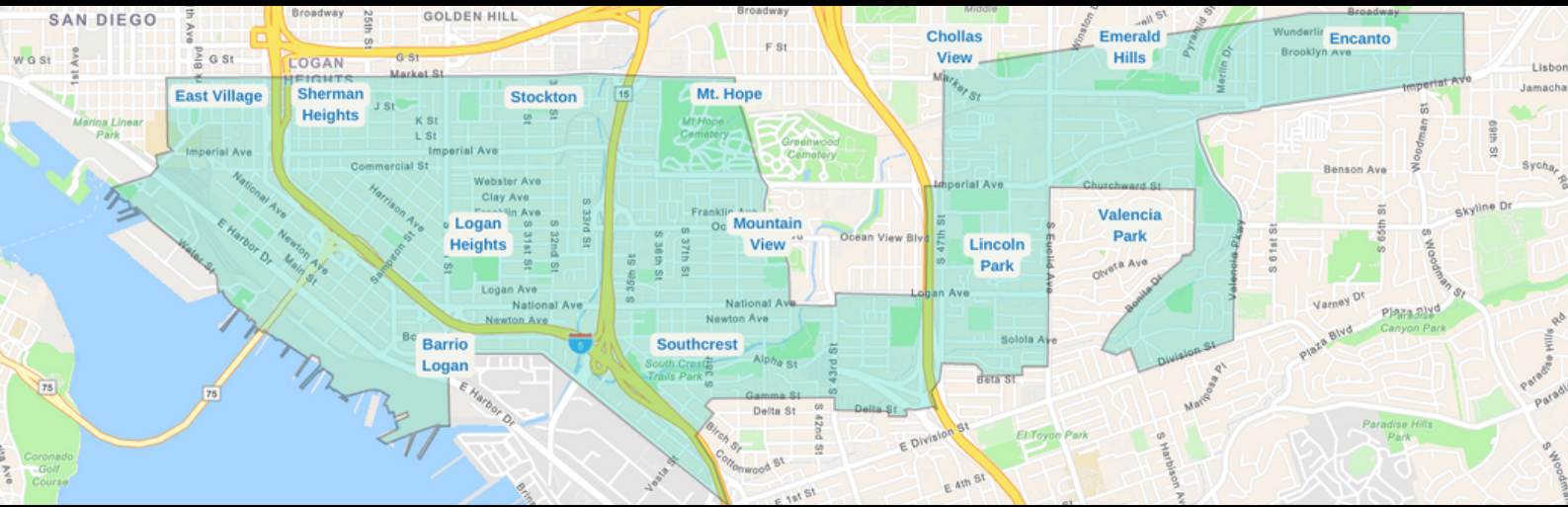


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([image: Diego Lozano](#))



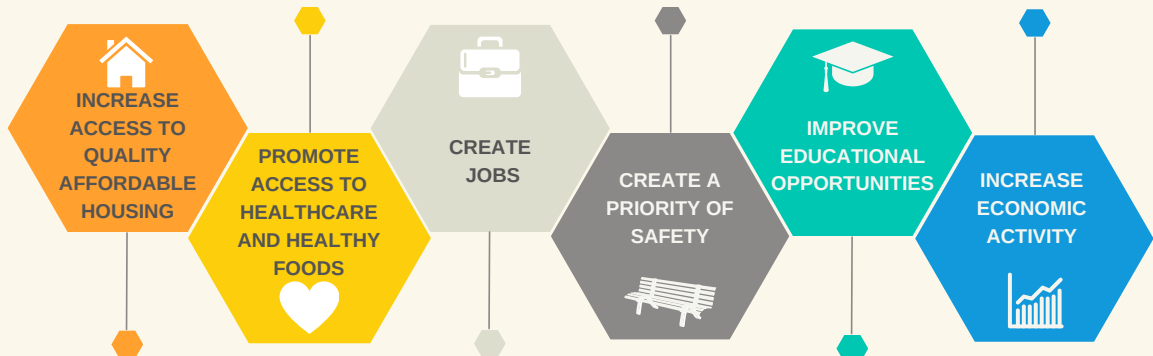
### ABOUT THE PROMISE ZONE

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

FROM THE PROMISE ZONE STAFF

Celebrate **Hispanic American Heritage Month** from September to October, starting with Mexican Independence Day on September 16. And no, it's not Cinco de Mayo! This day marks when priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla inspired Mexicans to resist Spanish colonial rule.

Join the **San Diego Public Library** in celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with their **Nuestra Cultura series** which features an array of programs and events for all age. Stay tuned for more exciting partner events and updates throughout the month!

We're still seeking nominees for our **Member Spotlight**, a chance to honor the contributions of our community members here in the San Diego Promise Zone! If you know someone whose efforts deserve a spotlight, **please fill out our nomination form**.

### San Diego IN THE NEWS

[SUPPORTING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE FOR SAN DIEGO'S INFORMAL CHILDCARE ENTREPRENEURS](#)

[SAN DIEGO SECURES \\$45 MILLION STATE GRANT TO CREATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING](#)

[EVERYBODY ONLINE: SAN DIEGO OFFERING OPEN PUBLIC WI-FI AT OVER 300 LOCATIONS](#)

[INAUGURAL LAUNCH OF FREE4ME PILOT PROGRAM TO INCREASE FEMININE PRODUCT ACCESS IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO](#)

**Connect with the Promise Zone at our All-Partner Meeting located in the Promise Zone!**

For more information email  
Melissa Elder (MElder@sandiego.gov)

**SD PromiseZone**

# All-Partner Meeting

OCTOBER 4, 2023

12-2PM

Whether you're a regular at our Working Group meetings or it's your first time, this is a chance to build relationships with our partners and learn more about our promise to the community. Lunch will be provided, and space is limited, please **RSVP** by **September 22nd at 5pm.**

## WORKING GROUP UPDATES

### Housing Affordability

Housing Affordability met on September 14, and highlighted their goals and priorities outlined by the group earlier this year. They heard from the San Diego Housing Commission regarding their housing dashboard update and received an update on the City of San Diego's 2025-2029 Consolidated Plan.

### Jobs and Education

Jobs and Education received a presentation from guest speaker Alex Becker, Program Specialist at the San Diego County Office of Education about post-secondary options for students in the Promise Zone. The group also gathered into small groups to discuss working group goals and how the Promise Zone can better support partners.

### Join Future Meetings

#### Economic Activity

Wednesday, September 20th, 2:30 - 4 P.M.

#### Healthy Communities

Thursday, September 21st, 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.

#### Jobs and Education

Wednesday, September 27th, 2:30 - 4 P.M.

#### Housing Affordability

Stay tuned for November's Meeting

### Economic Activity

Economic Activity received an update from the Economic Development Department about their Partner Financial Assistance and gave insight into applying for the Capacity Building Grant. The group also discussed June's Business Walk and gave a report on their findings.

### Healthy Communities

Healthy Communities heard from the City Planning Department on its Partnering for Progress initiative. The group held a discussion on reevaluating their priorities and identifying action items and potential activities for the rest of the year.

## 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 five to eight 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.

**Jobs and Education** is seeking a co-chair who has experience in education and works directly with youth.

If you are interested, or would like to nominate someone for the position, email **Melissa Elder**



[melder@sandiego.gov](mailto:melder@sandiego.gov)

# Partner Announcements



## Promise Zone Calendar

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](#).

## Events

SEP  
16

### Community Celebration Mexican Independence Day

Chollas Creek Community Families - Join your neighbors in celebrating Mexican Independence Day at **Gompers Park from 10-3pm**. A variety of family fun activities and live music are planned. Thanks to Chinelos Reveldes SD and City Park and Recreation for hosting this event.

For more information, email: [groundworker@groundworksandiego.org](mailto:groundworker@groundworksandiego.org)

SEP  
16

### San Diego Latine Pride 2023

As San Diego's official Queer Latine Pride event, this is a space for folx to embrace the vibrancy of our community and celebrate the pure joy of our Queer Latinidad. Join the SD LGBTQ Latine Coalition from **1-7pm** for music, food, community resources, vendors, performances, and opportunities to connect. Don't forget to [RSVP here](#) and add Latine Pride to your calendar!

SEP  
29

### Chicano Federation: Latine Heritage Celebration

Join The Chicano Federation for an evening of food, drinks, music and cultura! Learn more about their commitment and new strategic plan on **Friday, September 29, 2023 at 5pm** at the Mujeres Brew House. Purchase your tickets and learn more [here](#).

OCT  
10

### Fiesta de Nuestra Cultura

Join the Malcom X Library for a Fiesta to celebrate Latine Heritage Month. Make música in a fun drum circle, create arte, and listen to bilingual cuentos! Drum circle is presented by Drummers Without Borders. The event is **Tuesday, October 10, 2023 from 4:30-6pm**. [Learn more here](#).



# Partner Announcements

LEEP 8

## Opportunity for Informal Childcare Entrepreneurs

**In Partnership with the City of San Diego**

Logan Heights CDC will be awarding childcare entrepreneurs who enroll in the LEEP program a \$1,000.00 grant to use towards their small business permitting, licensing, training, staff, etc. Childcare entrepreneurs must be enrolled in the LEEP program AND successfully graduate from the LEEP 8 cohort to be eligible to receive the "Childcare Entrepreneur Start-Up Grant".

Interested in receiving support as a childcare entrepreneur but may not be able to join this cohort? That's okay!

Logan Heights CDC will be awarding five (5) childcare entrepreneurs with a \$1,000 grant! Entrepreneurs must call to enroll in our small business development services to be eligible. For more information, please call the Logan Heights CDC office at (619) 858-0563.

LEARN. NETWORK. BUILD YOUR BUSINESS.

**Childcare Entrepreneur Start-Up Grants Available!**

Limited to Eligible Entrepreneurs

For more details contact the Logan Heights CDC office at 619-858-0563 or email [info@loganheightscdc.org](mailto:info@loganheightscdc.org)





## Logan Heights CDC Emergent Entrepreneurship Program

**Calling all innovators, dreamers, and the go-getters! Would you like to own your own business? Or take your business to the next level? Join this \$250 value 5-week program at no cost to you. [Sign up today!](#) Application deadline is **October 4, 2023**. Orientation is October 11, 2023, from 5:30 to 7:30pm at 3040 Imperial Ave., San Diego, CA 92102.**

**BLACK TECH LINK**  
PRESENTS:

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual  
**COMMUNITY HEALTH & STEM FEST**

4343 Ocean View Blvd, San Diego, CA 92113

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16th**  
9:00am - 3:00pm

**INTERNSHIP & CAREER FAIR OPPORTUNITIES**

Health & Science Roles	Engineering & Tech Roles
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientists</li> <li>• Nurses</li> <li>• Clinical Researchers</li> <li>• Lab Technicians</li> <li>• Public Health Workers</li> <li>• Warehouse</li> <li>• Supply Chain</li> <li>• Biochemists</li> <li>• Microbiologists</li> <li>• Biotechnician</li> <li>• Epidemiologists</li> <li>• Pharmacists</li> <li>• Sales</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plumbers</li> <li>• Electricians</li> <li>• Mechanical Engineers</li> <li>• Jr. &amp; Sr. Software Engineers</li> <li>• Data Scientists</li> <li>• Architects</li> <li>• Web Developers</li> <li>• UI/UX Designers</li> <li>• Constructions Workers</li> <li>• IT Managers</li> <li>• Help Desk Technicians</li> </ul>

**INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VENDOR?**  
Email us at [blacktechlink@gmail.com](mailto:blacktechlink@gmail.com) or TXT us at 951-223-1030

# Partner Announcements

LOGAN HEIGHTS CDC PRESENTS



## FALL JOB FAIR 2023



**DATE**  
Thursday, September 28th

**TIME**  
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

**Location**  
Sherman Heights  
Community Center  
2258 Island Avenue  
San Diego, CA, 92102

**ATTENDEES PLEASE REGISTER USING THE QR CODE**

For more information, please call  
**619-858-0563**



## Resiliency Advisory Board Applications

The new Resiliency Advisory Board is accepting applications for board members! The Board will serve as an advisory body to the Mayor and the City Council on natural resource conservation, climate resiliency and adaptation, wetlands, habitat preservation, biodiversity and the Climate Resilient SD Plan, and to assist the City of San Diego in attaining its stated goals in these areas. [Apply here.](#)

## The Office of Child and Youth Success Steering Committee

The Office of Child & Youth Success is seeking organizations and individuals that have expertise in providing resources and services that support each of the focus areas. [Sign-ups](#) close on September 22, 2023.



BE THE ONE

**FIRST GEN SCHOLARS**

**COLLEGE FAIR**

CLASS OF 2024!  
SAVE THE DATE

\*\*EVENT LOCATION/SPONSOR\*\*

**JACOBS**  
CENTER FOR NEIGHBORHOOD INNOVATION

**SATURDAY, SEPT 30, 2023**  
404 EUCLID AVE  
SAN DIEGO, CA  
1:30 - 4:30 PM





# Partner Announcements

Looking for a low-cost computer? Call the Digital Navigator helpline!

To help reduce the digital divide that leaves thousands of San Diegans without internet access, the City of San Diego has launched a new Digital Navigator program to provide free, one-on-one computer support for anyone who needs it. Call [1-800-350-6945](tel:1-800-350-6945) to talk to a Digital Navigator or schedule an in-person appointment. As part of the program, the City has partnered with [Computers 2Kids](#) to offer refurbished, **low-cost computers for as little as \$50.**

**youth will** \_\_  
**We want to hear from you(th)!**

Calling youth in **San Diego County 25 & under**

Fill out our  
**Youth Needs Survey**

**for a chance to win a \$50 Visa gift card!**



[bit.ly/YNS23](https://bit.ly/YNS23)

For questions, email [hello@youthwill.org](mailto:hello@youthwill.org)  
or send us an Instagram DM @weareyouthwill

## Digital Literacy Training

The San Diego Futures Foundation provides free digital literacy classes to the San Diego County Community. Enhance your computer and technology skills with their training classes all over the County and remain connected to family, friends, and resources. [Explore their full calendar here.](#)

# Partner Announcements



We Know Who's

## HIRING

JOIN US FOR JRT!

Second Chance Job Readiness Training  
*Build self confidence & acquire critical skills needed to gain and retain employment in this FREE 4 week program!*

Upcoming 2023 Class Schedule

- Class 266 July 5 - July 28
- Class 267 Aug. 7 - Sept. 1
- Class 268 Sept. 11 - Oct. 6
- Class 269 Oct. 16 - Nov. 9
- Class 270 Nov. 20 - Dec. 15

Scott Taylor- JRT Program Manager- 619-234-8888  
staylor@secondchanceprogram.org

## Creature Power Club

Join the Earthlab Team and UCSD Mentors in a critter-centered learning journey at the Earthlab located next to Millennial Tech Middle School! This after school program is Tuesday through Thursday from **October 3 to December 7, 2023** at 2:50-4:30pm. [Register your student here.](#)

## Small Business Tax Seminar

This event is free for small business entrepreneurs who want to learn the skills that can help start, manage, and receive assistance in understanding and fulfilling their tax responsibility. The event is on **Thursday, October 26, 2023** from 8:30am-3:30pm at the Southwestern College for Higher Education. Resource tables will also be available to answer tax questions and share small business resources within the community. [Register here.](#)



### SOUTHEASTERN LIVE WELL CENTER

*We're excited to invite you to the*  
**Community Open House and Resource Fair**

5101 Market St., San Diego, CA 92114

October 14, 2023 | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

#### ABOUT THE SOUTHEASTERN LIVE WELL CENTER

The Southeastern Live Well Center provides health and social services for people living in the community all in one central location. The building offers County services that are trauma-informed and culturally sensitive to promote the health and well-being of residents and strengthen families and communities. We have worked closely with the community to develop this project and can't wait to share it with you!

#### FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Wellness & meditation garden
- Chollas Creek Trail Extension
- Public art throughout the building
- Community Based Organizations (CBO) Suite
- Community meeting & conference space

 Resource Fair

 Site Tours

 Public Art

 Family-Friendly Crafts

 And More!

HHSa.communities@sdcounty.ca.gov  
livewellsd.org/SELWC



# Partner Announcements

**Alvarez Family  
Scholarship**

**\$1,000 Awards**



**Requirements:**

- Enrolled in college during the 2023 - 2024 academic school year
- Home ZIP code must be in San Diego (South of Highway 94)
- Complete [google form](#) and respond to the prompt (750 words maximum)

**Apply Here:** <https://tinyurl.com/AlvarezScholarship>

**Deadline: September 30, 2023**

For questions, please contact [alvarezfamilyscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:alvarezfamilyscholarship@gmail.com)

## HUD-Certified Homebuyer Education Class

The Urban League of San Diego is hosting a free class, on **September 23, 2023** from 10am-2:30pm certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Participants will learn about homeownership and receive a Homebuyer Education Certificate after completion of the course. [Register here.](#)

## State of Nonprofits and Philanthropy Summit

Join the The Nonprofit Institute for their 11th Annual State of Nonprofits and Philanthropy Summit on Friday, October 13, 2023, at the University of San Diego. This year's Summit has been designed to facilitate peer-to-peer learning and networking, as well as to share the latest research and training from The Nonprofit Institute. [Purchase your ticket and learn more here.](#)





# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



## Healthier Kids For Our Future Mental Health Grant



Cigna Foundation is accepting Letters of Inquiry to supplement existing mental health programming – and help close gaps within and outside the school environment – to address loneliness, anxiety, depression, and suicide prevention. **Letter of Interest Deadline: September 31, 2023**



## Karma for Cara Foundation: Microgrant Program



Karma for Cara Foundation seeks to support young people throughout the U.S. in their efforts to contribute to society and help repair the world through volunteerism and community service. The Microgrant Program provides students, age 18 and under, with grants of between \$250 and \$1,000 to complete service projects in their communities.



**Application Deadline: October 1, 2023**



## 2023 Urban Agriculture Grant



The California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Urban Agriculture Grant Program (UAGP) is a competitive grant that funds programs and projects that enhance the viability of urban agriculture in urban areas across the State of California. Urban farmers and gardeners work among diverse populations to expand access to nutritious foods, foster community engagement, offer workforce development opportunities, educate communities about food and farming, and expand green spaces.

**Application Deadline: October 23, 2023**



## A.J. Muste Memorial Institute Social Justice Fund



The A.J. Muste Memorial Institute's Social Justice Fund is interested in supporting efforts to end the violence of borders and the criminalization of immigrants; abolish prisons and dismantle and redefine systems of policing and criminal justice; confront institutionalized violence against racial, ethnic, gender-based, and LGBTQ communities; put an end to economic exploitation, class stratification, and systemic poverty; and stop the war machine.

**Application Deadline: October 23, 2023**





# GRANT OPPORTUNITIES



## D'Addario Foundation

The D'Addario Foundation provides grants to nonprofit music education organizations in the United States and internationally. The focus is on organizations trusted by the communities they serve that are executing immersive and enduring music education and youth development programs. Support is provided to U.S. nonprofit organizations that offer free or affordable instrument instruction and address a need in the communities served. **Application deadline: Letters of inquiry are accepted on a rolling basis; invited applications are due April 30 and October 15, annually.**



## National Science Foundation

The Racial Equity in STEM Education program supports bold, groundbreaking, and potentially transformative projects that contribute to advancing racial equity in STEM education and workforce development through practice or fundamental or applied research. The program seeks to achieve excellence in U.S. STEM education at all levels in order to support the development of a diverse and well-prepared workforce of scientists, technicians, engineers, mathematicians, and educators and a well-informed citizenry that have access to the ideas and tools of science and engineering. **Application deadline: October 10, 2023**



## Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grant

The purpose of this notice is to solicit applications for Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Stage 1 Planning and Prototyping grants. Funds for the fiscal year (FY) 2023 SMART Grants Program are to be awarded on a competitive basis to conduct demonstration projects focused on advanced smart city or community technologies and systems to improve transportation efficiency and safety. **Application Deadline: October 10, 2023**





# Civic Engagement in the Promise Zone

In the San Diego Promise Zone, civic engagement plays a pivotal role in addressing the challenges residents face. It's not merely a process; it's a lifeline for residents to actively participate in the decision-making processes that directly impact their lives. By involving residents in understanding the unique issues that the Promise Zone faces, such as economic inequalities and educational gaps, civic engagement allows for the co-creation of effective strategies tailored to the community's specific needs.

[WATCH CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS](#)

[WATCH COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETINGS](#)

**Get It Done** 

Simple and easy to connect with the City:

- Report non-emergency problems
- Schedule appointments
- Obtain information

[sandiego.gov/get-it-done](http://sandiego.gov/get-it-done)  
or download your mobile app today!  
"Get It Done San Diego"

## World Design Capital

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!](#)

## SANDAG Clean Air Pledge

Join the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) in challenging yourself to create clean air in your community.

[Sign the pledge and take action.](#)

## Community Needs Survey

San Diego residents are encouraged to share their insights on the City's 2025-29 Consolidated Plan, which will help identify neighborhood and community challenges facing San Diego residents. [Fill out the survey and attend forums here.](#)

## State Digital Equity Plan

The State of California is requesting all government agencies, nonprofits, researchers, and community organizations to help map what services are being offered regarding Digital Equity. [Take the survey.](#)





# Job Board

Informal Job Database, solicitation for services



## Kate Sessions Student Internship

Interested in contributing to climate action, community engagement, and increasing shade and trees in your community? Serve as an intern with Kate Sessions Commitment. \$18/hour for up to 10 hours a week, academic credit optional. [Apply here.](#)



## Development Associate

San Diego Habitat for Humanity seeks a highly motivated and self-directed individual with strong administrative skills who wants to work with and learn from a high-functioning fundraising team doing fulfilling work. Full time, \$24 to \$28/hour DOE. [Apply here.](#)



## Residential Associate

South Bay Community Services is looking for a part-time & full-time Residential Associate, responsible for the supervision and care of youth residing at Casa Nuestra. Casa Nuestra is an emergency shelter for youth with justice or child welfare contact, or at risk of homelessness. [Apply here.](#)



## Career Navigator

San Diego Youth Services seeks a Career Navigator at their Tay Works! Program TAY WORKS! is a strengths-based approach which identifies and develops individual youth's assets while simultaneously building protective factors and resiliency. This is a full-time & non-exempt position. [Apply here.](#)

**Looking for a job?  
Check out these job boards from our Partners**

City of San Diego - [Internship and Work Readiness Job Board](#)

San Diego Workforce Partnership - [Job Board](#)

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

# Stay Connected to the



## Promise Zone Staff

Melissa Elder, **Promise Zone Program Coordinator** / [MElder@sandiego.gov](mailto:MElder@sandiego.gov)

Roosevelt Williams III, **Program Specialist** / [RooseveltW@sandiego.gov](mailto:RooseveltW@sandiego.gov)

Bryan Bello, **Management Intern** / [BBello@sandiego.gov](mailto:BBello@sandiego.gov)

Nathaniel Hillman, **Grants & Research Associate VISTA** / [NHillman@sandiego.gov](mailto:NHillman@sandiego.gov)

Alaysja Cark, **Communications Associate VISTA** / [AlaysjaC@sandiego.gov](mailto:AlaysjaC@sandiego.gov)

Bryan Villegas, **Operations Associate VISTA** / [BVillegas@sandiego.gov](mailto:BVillegas@sandiego.gov)

