



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Healthy Communities Meeting Notes

Thursday, August 17th, 2023, | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 161 915 3978)

Working Group Goal: To promote access to healthy food, healthcare, and active living

In Attendance

County of San Diego Health & Human Services, UCSD Center for Community Health, Urban Collaborative Project (UCP), Circulate San Diego, Barrio Botany, mohuman, Groundwork San Diego, GRID Alternatives, City of San Diego City Planning Department, City of San Diego Economic Development Department (EDD)

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review

- Co-chairs welcomed partners, reviewed the agenda, and led a culture share activity.

Partner Announcements

- **UCSD Center for Community Health** has been collecting stories on the social determinants of health for the past 6-8 months. Many of these stories revolve around active transportation and safety, and data will be shared in the coming months as it is analyzed.
- **UCP** is hosting a coffee pop-up event at Four Corners of Life on August 26th, 2023, to discuss transportation in San Diego. Also, UCP has partnered with Cal Coast Credit Union to offer free financial wellness workshops to Southeastern San Diego residents.
- **GRID Alternatives** has two programs dedicated to environmental justice and community health that it is implementing for residents of the Promise Zone. The first is their Energy for All program, which aims to provide solar energy systems to homeowners on fixed or limited income. Secondly, GRID Alternatives' Clean Cars 4 All program provides vouchers to income-eligible San Diego residents to trade in their gas-powered car for an electric vehicle or e-bike. Finally, GRID Alternatives has announced that they are partnering with UCP for the Transformative Climate Communities Planning Grant.

Grant Opportunities

[Healthier Kids For Our Future: Mental Health Grant Application](#)

Click the following links to stay connected to the San Diego Promise Zone

[Newsletter](#) | [Website](#) | [Email](#) | (619) 236-6700 | 1200 Third Ave, 14th Floor, San Diego, CA 92101

Cigna Foundation is accepting Letters of Inquiry (LOI) to supplement existing mental health programming – and help close gaps within and outside the school environment – to address loneliness, anxiety, depression, and suicide prevention.

LOI Deadline: September 31st, 2023

HFFI Partnerships Grant

The HFFI Partnerships Program will offer funding to support local capacity and capital to establish and grow local, regional, or state food financing programs. The Program will offer grants to support partnerships between organizations from different sectors that will work together at the local, State, or regional level to improve access to fresh, healthy, affordable food by providing financial and technical assistance to eligible projects. This new program will expand the impact of the HFFI program nationally and bring in new partners to address the complexity of food access in communities across America. Through support of local and regional partnerships, this program will build capacity for local groups serving the needs of their communities and deepen the reach of HFFI into underserved communities.

Application Deadline: November 3, 2023

Update on Community Food Grant

- The Community Food Grant Program supports community food security and food sovereignty for low-income communities and communities with limited access.
- 43 community-based organizations including some of our partners like Mama's Kitchen, Project New Village, Kitchens for Good, Leah's Pantry will be helping San Diegans experiencing food insecurity by supporting localized, sustainable food production and distribution throughout the region.
- The Community Food Grant Program focuses on efforts to strengthen and scale community-led strategies to address food and nutrition insecurity with local solutions that prioritize low-income and historically marginalized communities. The grantees represent a variety of projects, including community gardens, urban agriculture, food rescue and distribution, seed banking and technical assistance for local farmers, among other projects across the region.
- The Community Food Grant Program contributes to building resilient communities, a pillar of the SDF Strategic Plan, by addressing equity barriers and creating a more inclusive and accessible food system for all.
- <https://www.sdfoundation.org/news-events/sdf-news/san-diego-foundation-announces-5-5m-in-grants-to-strengthen-food-security-and-sustainable-food-production-and-distribution/>

SDPZ Story Maps Website Update:

- Promise Zone staff are working to update our StoryMaps website.
- It currently houses old data, and we are working with EDD's Economic Research Specialist to update.

- The goal of this website is to be able to provide data that organizations can use for their grant applications
- But before proceeding the update, staff wanted to ask each of the working groups what kind of data would be most helpful
- Comments:
 - A. Mapping structural violence on the data website would be helpful (e.g. redlining, freeway construction, removal of people/communities).
 - B. We can use this website for our audits and planning initiatives.
 - C. This isn't really database related, but we would love a map that shows all the schools in the Promise Zone.

Working Group Brainstorming Session: Goals, Priorities, and Action Items:

Healthy Communities Priorities and Goal-Setting

Poll | 1 question | 13 of 14 (92%) participated

1. Which Two priorities of the Healthy Communities working group would you want to see more action taken on or prioritized? (Pick 2) (Multiple Choice) *

13/13 (100%) answered



Stop Sharing

GRID Alternatives-

- We look at social determinants of health, we look at how our spaces impact our health (built environment). Solar is one of those things that can help not only cool off communities, but it's part of how built communities can impact health.

- Grid has \$8.5 million dollars' worth of solar technology but is having trouble finding qualified households in the Promise Zone. We're working with Urban Corps and the UCP- but we need help to connect with people in the community who are looking to save thousands a year. We have another program where you exchange a car 2009 or older and get a voucher for a new car or electric vehicle.
- For more information on GRID Alternatives San Diego - <https://gridalternatives.org/regions/sandiego>

Question: Do the people in the solar program need to be homeowners to qualify?

Answer: Yes, and a lot of my clients are going to be elderly homeowners on fixed income.

Mohuman:

- We've been doing a lot of research on community health, and we finished a digital skills training, and there's a certification process for community health workers, and we're doing some work on that and figuring out the logistics. We're trying to navigate the certification process, since it doesn't specifically exist.

Question: Is there anything specific that you'd like support with?

Answer: Just to keep their eyes and ears open and gather any information on it

UCP:

- I wanted to address Clovis' (GRID Alternatives) point on addressing the intersection of built spaces and health. At UCP, the more we look the more we find. Sometimes there are structural barriers that prevent us from pursuing stuff. Southeast SD doesn't have a MAD to maintain the trees, so we can't pursue the tree canopy project.
- UCP is partnering with SANDAG to pursue a micro transit pilot in Chollas View and Emerald Hills with electric vehicles, but there is no infrastructure to charge the vehicles. We have a temporary solution in place (Livewell Center), but how can Promise Zone residents take advantage of these projects if the infrastructure isn't there to support it? Also, we need more collective advocacy and awareness to our efforts.

GRID Alternatives-

- We will install EV chargers for free if you get one for your car.

Melissa:

- There is a plan about the city looking at installing more EV charging stations.

UCP:

- We have been having conversations with other City partners, but we need more community support, and we need to be louder. Above all we need to be spreading more awareness, and finding funding opportunities to help bring projects to "shovel ready"

Christina:

- We should reopen this discussion with more partners. We could benefit from putting our heads together on these issues and identifying more funding opportunities.

Hugo:

- At the County, we have a Healthy Cities Healthy Residents initiative. We could contract with Community-Based Organizations, and they would partner with the city to move

active transportation policy forward. We could use your help on that. We want to move to a new model where we contract directly with the cities. I would like to gather some feedback from you all on that- I am developing the Scope of Work, and so I will contact you individually on this.

City Planning Department: Partnering for Progress:

- The City Planning Department is launching a project to try and figure out how it can make it easier for nonprofits to work with the city. It can be challenging to work with the city, and we realize the benefit that nonprofits and CBOs bring to the city and its residents.
- We are looking to identify barriers and opportunities for improvement that nonprofits encounter when working with the city. Like closing a street down for a public event, or community gardens. There are some pinch points, but we would like to have a discussion on how we can improve some of those processes. At the end of gathering information, input and feedback, we are hoping to pilot some projects based on the feedback- to have some buy-in from the community.
- These can be projects that went to implementation, or projects that did not clear all of the steps in the process. Right now, we're gathering stories, lessons learned- streamline the process, and put a pilot project out there

Next Steps and Adjourn

- Digital Comment Box: <https://us16.list-manage.com/survey?u=e913b9d30ca18b3436360cf47&id=62c8f5dc2f>

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 21st, 2023 | 10:30AM – 12:00 PM
Via Zoom (Meeting ID: 161 915 3978)