



The City of



Economic Development

MEETING NOTES

San Diego Promise Zone

Jobs and Education Notes

Wednesday, March 6, 2024 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Via Zoom | (Meeting ID: 160 295 2326) | Registration Link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom \(zoomgov.com\)](#)

Working Group Goal: Create jobs and improve educational opportunities

In Attendance

California Coast Credit Union (Sylvia Rameriz), **City of San Diego—Information Technology** (Maiten mowreader, Kelsey Baird), **City of San Diego—Office of Child and Youth Success** (Tya Valentine), **County of San Diego—Office of Equitable Communities** (Anisa Quail), **Elementary Institute of Science** (Sarah Tuakli Cooper), **University of California San Diego** (Raquel Aparicio), **Greater Than Tech** (Jasmine LeFlore), **Junior Achievement of San Diego** (Pana Hap), **Kitchens for Good** (Will Smith), **Live Well SD** (Maya Vargas), **MAAC Project** (Christopher Heim, Pedro Estrada Jr.), **Natural Insights** (Rafiqah Hawkins), **Outside the Lens** (Liliana Hueso), **San Diego Futures Foundation** (Teresa Valenzuela, Azahalia Valdez), **San Diego State University** (Andrew Soliz), **Second Chance** (Bill Payne), **Slate-Z** (Jaslynn Baena, Tyresa Jackson), **Urban Life Church** (Andrew Ziegler), **Youth Will** (Liliana Soriano)

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Agenda Review, and Partner Updates

- Co-chairs welcomed partners, reviewed the agenda, and led a culture share activity.
- Promise Zone team is recruiting for VISTAs. Learn more on our recruitment page.
 - [AmeriCorps VISTA | City of San Diego Official Website](#)

Partner Updates

- **Second Chance** completed the installation of a fence around their Youth Garden located at 6145 Imperial Ave. San Diego, CA. The fence has 4 art panels featuring art from local artists representing historical communities in San Diego.
- **California Coast Credit Union's**, Cal Coast Cares Foundation announced that scholarship applications are now being accepted through April 15, 2024, for college-bound high school students and current or former foster youth. [Learn more about how to apply here.](#)
- **MAAC** shared information about their workforce development programs.

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

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

- [Unidos in Finance](#): This program is an online training course open to anyone over 18 years old who is looking for a finance career.
- [Next Level](#): This workforce development program offers is for individuals over 18 years old who can commit to a one-year timeline. Participants will choose one career pathway to pursue while in the program.
- **Outside the Lens** will host their very first, annual, youth juried art show "**Voice Out: A Youth Media Arts Exhibition.**" Young creatives ages 8-19 are invited to submit their digital artwork in the categories of photography, illustration, and mixed media. Submissions will close on March 31, 2024. [Click here for more information and guidelines.](#) The exhibition will take place on May 18.
- **Junior Achievement** will host their Student Company of the Year competition at UCSD Park and Market on Wednesday, April 24, from 4-7pm. High school students across the county will pitch their businesses to a panel of business leaders. [Learn more and RSVP here.](#)
- The **Southeastern Livewell Center** shared information about their Community Based Organization Suites that are free for CBOs to meet with clients or host events. [Learn more about the space here.](#)

Kitchens for Good Program Overview

Will Smith, Kitchens for Good, will@kitchensforgood.org

- Program Coordinator, Will Smith, presented an overview of Kitchens for Good (KFG), which is one of the first Food Service Apprenticeship Programs in California.
- KFG offers two training models for their Culinary, Baking, and Customer Service Apprenticeships. After the training is complete, Apprentices are 'promoted' and placed with a KFG Employer Partner to complete their paid on-the-job training (OJT).
 - Frontloaded Programs include a 10-week on-campus training where participants learn "Knife Skills & Life Skills." Baking and culinary apprenticeship programs follow this training model.
 - Dual Instruction Programs include a 3-week on campus training, where participants will learn the same "Knife Skills & Life Skills" at an accelerated pace. Participants of the dual instruction program will be on-campus 5x per week during the 3-week training. After the training, they have an option to complete an 11-month OJT or weekly on campus training. Culinary and customer service apprenticeship programs follow this training model.
- To participate in KFG's programing, no formal training or experience in culinary required! You must be 18 years old or older at the time of enrollment, open to conducting a background check, no outstanding arrest warrants and be available for the program's timeline. [See all the eligibility requirements here.](#)
 - Your background check **does not** need to come back clean in order to participate.
- As a KFG apprentice you will have receive case management and career services, transportation assistance (unlimited Pronto Pass or \$75/month gas card), and an education training stipend (dependent on attendance.)
- Promise Zone partners are encouraged to refer their clients to the program [here.](#)

Career Expo Updates

Sarah Cooper, Elementary Institute of Science

- Co-chair, Sarah Cooper, provided an update on the signature event, “Your Future, Now: A Youth-Led Career Expo,” on Tuesday, March 26, at UCSD Park and Market.
- The planning group secured over \$15k in sponsorships from organizations such as, UCSD Extended Studies, California Coast Credit Union, the Port of San Diego, San Diego County Office of Education, San Diego Futures Foundation, Access Inc., MAAC, and many others.
- The group requests partners to share the [registration link](#) with their network and [invite school groups to attend](#).
- For more information about the Career Expo visit the event website.
 - Website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/economic-development/2nd-annual-your-future-now-youth-led-career-expo>

U.S Conference of Mayors Digital Equity Challenge

Kelsey Baird and Maiten Mowreader, City of San Diego, Department of IT

- Program Coordinators Kelsey and Maiten, gave an overview of the working group’s history with digital equity.
 - In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the working group collaborated on a digital equity grant which the group did not receive funding, but the collaboration resulted in programs like [SD Access 4 All](#).
- The [U.S Conference of Mayors Digital Equity Challenge](#), is an opportunity for cities to receive funding to “launch and expand local workforce programs designed to grow college and career readiness, close the digital skills gap, advance economic mobility, and lay the foundation for generational wealth in under-resourced communities.”
- Partners were asked to share about the workforce development training programs that currently exists in the Promise Zone.
 - Second Chance, San Diego Futures Foundation, and MAAC shared about the training programs that exist within their organization.
- Partners also expressed the importance of digital literacy, life skills, and typing skills for our future workforce.
- Kelsey and Maiten plan to reach out to interested organizations about applying.

Subgroup Updates

- Partners split into subgroups to work on tactical documents.
 - [Group 1: Andrew, Jaslynn, Liliana, Maya, Rafiq, Sarah, Will](#)
 - The group focused on post Career Expo tactics which include sending a follow up survey to vendors and attendees. They also brainstormed additional ideas like a one-pager with information about the Promise Zone, Career Expo, and partner employment resources, for partners to have on hand and share with their network.
 - [Group 2: John, Sylvia, Pedro, Christopher](#)
 - The group shared suggestions on how to increase the number of residents who are educated, prepared, and employed in middle skill jobs

in growing industries. They suggested being realistic with residents about in-demand jobs and raise awareness on the viability of trades and certifications.

- **Group 3: Raquel, Tyresa, Tya**
 - The group reviewed data on Promise Zone schools and discussed the population and graduation rates, reading standards and math standards, and data from 2016. Diamond Education Excellence Partnership (DEEP) and UCSD Create, plan to connect and discuss a potential collaboration. The group will continue to review and collect data on Promise Zone schools and find a way to share the information with partners.

Wrap Up and Adjourn

- Digital Comment Box: <https://forms.gle/JSYK67jo28YRVQ7R6>

Next Meeting

Wednesday, April 3, 2024 | 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Via Zoom | (Meeting ID: 160 295 2326)