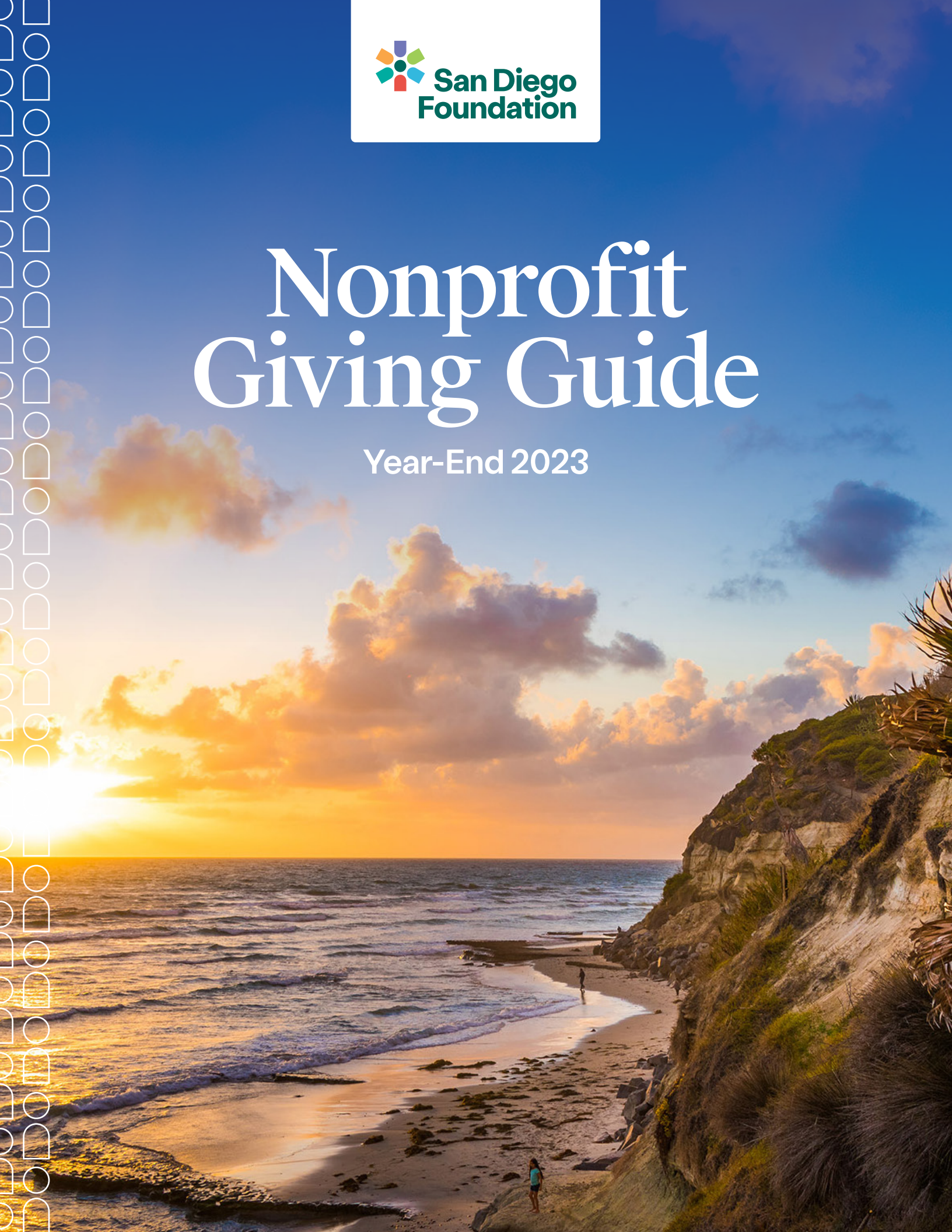




Nonprofit Giving Guide

Year-End 2023



To support your year-end philanthropy, we are delighted to share the first San Diego Foundation (SDF) Year-End Giving Guide.

This guide will help you discover local nonprofit organizations that may be unfamiliar but are working to address our region's greatest needs.

The following pages include 25 small, grassroots community organizations led by people of color and positively impacting San Diego families.

This Giving Season, please consider supporting these nonprofits or others serving our community.

Our team of philanthropy advisors is here to talk through strategies for impactful grantmaking with you, and to help you find organizations making a difference that align with your priorities.



A handwritten signature in white ink that reads "Katie Sawyer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Katie Sawyer
Assistant Vice President, Philanthropy
San Diego Foundation

How Organizations Were Selected



Nonprofits in this guide are:



Fully Vetted

All are recipients of an SDF grant in the past year.



Small and Grassroots

Based on budget and staff size.



BIPOC*-led

Organizations led by people of color are typically underfunded compared to similar nonprofits. SDF is working to address this in our grantmaking, communications and partnerships.

**BIPOC: Black, Indigenous and People of Color*

Show Your Support this Giving Season

Many nonprofits rely on year-end giving to serve and meet the growing needs of San Diegans.

Our team is here to help you find organizations that align your priorities with impactful work in our communities.

2023 SDF Grant Deadline

Grants from your SDF fund must be made by **December 21 at 12:00 p.m.** to be eligible for this calendar year.



Two Ways to Give

1

Grant From Your Fund

All nonprofits and funds in this guide are eligible for a grant from your donor-advised fund (DAF).

Existing SDF fund advisors can grant through our Donor Portal at SDFoundation.org/MySDF.

2

Donate Directly

You may donate directly to a nonprofit listed in the Giving Guide through its website.

Contact our Donor Services team at (619) 814-1332 or donorservices@sdfoundation.org for grantmaking support.

Children & Families

To help San Diego children and families thrive through mental, behavioral and physical health and well-being services.

African American Wellness Center for Children and Families

Focus Areas:

- Empowering Black Community Voices
- Foster Care
- Poverty
- Racism
- Universal Income

Contact: Marilyn English

menglish@africanamericanwellnesscenterforchildrenfamilies.com

(619) 627-7803



At the African American Wellness Center for Children & Families (AAWCFCF), we're committed to family support, child abuse prevention, and addressing systemic racism. Our mission is clear: promote equal opportunities and nurture potential among African Americans and people from diverse backgrounds in San Diego County. We work to dismantle racism, mobilize communities and advocate for lasting change. Our holistic approach fosters inclusivity, equality and justice, creating a more inclusive future.



License to Freedom

Focus Areas:

- Domestic Violence
- Mental Health
- Refugee Support
- Trauma-Informed Care

Contact: Dilkhwaz Ahmed

dilkhwaz@licensetofreedom.org

(619) 813-7415

licensetofreedom.org

License to Freedom employs culturally specific and language-accessible trauma-informed care approaches to help survivors of domestic violence from Middle Eastern and Afghan refugee populations in East County San Diego. License to Freedom believes in the right for everyone to experience a safe and happy life; to create this reality, License to Freedom offers no-cost domestic violence advocacy, legal representation and mental health counseling.

North County LGBTQ Resource Center

Focus Areas:

- Homelessness & Poverty
- LGBTQ Policies
- Mental Health
- Social Justice

Contact: Max Disposti

maxrome@cox.net
(760) 672-1848



Founded in 2011, the North County LGBTQ Resource Center, led by Executive Director Max Disposti, is the only nonprofit supporting LGBTQ individuals and families in North San Diego County. Its mission is to serve, empower and advocate for the diverse LGBTQ community. We offer vital services like behavioral health, case management and housing support, empowering people through their journey of gender affirmation and authenticity.

United Women of East Africa

Focus Areas:

- Economic Opportunity
- Education & Social Development
- Family Support
- Financial Literacy
- Mental Health & Well-Being
- Sports and Fitness Programs

Contact: Sahra Abdi

sabdi@uweast.org
(619) 277-0402
uweast.org



Through meticulously crafted programs, United Women of East Africa (UWEAST) uplifts individuals, tackles pressing issues and builds sustainable solutions in a welcoming hub where everyone feels heard and supported. Since 2008, UWEAST's daily programs have served as lifelines for women and youth, addressing crucial areas like health, education, social concerns and more. Join us to support our educational, mental health, sports and financial stability initiatives and attainment of a larger facility to expand services.

Urban Restoration Counseling Center

Focus Areas:

- Family Reunification
- Healing Intergenerational Trauma
- Justice-involved Youth
- LGBTQ+
- Maternal Mental Health

Contact: Janel King

janel.king@urbanrestorationcounseling.org
(619) 251-8639
urbanrestorationcounseling.org



Urban Restoration Counseling Center (URCC) provides mental health services to people of color by people of color. Services include case management, individual, couples and family therapy, and psychoeducation and psychotherapy groups. URCC provides clinical supervision and professional development for student therapists and registered associate clinicians. Less than 2% of psychologists are African American. It is crucial for communities of color to have greater access to mental health services and to see someone they can easily relate to.

Climate & Environment

To reduce our region's polluting emissions, protect our biodiversity, minimize local risks from climate change and foster equitable outdoor access for all.

Back Country Land Trust

Focus Areas:

- Conservation
- Ecology
- Habitat Restoration
- Outdoor Education
- Sustainability

Contact: Kyler Pinkowski

backcountrylandtrust@gmail.com

(619) 566-6971

backcountrylandtrust.org



Join us in preserving East County's natural beauty. Back Country Land Trust safeguards these lands for future generations, conserving wildlife habitats and outdoor recreation. By acquiring properties and implementing conservation easements, we secure open spaces in perpetuity. Our preserves protect endangered species and restore native habitats. Support our efforts toward environmental education, youth programs, guided hikes and volunteer opportunities. Be part of our legacy, creating a sustainable future for San Diego's natural wonders.

Changing Tides Foundation

Focus Areas:

- Environmental Stewardship
- Female Empowerment
- Menstrual Health
- Mentorship
- Surf Therapy

Contact: Becky Mendoza

becky@changingtidesfoundation.org

(305) 562-7896

changingtidesfoundation.org



Encinitas-based Changing Tides Foundation empowers women and promotes environmental stewardship. Our flagship program, Women's Outreach Mentorship, uses surfing and the ocean to empower underserved girls in North County, building confidence, leadership skills, and environmental consciousness. Since 2016, we've transformed the lives of many girls, equipping them with life skills and a deep appreciation for the ocean. Your support can help us provide program supplies, equipment and staffing needs, ensuring we can reach and impact more girls in our community.

I Am Green

Focus Areas:

- Climate Equity
- Collective Resilience
- Environmental Justice

Contact: Sister Maria A. Muhammad

[sistermaria@iamgreenandsoare](mailto:sistermaria@iamgreenandsoareyou.org)

you.org

(410) 297-1489

iamgreenandsoareyou.org



I Am Green Inc. drives positive change in San Diego. Our I Am Green GO! Free Community EV Car Share initiative reduces carbon emissions while enhancing accessibility to communities that suffer from poor air quality. We empower individuals with eco-knowledge and skills, fostering economic empowerment through green careers and social enterprises. Our Community Resiliency Initiative combines ancestral practices with innovation to drive holistic improvements to our environment. We seek authentic partnerships with shared values of resiliency, justice and equity.



Indigenous Re-Generation

Focus Areas:

- Climate Resilience
- Food Security
- Job Training
- Native Youth Education
- Tribal & BIPOC Education and Economic Development

Contact: Lacey Cannon

lacey@indigenousregeneration.org

(360) 720-0827

indigenousregeneration.org

Indigenous Re-Generation brings hope to Native Communities. Since 2017, we've invested \$1.5 million, revitalizing 27-acres of native ecosystems, planting 5,000+ native plants, and creating two outdoor education campuses, including a Tribal Farm School. We've served 5,000 people, distributed 1,500+ organic farm boxes, and hosted 25 community events. We prioritize emotional and physical well-being and the reconnection to land, self, and heritage through regenerative agriculture, sustainable building and cultural activities guided by Elders from our San Diego Tribal community.

Project New Village

Focus Areas:

- Equity
- Food Justice
- Food Security

Contact: Diane Moss

pnv.wellness@gmail.com

(619) 813-9148

projectnewvillage.org

Project New Village (PNV) launched The People's Produce Mobile Farmers Market (MFM) to create more equitable access to healthy foods in Southeastern San Diego, where residents lack access to fresh fruits and vegetables and experience higher rates of chronic diseases (e.g., obesity, diabetes and heart disease). In its first 10 months, the MFM brought fresh, locally sourced produce to 4-6 neighborhoods weekly, serving more than 2,000 customers. PNV requests support for additional MFM sites in 2024, including schools, churches and community events.



Urban Surf 4 Kids

Focus Areas:

- Foster Care
- Mental Health
- Mentoring
- Outdoors
- Surfing

Contact: Roxanne Avant

roxanne@us4k.org

(858) 999-5103

urbansurf4kids.org

Urban Surf 4 Kids uses surf therapy, mentoring, and life skills programs to help foster youth. We boost confidence in 500+ children by incorporating coping skills, healthy habits and play therapy into our programs. We seek funds to pair mentors with youth in our programs. This is vital for those who have experienced suicidal ideation, depression or a mental health crisis. Funds cover transportation, food, and equipment for activities like paddleboarding and more. We also request funds for improving our communication technology for caregiver families.

Education & College Access

To support expanded learning, educators and college preparation and college success programs that provide students a better chance to succeed in work and life.

Greater Than Tech

Focus Areas:

- K-12 Education
- STEM Entrepreneurship
- Underserved Communities

Contact: Jasmine LeFlore

contact@greaterthantech.org
greaterthantech.org

San Diego's tech ecosystem is growing. Yet diversity remains a challenge and may worsen with recent affirmative action rulings impacting disadvantaged students pursuing STEM fields. Quality STEM education in underserved communities can help. Greater Than Tech (GTT) merges engineering and business, emphasizing social impact. We focus on robotics, drones and AI to prepare students for STEM careers. To expand and meet demand, financial support is vital. Access to spaces and tech company tours is also needed to inspire young minds in STEM careers.



First Gen Scholars

Focus Areas:

- College Access
- Debt-Free Graduation
- Equity-Centered
- Generational Wealth
- Workforce Development

Contact: Jonathan Burgos

jonathan@firstgenscholars.org
(619) 339-3308
firstgenscholars.org

First Gen Scholars is the GPS of college access for first-gen students. Last year, we impacted 200 students from 38 local schools, with some earning full rides to Harvard, Stanford, Yale and CalTech. 80% of our 500+ scholars are on track to graduate debt-free. A college degree can empower families and help build generational wealth in communities that have the highest inequity. Annually, there are 7,000 low-income, first-gen San Diego high school seniors who deserve our help. We seek funding to navigate more students through college applications and ensure debt-free graduation.

San Diego Squared

Focus Areas:

- STEM Education
- Workforce Development
- Youth

Contact: Karmin Noar

karmin@sd2.org
sd2.org



Historical disparities in funding and other inequity have limited access to STEM education and exposure for Black, Latino and other underrepresented students, reducing their pursuit of STEM careers. San Diego Squared (SD2) acts as a STEM gateway, providing education, mentorship and resources that connect underrepresented students to STEM opportunities. Our track record includes successful placement and mentorship of high school Squared Fellows and Scholars, scholarships for diverse college students, paid internships and the direct employment of students.

Young and Prosperous Foundation

Focus Areas:

- College
- Dance & Sports
- Education
- Mentoring

Contact: Chris Jones

chris@youngandprosperous.org
(619) 701-4016
youngandprosperous.org



The Young and Prosperous Foundation mission is to be a resource to youth and promote social justice, equity, personal growth and educational development in City Heights and Southeast San Diego. Our vision is for all students to have the resources and relationships necessary to achieve individual success. YAP uses sports and dance to mentor and drive academic excellence. We've served over 1,500 students, with 100% of college preparatory participants getting accepted into college. We seek support for our soccer, arts and culture and college preparatory programs.

Youth Empowerment

Focus Areas:

- Adult Programming
- Lived Experienced
- Mentorship
- Youth Development & Programming

Contact: Arthur Soriano

arthur@youthempowermentsd.org
(619) 384-0916
youthempowermentsd.org



Youth Empowerment transforms communities and builds public safety through mentoring, systems engagement and advocacy. Our primary activity is mentoring formerly incarcerated and at-risk young people, and providing individualized, wraparound services to facilitate re-entry, reduce recidivism, overcome trauma and offer viable alternatives to gang affiliation. Our mentors share many of the same lived experiences as the people we serve. We seek funds to support our 8-module Organizational Transformation Program designed for those who work with our population to ensure their success.

Racial & Social Justice

To ignite community-led efforts to address systemic racism and increase racial and social equity across San Diego.

BIPOC Support Foundation

Focus Areas:

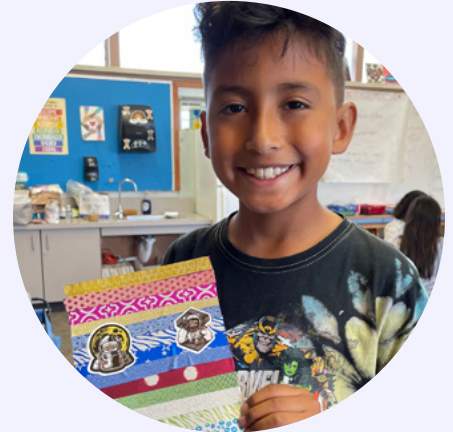
- Academic Achievement
- Career Pathways
- Mentoring
- Social-Emotional Well-Being Enrichment

Contact: DeMilo Young

demilo@bipocsupportfoundation.org

(888) 695-2476

bipoc-support-foundation.webflow.io



The BIPOC Support Foundation (BSF) addresses issues such as social isolation, reduced outdoor activity and high stress environments that make adjusting to devastating events more difficult for BIPOC youth. BIPOC students suffered higher rates of learning loss during COVID-19. And, they lack educational and cultural experiences compared to their more affluent peers. Narrowing this learning gap requires whole-child support, covering educational disparities and mental, physical and emotional health. BSF needs support for onsite programming at Title I schools and extended summer learning programs.

Chicano Park Museum and Cultural Center

Focus Areas:

- Cultural Arts
- Cultural Center/Museum
- Education
- Preservation

Contact: Valerie Jaimes

vjaimes.cpmcc@gmail.com

(619) 501-4176

chicanoparkmuseum.org



The Chicano Park Museum and Cultural Center (CPMCC) focuses on Chicano, Latino, Mexican, and Indigenous exhibitions, research, and interpretations of art, history in Logan Heights, the Mexico-U.S. border region, and California, and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). It offers cultural education, events and impactful programs like Environmental Justice and STEAM initiatives. The CPMCC's impact includes supporting 60+ students in the last three years through Chicano Park Scholarships. The Board of Directors is proud to offer these services in the original Chicano Park building.

County of San Diego Black Chamber of Commerce

Focus Area:
Inclusive Economic Development

Contact: Donna DeBerry
info@sdblackchamber.org
(619) 269-9400
sdblackchamber.org



The County of San Diego Black Chamber of Commerce utilizes innovative programs, networking opportunities and business partnerships to advance and strengthen inclusive economic development throughout San Diego. Our mission is to create generational wealth through business enterprise, education, employment and investment. The Urban Business Resource Center (UBRC) is a recent initiative designed to uplift disadvantaged communities. It offers free education, resources, networking, grants, and capacity-building support to small businesses and entrepreneurs at any stage of business development.



Little Saigon San Diego

Focus Areas:

- Arts & Culture
- Creative Placemaking
- Cultural Center
- Health Equity
- Youth Creativity

Contact: Tram B. Lam
contact@littlesaigonsandiego.org
(619) 362-6066
littlesaigonsandiego.org

At Little Saigon San Diego, we believe social equity and racial equality can be achieved through the sense of belonging. We revitalize community infrastructure, such as buildings and sidewalks, enabling everyone to connect with their story and take ownership of their community. This fosters self-advocacy and economic independence. Justice and fairness will eliminate hatred, discrimination, and racism, fostering kindness and empathy in our community. Our programs promote cultural awareness and youth leadership.

Pillars of the Community

Focus Areas:

- Court Support
- Education Not Incarceration
- Police Accountability
- Political Education

Contact: Khalid Alexander
khalid@potcsd.org
potcsd.org

Pillars of the Community (POTC) is dedicated to helping those affected by the criminal justice system and countering the impacts of criminalization on communities. Grounded in the Islamic faith and values of compassion, respect and dignity of every human being, POTC uses storytelling, community empowerment and leadership development to celebrate and uplift the rich, diverse culture of Southeast San Diego. Programs integrate a bottom-up approach to community organizing and train those closest to the pain to become leaders who advance a healthy and thriving community.



Workforce Development

To provide access to career training, education, internships, apprenticeships and other upskilling opportunities for our future workforce.

Black Tech Link

Focus Areas:

- Careers
- College
- Diversity
- STEM Education
- Youth

Contact: Elizabeth Cotton-Harps

elizabeth@blacktechlink.org

(951) 223-1030

blacktechlink.org



Black Tech Link provides STEM learning and networking opportunities for Black and other underrepresented communities. We aim to create a more inclusive environment by uplifting and retaining diverse talent in the San Diego region. Our signature STEM pipeline program supports students in developing basic and digital literacy through a variety of STEM projects that include web design and coding, hardware engineering, GIS training and robotics. We seek funding support for Google Chromebooks, software licenses for ArcGIS and additional hardware for our robotics projects.

Girls Rising

Focus Areas:

- Empowerment
- Mentorship
- Underserved Youth

Contact: Ashley Blanc

ablanc@girlsrisingsd.org

(858) 722-0710

girlsrisingsd.org



Girls Rising empowers girls and young women from underserved communities reach their potential through women mentors. Our mentorship program pairs girls aged 8-17 with mentors based on interests, location and shared experiences. We also host events throughout the year, including LoveYOURSELF for Valentine's Day, Back to School events and more. For young women aged 18-24, our Women Emerging program offers life coaching, professional development workshops and personalized guidance. Women Emerging Reentry, for those soon to be released from Las Colinas Women's Detention Facility, includes two pre-release life coaching sessions.

Sherman Heights Community Center

Focus Areas:

- Arts & Culture
- Community
- Food Security
- Health & Wellness
- Seniors
- Youth

Contact: Daniela Kelly

daniela@historicbarriodistrict.org

(619) 232-5181

shermanheightscc.org



The Sherman Heights Community Center annually serves 20,000 individuals, many from low-income Latino/Chicano/Latinx and immigrant communities. Most live in Spanish-speaking, multigenerational homes. Our programs, services and partnerships ensure the community has access to healthy foods, after-school care, health and wellness services, digital literacy classes, cultural heritage workshops and family celebrations, such as our Dia de los Muertos celebration. The center serves to bridge generations and neighborhoods in celebration and in service of the community.

Treobytes

Focus Areas:

- Career Certifications
- STEM Education
- Underserved Populations
- Vocational Pathways

Contact: Ava Mason

ava@treobytes.com

(619) 855-5129

treobytes.org



California's students are falling behind in STEM. Treobytes, a leading STEM nonprofit, empowers underprivileged communities by building vocational competencies, digital literacy and technology skills. Our programs bridge the digital divide. In nine years, we've increased STEM knowledge for over 15,000 students and offered vocational pathways to STEM careers. Your support will help expand our reach, helping students recover from pandemic-related gaps in Math and Science. Funding needs include our STEM Summer Camp, coding, robotics equipment, technology workshops and teaching technologies.

Giving Together

At SDF, our strategic, discretionary grantmaking addresses the greatest challenges in our region. You can participate by making a contribution or grant to an SDF program fund designated to support these six areas of community need.

Strategic Initiatives Fund



Advance our vision for just, equitable and resilient communities throughout the region.

Children & Families



Provide equitable access to mental, behavioral and physical health and well-being services for children and families.

Climate & Environment



Reduce our region's polluting emissions, protect biodiversity, and minimize local risks from climate change.

Education & College Access



Enable more students from underserved communities to prepare for, access and persevere through college.

Racial & Social Justice



Support community-led efforts to address systemic racism and increase racial and social equity across San Diego.

Workforce Development



Promote access to career training, education, internships, apprenticeships and other upskilling opportunities.



Address Critical Needs

You can make a grant from your DAF to an SDF program fund through our online donor portal at SDFoundation.org/MySDF. To learn more about these initiatives, contact Amenah Gulamhusein, Senior Director of Strategic Initiatives, at (619) 319-0388 or agulamhusein@sdfoundation.org.

Vision

Just, equitable and resilient communities.

Mission

We inspire enduring philanthropy and enable community solutions to improve the quality of life in our region.

Contact Us

Your philanthropy is personal. We are here to support your impact and community engagement.

Contact the Donor Services Team at DonorServices@sdfoundation.org or (619) 814-1332 for support.

2508 Historic Decatur Rd., Ste. 200
San Diego, CA 92106

SDFoundation.org

