



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# City of San Diego Highlights Community and Inclusivity During Welcoming Week

## ANNUAL CELEBRATION REAFFIRMS CITY'S COMMITMENT TO FOSTER A WELCOMING SAN DIEGO

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego is joining communities across the country to celebrate Welcoming Week starting today, Sept. 10, through Sunday, Sept. 19. The annual event aims to build strong community connections and highlight the shared experiences that bring Americans together. This year's theme, "Belonging Begins With Us," encourages people to help others feel seen, welcomed and included in their communities.

**"San Diego is a welcoming city. We value diversity and recognize that it is our strength," said Mayor Todd Gloria. "Whether it's through opening up our Convention Center to provide refuge to migrant children or hiring a new Immigrant Affairs Manager to carry out our 'Welcoming San Diego' initiative, my vision is that we not only welcome new San Diegans but also set them up to thrive."**

In keeping with his commitment to ensuring San Diego continues to be a welcoming city, Mayor Todd Gloria recently co-led a resolution supporting Afghan allies in their efforts to safely relocate to the U.S. The resolution was approved by the U.S. Conference of Mayors and affirms communities and residents across the country, including in San Diego, are ready to welcome Afghan allies and their families as friends and new neighbors.

The City will celebrate Citizenship Day on Sept. 17 and the buildings of Balboa Park will be lit up to celebrate Welcoming Week.

**"If we model inclusivity and compassion and uphold human rights and dignity, not just in our words but also in our actions, we will be building upon San Diego's welcoming foundation in our communities and our region," said Immigrant Affairs Manager Farhat Popal. "Through the City's participation in Welcoming Week, we're asking community members to commit to fostering inclusion in our City."**

The San Diego Public Library (SDPL) is also helping to foster a welcoming San Diego with new welcome stations at each open library [location](#), including information for new residents. SDPL will also feature Welcoming Week storytimes on the SDPL [Virtual Hub](#) and resources for new Americans on the SDPL [website](#).

More information on Welcoming Week can be found on [WelcomingAmerica.org](#).

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