



OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH NEWSLETTER



SUCCESS

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THE OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH SUCCESS

ABOUT US

The Office of Child and Youth Success will serve as a navigation and connection point for residents seeking supportive services and programming for youth ages 24 and below.

OUR MISSION

The Office of Child and Youth Success is dedicated to prioritizing San Diego's youngest community by providing access to resources, services, and high-quality programs to improve social, health, and educational outcomes.



VIRTUAL TOWN HALL MEETINGS 2023



Thursday,
June 1st,
from 5 pm
to 7 pm.

District 7

Saturday,
June 3rd,
from 10
am to 12
pm.

District 4

Wednesday,
June 7th,
from 5 pm
to 7 pm.

District 1

Wednesday,
June 14th,
from 5 pm to
7 pm.

District 3

Monday,
June 29th,
from 5 pm
to 7 pm.

District 2



EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT



WHY EARLY CHILDHOOD MATTERS

A child's early years can have lifelong physical, social, and emotional impacts. While positive experiences and environments can set up a young child on a stronger life-long path, traumatic experiences or environments during those formative years can have long-lasting, detrimental impact.



In particular, the time between birth and age 3 is a period of rapid brain development when billions of connections between individual neurons are established. Mechanisms and interventions to support that development must be available beginning at birth.

Early childhood experiences from birth to age 8 affect the development of the brain's architecture, which provides the foundation for all future learning, behavior and health. A strong foundation helps children develop the skills they need to become well-functioning adults.

The experiences children have early in life play a crucial role in the development of the brain. Exposure to positive factors, especially stable and responsive relationships with parents and other adults, and safe and supportive environments promote positive development.



HAPPY PRIDE MONTH



Pride month is a special time to come together and celebrate the LGBTQ community. During this time, celebration includes parades, personal reflection, and demonstrations. Pride started following the Stonewall Riots in 1969. Members of the LGBTQ community in New York City were responding to police raids at the Stonewall Inn and other lesbian and gay bars. The riots marked a turning point in the gay liberation movement and the twentieth-century fight for LGBTQ rights in the U.S.

As the years went on, other cities and countries began to hold their own public demonstrations or "Pride Day," leading to what we currently known as "Pride Month."

TRANS COMMUNITY AND HOMELESS YOUTH

LGBTQ youth struggle with housing as they transition from children to young adults. Many kids were ejected from their homes solely based on their sexual orientation or gender identity. Homelessness can affect anyone, research has shown that those who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ+) have a 120% higher risk of experiencing some form of homelessness. With up to 40% of the 4.2 million youth experiencing homelessness identifying as LGBTQ+ while only 9.5% of the U.S. population, LGBTQ+ youth disproportionately experience homelessness compared to their straight and cisgender peers.

These youth get left without access to support, stable housing, mental health services, educational and employment support, medical testing, or places to build connections. Spaces where youth can explore, expand, evolve, and embrace their understanding of sexual orientation, romantic orientation, gender identity, and gender expression are essential towards creating inclusive communities. LGBTQ+ youth have unique needs based on their identities, and having an inclusive community that welcomes them helps build a relationship with themselves and others.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO TEACH KIDS ABOUT PRIDE?

LGBTQ youth struggle with housing as they transition from children to young adults. Research has shown that this access and inclusion are essential as society becomes more diverse. Knowledge helps kids feel safer, valued, and more confident. Whether your child identifies as LGBTQ, is an ally, or has no prior understanding of the topic, teaching about Pride is a sure way to develop their empathy and compassion and establish an education on LGBTQ history.



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[SUPPORT](#)

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SUMMER READING PROGRAM



Find Your Voice!

2023 Summer Reading Program | June 1st - August 31st

Discover your voice during the Summer Reading Program! San Diego residents of all ages are encouraged to sign up for this event and use their voices to share their stories, express themselves, and spark change. Complete a combination of 10 books, hours of reading or activities to claim your prizes.



Participants can log books, hours, and activities online by [clicking here](#) OR by completing a paper log. Print from home or stop by any San Diego Public Library to pick up your reading log starting June 1.



WIN PASSES TO THE SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM, SAN DIEGO NEW CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, THE SAN DIEGO MODEL RAILROAD MUSEUM +MORE



Presented by:



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JUNETEENTH



WHAT THE DAY MEAN TO YOU

- Makayla Scott OCYS Youth and Empower Management Intern, Urban Planner

"Juneteenth, to me, is my Fourth of July. It is a time for celebration but mostly a time for remembrance. It is essential to pass along the correct information on what occurred during this time so that history does not repeat itself. I want to bring power to being black, release and rejoice for our freedom, and recognize all who devoted so much time, blood, sweat (and) tears so we could live freely. This holiday means everything to me, and I will continue to uplift the tradition of such a beautiful culture."

NEW BEGINNINGS FOR CITY EMPLOYEES

A message from the Mayor

"The official acknowledgment and recognition of this significant day in American History is an important step for the City of San Diego," said Mayor Gloria. "The ending of slavery is a pivotal moment that should be honored and celebrated. I encourage San Diegans to set aside time on Juneteenth to reflect on our country's history, including the parts that are painful, and to help us work towards designing a more equitable future without systemic racism."

Juneteenth



June Events 2023

Friday | 2

First Friday La Jolla Art Walk

First ever PRIDE-themed First Friday Art walk in the Village of La Jolla to celebrate our wonderful and diverse LGBTQ+ community.

MORE INFO 

Friday | 2

Juneteenth at Balboa Park

“This year we’re bringing more artists, more vendors, and more members of our community together to not only celebrate Juneteenth, but to protest systemic racism and police brutality.”

MORE INFO 

Friday | 2

Juneteenth Wellness Festival

“...plant-based food, art, music and a variety of live fitness classes...This is the perfect day to dedicate yourself to uplifting the Black Community, exploring creativity, educating on wellness, fostering togetherness and, of course, CELEBRATING life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.”

MORE INFO 

Thursday | 20

San Diego350's Carnival for Climate.

Climate-related carnival games, face painting, art activities and ways to get involved in the climate movement.

MORE INFO 

Sunday | 4

Rock 'n' Roll San Diego

Starting at Balboa Park and finishing in Downtown San Diego, you'll explore up to eight well-known neighborhoods.

MORE INFO 

Saturday | 24

San Diego Pride 2023

The San Diego Pride Festival is host to a variety of local and national organizations.

MORE INFO 

Are you planning a special event in San Diego and need planning help? Please visit.

CLICK 

HERE



CONGRATULATIONS!

The City of San Diego's Office of Child and Youth Success would like to congratulate all the graduates of 2023. Our team wishes you the best of luck in your next chapter!

