



## PRESS RELEASE

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### ***Downtown San Diego Partnership Teams Up with Regional Task Force on WeAllCount*** *Elected officials and city leaders connect with Downtown San Diego's homeless population one-on-one in Point-in-Time count*

Annually, The Downtown San Diego Partnership has collaborated with the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH) for their annual WeAllCount event. The San Diego region participates in the Point-in-Time Count, known as "We All Count," by bringing together hundreds of volunteers to identify and survey homeless individuals throughout San Diego. Over 100 volunteers, including elected and public officials, business owners and community leaders gathered at 4 a.m. at Golden Hall this morning to attend the Downtown count and connect with our homeless population one-on-one.

For the first time in the count's history, surveys were entirely electronic, which will aid in more accurate and timely data being reported amongst key service providers. All volunteers traveled in small groups, each led by one of Downtown San Diego Partnership's outreach coordinators, to a census track near City Hall to count unsheltered individuals as well as survey willing participants. Many individuals in Downtown were eager to be heard and share their experiences. The event was well supported by local and state elected officials which included: Governor Gavin Newsom, Congressman Scott Peters, Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins, Assembly Majority Whip Todd Gloria, Chairman Greg Cox, Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, Council President Georgette Gomez, Councilmember Chris Ward, and City Attorney Mara Elliott.

"Today was truly inspiring. By connecting one-on-one with our Downtown homeless population, our elected officials, business leaders and volunteers gathered meaningful data which will help improve our policies and drive real change for our community" said Betsy Brennan, President & CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership. "We're grateful for our partner, the Regional Task Force on the Homeless, for their dedication to this important WeAllCount effort."

WeAllCount is a regional event coordinated by the RTFH, with hundreds of volunteers dispersing across greater San Diego to count homeless individuals and to gain a better understanding of factors involved in homelessness. While the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development only requires a count be performed every other year, San Diego has made it a priority to conduct a census annually. Results from the count will be published in an online report which will provide a greater understanding of our community's needs and help improve policies, direct funding, and inform the community.

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*The Downtown San Diego Partnership is a member-based, nonprofit organization focused on representing Downtown San Diego as the leading economic, cultural, and government center of the region to our more than 11,000 property owners and 400 business members. For more information, visit [www.downtownsandiego.org](http://www.downtownsandiego.org).*