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Celebrating 20 Years of Nonprofit Investments in San Diego, BofA Announces The Campanile Foundation at SDSU and Downtown San Diego Partnership Foundation its 2024 Neighborhood Builder Honorees

Each Receives a Multiyear Grant & Comprehensive Leadership Training to Expand Critical Services

San Diego, Calif. – Celebrating its 20th year, Bank of America’s signature [Neighborhood Builders®](#) program continues to be one of the nation’s largest philanthropic investments into nonprofit leadership development while providing unique multiyear flexible grant funding annually to high-impact nonprofits in nearly 100 communities nationwide. In San Diego, Bank of America has named The Campanile Foundation at San Diego State University (SDSU) and Downtown San Diego Partnership Foundation as its 2024 Neighborhood Builders.

Specifically, both San Diego nonprofits are each awarded a \$200,000 grant over two years, comprehensive leadership training for each organization’s executive director and an emerging leader, and access to a national network of nonprofit peers. Since the program’s inception in 2004, 32 nonprofits have been selected as Neighborhood Builders in San Diego, with the bank investing more than \$6 million in philanthropic capital into these local nonprofits.

“This year we celebrate 20 years of strengthening San Diego nonprofits that provide solutions to local challenges and promote economic advancement. We’re proud to include The Campanile Foundation and Downtown San Diego Partnership as Neighborhood Builders,” said Rick Bregman, president, Bank of America San Diego. “Countless individuals, families and neighborhoods have felt the profound impact that these 32 Neighborhood Builder nonprofits have had in San Diego over the past two decades.”

2024 recipient [The Campanile Foundation at SDSU](#) will apply its Neighborhood Builders grant to expand its Progresando En Salud initiative by providing academic support to ensure students have access to tutoring and peer mentoring services while creating a network for academic guidance and assistance; professional development to equip students with the knowledge and tools necessary to prepare them for the healthcare workforce; career opportunities that connect students with healthcare professionals and offer first-hand experience through high-impact practices; and financial assistance to reduce barriers that hinder educational and professional goals and achievements.

“Support for our Progresando program helps to advance careers by improving retention and graduation rates, by offering vital tools and resources to empower our students and help them succeed in the healthcare field,” said Adrienne Vargas, SDSU Vice President of University Relations & Development.

This year's other Neighborhood Builder awardee is the [Downtown San Diego Partnership Foundation](#), a nonprofit organization committed to advancing the economic prosperity and cultural vitality of Downtown San Diego. The Downtown Partnership is also a leader in connecting individuals downtown with housing and services. Today, 800 people are unhoused in the city's downtown area, an ongoing problem that demands new approaches. The organization will use its grant funds to launch a new Workforce Readiness Certificate Program that provides those staying in the nonprofit's shelter program, contracted through the City of San Diego, with an opportunity to gain work and life skills ranging from professional work environments, skilled trades, financial training, wellness and self-care. The goal is to help individuals re-enter the workforce and ultimately end cycles of homelessness.

"We have seen firsthand the impact that thoughtful programming can make in helping our unhoused clients prepare for and be successful in making the transition into long-term housing stability. The Workforce Readiness Certificate Program will be instrumental in helping individuals learn skills, build confidence, and practice routines that empower them to re-enter the workforce and become financially self-sufficient," said Betsy Brennan, President & CEO of the Downtown San Diego Partnership.

Past San Diego Neighborhood Builders include: ACCION San Diego, Metropolitan Area Advisory Committee, Barrio Logan College Institute (BCLI), Junior Achievement of San Diego & Imperial County, Casa Familiar, Senior Community Centers, Community Housing Works, Voices for Children, Ocean Discovery Institute (Aquatic Adventures Education Foundation), San Diego Second Chance Program, City Heights Community Development Corporation, Urban Corps of San Diego County, The Chicano Federation, Reality Changers, Parent Institute for Quality Education, STAR/PAL, Just in Time for Foster Youth, Workshops for Warriors, San Diego Center for Children, Goodwill Industries of San Diego, National Conflict Resolution Center, LISC, Alpha Project, Kitchens for Good, Neighborhood House Association, Big Brothers Big Sisters of San Diego County, Urban League of San Diego County, Ocean Discovery Institute, Mana de San Diego, and San Diego Habitat for Humanity.

The Neighborhood Builders invitation-only program is highly competitive, and honorees are selected by a committee comprised of community leaders and past Neighborhood Builders awardees. Nationwide since 2004, Bank of America has invested over \$300 million into nearly 1,800 nonprofits and helped more than 3,000 nonprofit leaders strengthen their leadership skills through the Neighborhood Builders program.

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