



NEWSLETTER

SAN DIEGO COLLEGE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION **FOUNDATION**



Apprenticeship Readiness Program Graduates 13th Cohort

In November 2024, the Apprenticeship Readiness Program reached an exciting milestone with the graduation of its **13th cohort**. This year, **21** dedicated students successfully completed the program with the skills and knowledge needed to take the next steps in their careers.



Accomplishments:

- The program has reached its 13th cohort, equipping students with the tools to excel in the trades.
- This cohort includes 21 newly trained individuals, ready to contribute to their communities.
- Graduates are already taking steps toward union membership, showing their preparedness to begin impactful careers in the industry.

PATHWAYS PROGRAM

Pathways, a retention model program for SDCCE's homeless students designed to create educational communities that provide intensive and direct student support services, is wrapping up yet another successful grant cycle. Over the last two years, Pathways has served **99 participants** and over **120 affiliates** with a variety of services including assistance for basic needs, transportation aid, and job placement services.

Many of Pathway's students have persevered and succeeded in a variety of ways! **68** participants have secured and/or maintained employment and **52** participants have improved their housing situation during their time in Pathways. We are proud of each and every student in the Pathways program and their dedication to achieving their educational and employment goals, and Pathways is excited to serve more students in the coming years!



CALWORKS & TOYS FOR TOTS HOLIDAY SUPPORT

Toys for Tots, a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve, provides toys to children whose families are unable to afford gifts for Christmas. In support of this initiative, the Foundation is donating **100 gift cards** to students in the SDCCE CalWORKs Program.

This collaboration between CalWORKs and Toys for Tots ensures that students receiving public assistance through the San Diego College of Continuing Education can give their children holiday gifts. The gift cards offer families the flexibility to select appropriate gifts for older children, while also alleviating some financial pressure and meeting essential needs.





Mr. Al Abdallah

President and CEO,
San Diego Urban League

NEW BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

At the Foundation's November 2024 Board meeting, Mr. Al Abdallah was appointed as the newest board member. As the President and CEO of the San Diego Urban League, Mr. Abdallah brings extensive board experience. He joined the Urban League of San Diego County in 2016 as Chief Operating Officer, following a distinguished 27-year career at State Farm Insurance in various roles.

A proud veteran, Mr. Abdallah served in the U.S. Army for three years. He holds a B.A. in Economics from Long Beach State University. Mr. Abdallah's expertise and vision will be a tremendous asset to our Board.

GATEWAY & ELEVATEU PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Students in both the Gateway Program which supports the community by **building pathways** for disconnected youth to earn a high school diploma or high school equivalency; connections to employment and internship opportunities and the ElevateU Program, a program that focuses on aiding transition-age foster youth and disconnected youth towards self-sufficiency have had a busy and rewarding season, engaging in activities and opportunities designed to support their growth and success. From celebrating Halloween with festive activities to earning Typing Course Certificates, these students are making the most of their educational journey.

A highlight of the season was the **Financial Aid workshop** hosted in collaboration with Cal Coast Credit Union. This event provided students with valuable resources and guidance on navigating the financial aid process, empowering them to make informed decisions about funding their education.





CEO/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S *Corner*

As I reflect on my first 10 months as the CEO/Executive Director of the Foundation, I am filled with a profound sense of honor and privilege. Each day, I am inspired by the dedication and passion that drives our mission forward. It is truly a joy to come to work and collaborate with such an exceptional team.

Our students are nothing short of amazing. Despite the barriers they may face each day, they show up with resilience and determination, embodying the spirit of our Foundation. Their perseverance is a constant reminder of why our work is so important.

I am also deeply grateful for the unwavering support of our community. As a proud member of this community, I have witnessed firsthand the collective effort and commitment that fuels our success. Together, we are making a meaningful impact, and I am excited about the future we are building.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment.

Happy Holidays to You and Yours!

Tami Foy, Ph.D.



Dr. Tami Foy

CEO/Executive Director of
SDCCE Foundation