

## **San Diego Businesses & Nonprofits Join Forces to Up-Skill Workers for Region's Future Job Demands**

One of the most important building blocks for a strong, sustainable San Diego economy is the development of a talented workforce to stay competitive and drive responsible growth.

Even though I work for a bank, I often spend just as much time speaking with business owners and other leaders about people than I do about capital – underscoring the fact that a top business concern these days is attracting qualified people from a shrinking pool of talent.

My own employer, Bank of America, has made workforce development a top philanthropic priority with the region's tremendous nonprofit and academic sectors. Our focus is to help prepare new and returning talent for the job skills needs of tomorrow, and to develop strategies that better connect the needs of employers with training providers.

Recently, the bank awarded \$530,000 in grants to 36 local nonprofits that provide educational and workforce development services to young adults and people from economically disadvantaged communities. Many of these outstanding organizations offer supportive wrap around services fundamental to building lifelong stability.

This includes a grant to the [San Diego Regional Chamber Foundation](#) to benefit its 2019 Regional Jobs Strategy Dashboard. With support from Bank of America, the Foundation focuses on its goal of placing the attention of the business community on job creation and economic growth.

Another partner doing great work in this space is the [San Diego Workforce Partnership](#) which goes beyond resume writing with an integrated approach to workforce development that addresses factors like education, child care, housing and healthcare that are key to empowering people to attain sustainable jobs.

Grant recipient [San Diego Regional Economic Development Foundation](#), is a demand-driven, employer-led, sustainable talent pipeline that draws from San Diego's underrepresented communities. It streamlines delivery of information from employers to educators, challenges educators to revise curriculum, formally recognizes feeder programs for high-demand jobs, and provides small businesses access to talent.

We are honored to partner with organizations making such impactful contributions to our San Diego business community.

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