



LIFE SCIENCE CARES
san diego

Impact Report

2024





Our North Star

Life Science Cares San Diego **activates** and **amplifies** the life science community to **transform the lives** of tens of thousands of San Diegans by **empowering access** to basic needs, education, career pathways, and equitable healthcare that **support upward mobility** for systemically under-resourced community members and future generations.



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Letter from Executive Director and Board Chair

Dear Life Science Cares San Diego Community,

As we reflect on 2024, we are filled with gratitude for the incredible impact we have made together. Thanks to the generosity, dedication, and passion of our life science community, we have driven meaningful change across San Diego—empowering individuals, strengthening families, and creating pathways to opportunity for those who need it most.

This year, we awarded more than \$1.9 million to 20 remarkable nonprofit partners, including our first-ever Innovation Grants. These multi-year investments will help under-resourced students enter and excel in the workforce, ensuring long-term success. At the heart of our mission is the transformational work of our nonprofit partners, who are on the front lines every day—providing essential services, empowering students to thrive, and creating economic opportunities that lift families out of poverty. To our nonprofit partners, thank you for your unwavering commitment to supporting San Diegans in need.

Beyond financial contributions, our community stepped up in action—volunteering more than 12,000 hours to support our nonprofit partners, serve on committees to strengthen LSC's capacity, and mentor Project Onramp interns who represent the next generation of industry leaders.

None of this would be possible without our generous donors, dedicated Board of Advisors, engaged corporate partners, and passionate volunteers. Your contributions of time, talent, and resources are breaking the cycle of poverty and creating lasting change.

Looking ahead, we are energized by the possibilities before us. Together, we will continue to harness the power of the life science industry to build a stronger, more empowered community. The momentum we've created is just the beginning, and we can't wait to see the impact we will make—together.

With gratitude and excitement,



Tom Daniel
Board Chair



Trisha Millican
Vice Chair



Alicia Kitagawa
Executive Director

Our Impact

Life Science Cares activates the **financial, human & social** capital of the life science industry and partners with nonprofits to disrupt the cycle of poverty and inequality in our communities.

We envision all of our neighbors having access to basic needs, access to education, and access to opportunity.

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$1.49 million

granted to 20 SD nonprofits

\$435K

Additional funds committed in Innovation Grant Funding for 2025 and 2026

12,320+

hours volunteered with Life Science Cares, Project Onramp, and local nonprofits

2024 FINANCIAL IMPACT

\$2,404,095

 raised in 2024

● **Corporate Contributions & Partnerships**
\$1,320,707

● **Board of Advisors**
\$244,000

● **Life Science Cares National**
\$236,565

● **Board of Managers**
\$235,000

● **Leadership Circle**
\$137,500

● **In-kind Donations**
\$132,533

● **Event Sponsorships**
\$52,500

● **Individual Contributions**
\$45,290

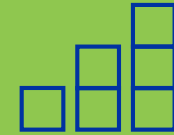
Nonprofit Partners



BASIC NEEDS



EDUCATION



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY



Nonprofit Partners



Over 100,000 children in San Diego County are food insecure.

That's 14.5% of the population under 18, a higher percentage than at the height of the pandemic.

"Our son is in transitional kindergarten here at Perry Elementary School. We've been living in San Diego for about five years now. I'm active-duty military and we live near here in military housing. We learned about this [Feeding San Diego's School Pantry] once we got our kid in school here.

It is fantastic to be able to utilize their program at a school that we visit every day. It helps us out a lot. We're on a fixed budget, as everybody is. This helps out immensely, especially whenever we're picking up fresh fruits and veggies for the kids."



"We're spending close to \$100 a week just in fresh fruits and veggies and this helps out a lot."

Patrick and Melissa, Perry Elementary School Pantry

Nonprofit Partners



EDUCATION
SUPPORT



High school students participating in BLCI maintained a 3.8 average GPA.

100% of graduating seniors from the program enrolled in college.

Zimri joined Barrio Logan College Institute (BLCI) as a third grader and stayed active with the program until he graduated from high school. Inspired by the understanding he gained at BLCI of higher education's power to create a new future, Zimri tapped the expertise of BLCI college application tutors and invested hours with them for support with filling out applications, drafting personal statements, and applying for scholarships.



Zimri's dedication paid off when he earned a full scholarship to California State University, Chico. Likening BLCI to a second home, Zimri emphasized its support as crucial to his success.

Now a Senior Quality Assurance Engineer, Zimri is committed to giving back to students from similar backgrounds.



The Life Science Cares Innovation Grant helped fuel Just in Time's Trade School Program.

Designed to create long-term solutions for advancing economic mobility among the next generation of local talent.

These grants are specially designed to help individuals excel in the workforce. Each program supported by an Innovation Grant will focus on building clear pathways to success and will measure specific outcomes to assess the impact of the programs.



"I finally had the opportunity to pursue my long-standing goal of earning certification in IT and Cybersecurity. Growing up in foster care, I faced significant challenges, but I've always remained resilient. I'm not just gaining new skills—I'm building a pathway to a long-term career that I'm truly passionate about."

"This opportunity has given me renewed confidence in my future and the tools to achieve it."

Kevin G

Project Onramp creates paid summer internships for college students who are under-resourced and underrepresented, helping to bridge the opportunity gap for these promising young people.

In 2024, Life Science Cares placed 40 Project Onramp interns in San Diego life science companies.

The organization hopes to place 65 interns in 2025.



Harir's family fled war and violence for nine years, finally immigrating to the United States as refugees. Speaking only Arabic when she started school in San Diego, she seized the opportunity and excelled academically, graduating quickly from English learning classes and moving to honors and AP courses.

She enrolled as a student at San Diego State University, and through Life Science Cares' Project Onramp program, she gained valuable experience including an internship with Acadia Pharmaceuticals. Harir is on track to graduate in May 2025 and is working with Life Science Cares' corporate partner Architect Therapeutics.

"Where I come from will never stop me from where I'm going," Harir powerfully states.

How We Strive to Alleviate Poverty in San Diego

We activate the financial, human, and social capital of the life science community to disrupt the cycle of poverty locally.

LSC MODEL



Financial Capital

Grantmaking to carefully vetted local nonprofits engaged in highly impactful work within our pillars of impact



Human Capital

Hands-on and skills-based volunteerism by Board of Advisors and corporate partners with our nonprofit partners



Social Capital

Industry access and exposure through Project Onramp's paid summer internship and mentorship opportunities, as well as career panels and lab visits, for under-resourced students

INNOVATION GRANTS



Catalyzing Transformational Change

In 2024, we awarded our first Innovation Grants – multi-year grants designed to forge pathways for systemically under-resourced students to enter and excel in the workforce.

The creative programs funded by these grants are designed to provide long-term support to under-resourced students, ensuring positive outcomes that will empower them to rise out of poverty.

Junior Achievement of San Diego, Just in Time for Foster Youth, and SD2 were the inaugural recipients.

The creative programs funded by these grants are designed to provide long-term support to students in underserved communities, ensuring positive outcomes that will empower them to rise out of poverty.

Meet the People Who Make Change Happen

Responsible for the fiduciary and strategic oversight of Life Science Cares, the LSC Board of Managers contributes their time, talent, and treasure to ensure the sustainability and scalability of the organization's impact. Many thanks to this committed group of changemakers!

Board Of Managers



Scott Bechtler-Levin

Chief Customer Success
Officer, Amalgam RX



Wainwright Fishburn

Global Head of Digital Health,
Cooley LLP (Retired)
Chair, Critical Path Institute



Richard Heyman

Board of Trustee member, Salk Institute
for Biological Studies
Chairman of the BOD, ORIC
Pharmaceuticals and Architect
Therapeutics



Carin Canale-Theakston

Founder and CEO, Canale
Communications (retired)
Board of Directors,
Cidara and Peel Therapeutics



Carol Gallagher

Chairman, Recludix
Pharmaceuticals



Trisha Millican

Chief Financial Officer, Architect
Therapeutics
Board of Directors, ReCode Therapeutics
Board Vice Chair, Life Science Cares
San Diego



Thomas Daniel

Chairman, Board of Overseers &
Director, The Scripps Research Institute
Board Chair, Life Science
Cares San Diego



Faheem Hasnain

Chairman & Co-founder,
Gossamer Bio
Chairman, Aspen
Neuroscience & Sente Inc.
Chairman, Sling Therapeutics
Lead Director, Kura Oncology



Dr. Mark Sanchez

Superintendent/President, Southwestern
Community College District
Board Member, South County
Economic Development Council
Board Member, San Diego
Regional Chamber of Commerce
Board Member, Liberty Station-
NTC Foundation

Meet the People Who Make Change Happen

LSC Advisors are champions of our efforts within their organizations, connectors who leverage their network to help us grow, and contributors who ensure our operations and programs have the resources necessary to make an impact.

Board of Advisor members roll up their sleeves to serve on LSC committees, mentor Project Onramp students, and provide pro bono support to help our nonprofit partners build capacity. Life Science Cares is grateful for the commitment and support of our BOAs!

Board Of Advisors

Adam Lohr	Christian Waage	Eric Murphy	Jamie Christensen	Markus Renschler	Scott Moorefield
Ajay Kshatriya	Craig Knox	Erik Lundh	Jason Stewart	Mason Matthies	Shelly Meeusen
Alyssa Levin	Cris Calsada	Esther van den Boom	Jodi Smith-Ungrodt	Mike Dudley	Stacey Tyree
Alan Prohaska	Damien McDevitt	Fleming Jones	Joseph Castagnola	Mike Milligan	Stanley Lewis
America Thompson	Dan Bradbury	Gerry Hernandez	Josh Schimmer	Nancy Whiting	Steve Worland
Alana McNulty	Dan Estes	Greg Bisconti	Justin Gover	Neha Krishnamohan	Tasia Blazeovich
Amy Bergen	Dan Faga	Hala Mirza	Karen Deschaine	Ousmane Caba	Todd Harris
Angie You	Daniel Burgess	Holly Winter	Kevin Finney	Randy Levinson	Tom Coll
Ashley Van Zeeland	Daniel Schroeder	Hugh Leslie	Kristin Taylor	Randy Socol	Tom Woiwode
Bill Martin	Cathy Lee	Ida Khodami	Laure Escoubet	Robert Gaan	Travis Carter
Bill Rastetter	David Hale	Isan Chen	Lina Waage	Roberto Vieira	Troy Wilson
Brittany Bradrick	David Kabakoff	Jackie Hernandez	Linda Sierra	Robin Toft	Vickie Reed
Bruce Steel	DeeDee DeMan	Jacob Chacko	Mark Rothera	Sarah Bhagat	Vika Brough
Carmine Stengone	Emily McDonald	James MacKay	Mark Wiggins	Sarah Boyce	Zach Hornby

Interested in amplifying Life Science Cares' impact in the San Diego community? Reach out to kellyjo@lifesciencecares.org.

Leadership Circle

The Leadership Circle recognizes and engages individual donors who have committed or contributed \$50,000 or more cumulatively to Life Science Cares San Diego. As key contributors to our mission, Leadership Circle members drive meaningful change to disrupt the cycle of poverty and create lasting impact.

Their leadership and dedication to Life Science Cares cultivate a culture of giving and promote the values of community impact across the life science industry. Immense gratitude for the Leadership Circle members!



Celebrating top donors whose contributions leave a lasting legacy.

Tom Daniel & Barbara Muenzen
Rich Heyman & Anne Daigle Family Trust



Acknowledging leaders with the foresight to create a transformative impact.

Hasnain Family Trust



Honoring those who drive significant shifts in the community.

Charles & Carol Baum
Sarah Boyce
Carin & Hillary Canale-Theakston
Carol & John Gallagher
William Rastetter



Highlighting donors who fuel innovation and progress.

Rob Perez
Jeff Stein & Catherine Naughton Trust



Recognizing those who provide essential momentum for change.

Debbie & Wainwright Fishburn
David Kabakoff
Laura Shawver & Tracy Macuga
Trisha Millican & Family
Robin Toft

Corporate Partners

Thank you to our corporate partners, whose commitment empowers Life Science Cares to provide essential resources, support, and hope to individuals and families facing significant challenges! From offering lab tours that expose high school students to a career in biotech to donation drives that ensure families have food and students have school supplies to thrive, these companies are leaders in corporate social responsibility.



Put your skills to work

Join us in our mission to activate the financial, human, and social capital of the life science industry.

When you partner with us, you will be making a tangible difference in the San Diego community and providing your employees with purpose-driven initiatives and diverse volunteer opportunities that can increase engagement, enhance productivity, and reduce turnover.

How You Can Support Life Science Cares San Diego

Life Science Cares San Diego has many ways for individuals and companies to magnify the impact of our industry in San Diego.

FOR COMPANIES



Join us as a Corporate Partner

Allow us to develop a tailored plan to engage your employees with inspiring volunteer projects



Sponsor a Life Science Cares event

or our Project Onramp internship program



Pledge a portion of your next corporate financial milestone

to create lasting impact through our Life Science Shares program



Host a Project Onramp summer intern at your company

FOR INDIVIDUALS



Join our Board of Advisors

Help shape our programs and partnerships



Join our Leadership Circle



Pledge a portion of your future financial milestone

through our Life Science Shares program



Mentor a Project Onramp summer intern

For more information, please email kelleyjo@lifesciencecares.org.