



Life Science Cares
San Diego

2025 IMPACT REPORT





Our North Star



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

Table of Contents



- 4** Letter from Our Leadership
- 5** Our Impact in Numbers
- 6** Nonprofit Partners
- 7** Basic Needs - Nonprofit Partner Impact
- 9** Economic Opportunity - Nonprofit Partner Impact
- 11** Education - Nonprofit Partner Impact
- 13** Project Onramp
- 14** How We Strive to Alleviate Poverty in San Diego
- 15** Board of Managers
- 16** Board of Advisors
- 17** Leadership Circle
- 18** Corporate Partners
- 19** Be Part of the Impact





Alicia Kitagawa
Executive Director



Tom Daniel
Board Chair



Trisha Millican
Vice Chair

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, BOARD CHAIR, AND VICE CHAIR

Progress begins when a community chooses to act together.

At Life Science Cares San Diego, that spirit of collective action continues to grow stronger each year. As we reflect on 2025, we are deeply grateful for the extraordinary community that makes this work possible—our nonprofit partners, volunteers, corporate champions, and the many leaders across the life sciences industry who share a belief that together we can build a more equitable and resilient San Diego.

The life sciences industry is driven by innovation and discovery. At Life Science Cares San Diego, we see that same spirit applied to community impact—mobilizing the leadership, expertise, and generosity of our industry to expand opportunity and strengthen the communities where we live and work.

In 2025, we invested \$2 million in grants and scholarships, bringing our total investment to \$5.6 million since inception. These funds strengthened nonprofit partners and expanded access to basic needs, education, and economic opportunity across our region.

Our community also awarded \$120,000 in scholarships, raised more than \$320,000 through the Meet the Moment campaign to provide urgent support, and mobilized thousands of volunteer hours—including 2,000+ hours of skilled volunteerism, delivering an estimated \$305,000 in value to nonprofit partners.

We were honored to receive National Philanthropy Day’s Outstanding Philanthropic Institution Award, recognition that reflects the collective commitment of the Life Science Cares community.

Alongside this impact, 2025 marked a year of intentional growth. Through initiatives like the Leadership Circle and Council of Champions, we strengthened engagement across our network and set ambitious goals to scale our impact in the years ahead.

We are proud of what we have achieved, inspired by what is possible, and energized by the collective action that defines Life Science Cares San Diego. Together, we are building a powerful movement—and we are just getting started.

Our Impact



2025

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

\$2M+ granted

to 20 San Diego nonprofits and students

\$320K+

in emergency response funding

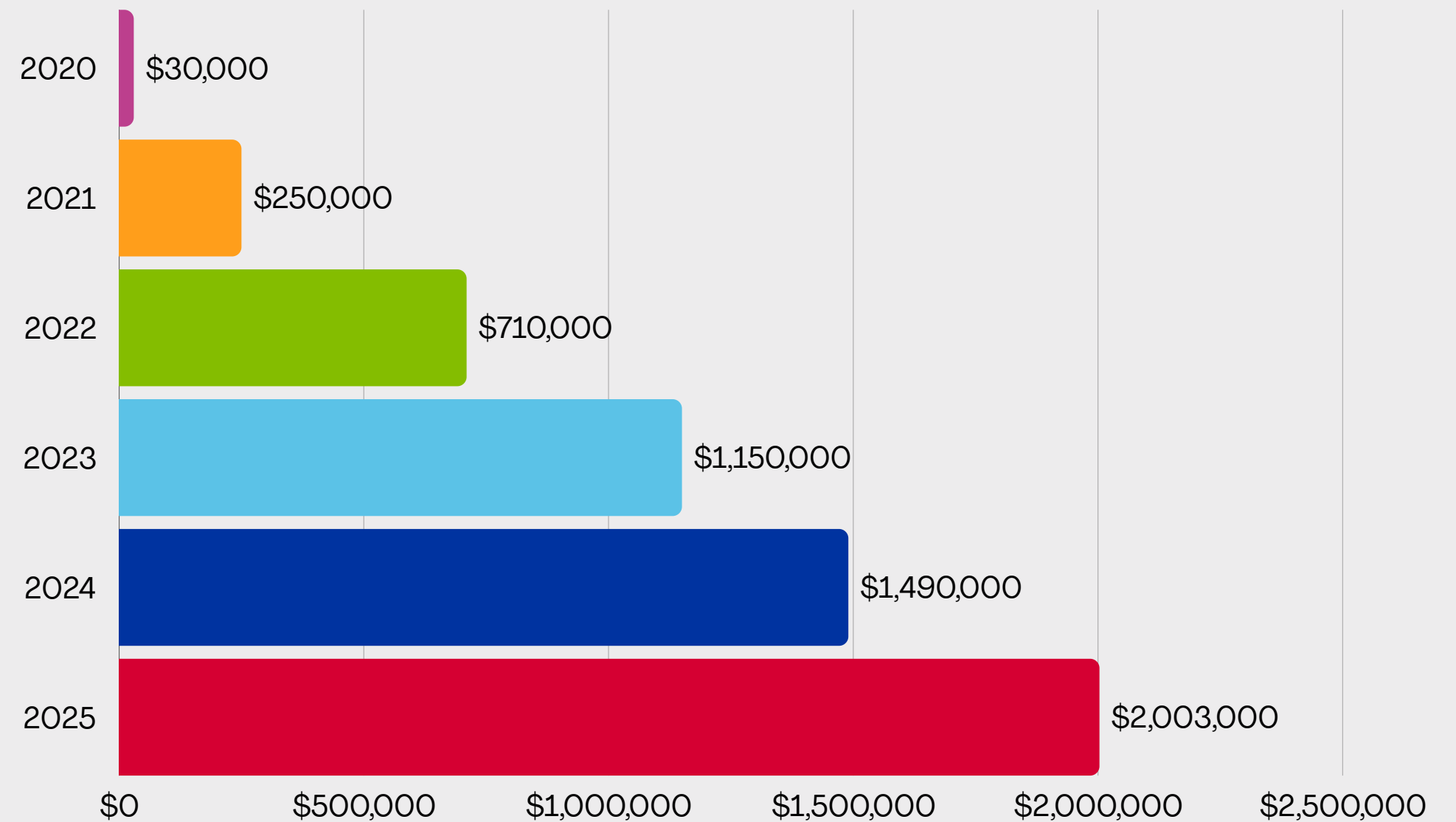
\$120K

distributed in scholarships

\$305K

in skilled volunteer value

Grantmaking Throughout the Years



TOTAL TO-DATE: **\$5,633,000**



Nonprofit Partners

BASIC NEEDS



HOPE through HOUSING®
FOUNDATION
SAN DIEGO



mama's kitchen

EDUCATION



ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY





Nonprofit Partners Basic Needs

Feeding San Diego

When families faced the loss of critical nutrition benefits, Feeding San Diego responded with urgency and compassion.

Life Science Cares stepped in to support these efforts, hosting a food distribution and organizing a food drive. Board members, their families, and our broader network came together to volunteer, donate, and mobilize resources, helping provide millions of meals to neighbors across San Diego County. **By combining Life Science Cares' community connections with Feeding San Diego's programs - school pantries, mobile distributions, and emergency response—families gained consistent access to nutritious food during a time of growing need.**



Mama's Kitchen

For Maria, a devoted mother living with Type 2 Diabetes, medically tailored meals were life-changing. After years of prioritizing her family's health over her own and repeated hospital visits, Maria was referred to Mama's Kitchen's Medically Tailored Meal Service. Through personalized meals and nutrition counseling, she gained the tools to manage her condition, reduce pain, and rebuild her independence.

Support from Life Science Cares helped strengthen this work. When federal funding cuts created uncertainty, Brittany Bradrick, CFO of Neurelis and Leadership Circle member, provided scenario planning guidance, helping the organization navigate challenges and continue serving clients.

Today, Maria has not returned to the hospital and feels hopeful for the first time in years—demonstrating how medically tailored meals can stabilize health, reduce hospital utilization, and restore dignity during recovery.



Serving Seniors

This year, Life Science Cares partnered with Ionis Pharmaceuticals, Inc. to support seniors in the community. Together, they assembled 150 care kits, donated additional items, and provided a holiday lunch. With festive decorations, music, and a visit from Santa, the event created a warm and celebratory atmosphere, highlighting the impact of community partnerships in uplifting seniors.

Initiatives like this demonstrate how Life Science Cares and its corporate partners actively engage to meet community needs. By providing essential items, meals, and moments of connection, these efforts support seniors' well-being and foster a sense of belonging.





Nonprofit Partners Basic Needs

Wesley House

In 2025, Wesley House continued to be a lifeline for low-income students, helping them navigate challenges and work toward self-sufficiency. The organization's food pantry doubled in size thanks to Life Science Cares' fall food drive, ensuring students and their families had access to nutritious meals after distributing over 200,000 pounds of food the previous year. With a new Housing Navigator on board, Wesley House strengthened community connections and created a dozen partnerships to help students facing homelessness find safe, stable housing. **Through these programs and services, Wesley House provides not just resources, but hope, stability, and a sense of community—helping students focus on their education and their future.**



Community Resource Center

In 2025, CRC's Food & Nutrition Center partnered with 17 North County grocery stores and 772 volunteers to provide fresh food to thousands of households, helping families redirect limited income toward rent, transportation, and healthcare. **With support from Life Science Cares through the Meet the Moment campaign, CRC's mobile food truck was able to reach even more families in need.**

Daniel's story illustrates the center's impact: after surviving an assault and living with a disability, he relies on CRC to feed his two foster children and aging mother. **"CRC has helped me out tremendously... I wouldn't know what to do if you weren't there,"** he shares, allowing him to maintain his home and help his children thrive.



Hope Through Housing

At Hope Through Housing, every child's potential matters. This year, Life Science Cares was invited to the ABFO conference, where attendees came together to support the organization by building STEM kits for the kids and writing personal cards of encouragement. These hands-on kits provide children with tools to explore science, technology, engineering, and math, sparking curiosity and learning outside the classroom.

By mobilizing its network and engaging conference participants, Life Science Cares helped bring both resources and excitement directly to the children, creating opportunities for growth, creativity, and hope.





Nonprofit Partners Education

PiCS

Through Life Science Cares, PiCS students had an exciting opportunity to tour Lighthouse Therapeutics, exploring labs, meeting scientists, and gaining hands-on insight into the life sciences. Experiences like this inspire students to envision careers in STEM and see the real-world impact of their studies. This year, PiCS supported over 600 first-generation students, with many high school seniors receiving university acceptances and college students pursuing STEM majors, demonstrating how exposure, guidance, and encouragement can open doors to bright futures.



MANA de San Diego

Life Science Cares partnered with MANA de San Diego for their 3rd annual Pi Day, bringing hands-on STEM activities to over 300 students. Several of Life Science Cares' corporate partners joined the effort, sharing their expertise and engaging with students to spark curiosity and excitement in science. The event provided an inspiring, interactive experience, giving participants the opportunity to explore STEM in a fun and meaningful way while highlighting the power of community support in shaping the next generation of scientists.



Horizons

Horizons San Diego supports students year after year, helping them grow academically and personally. **With support from Contineum Therapeutics, Horizons held a backpack drive, giving students the school supplies they need to succeed.** One student who joined as a shy kindergartener is now her school's student body president—showing how consistent support and community partnerships help children find their voice and envision a brighter future.



Monarch School

Life Science Cares partnered with J.P. Morgan to host students from Monarch School at their Del Mar office. Through hands-on programming, students explored financial literacy, career pathways, and how professional spaces can be welcoming and empowering. They left inspired, more confident discussing money, and motivated to apply their knowledge to future goals—showing how corporate partnerships can open doors and spark curiosity.



Links to STEM

Links To STEM strengthens diversity in STEM through hands-on experiences—from robotics and experiments to competitions and career workshops—sparking curiosity and confidence in students. **Corporate partner Boundless Bio plays a key role by volunteering as mentors, tutors, and facilitators, helping students explore STEM pathways and prepare for higher education.** The program's impact is clear: students consistently return each year, 100% of 12th grade alumni graduate high school, and 70% of San Diego graduates pursue STEM-related majors at top universities.





Nonprofit Partners Education

Access Youth Academy

The AYA class of 2025 represents a remarkable group of students whose dedication, perseverance, and achievements reflect years of hard work and determination. **Life Science Cares was proud to be part of that journey by supporting their Career Day**—an opportunity to connect students with professionals from the life sciences industry and introduce them to potential career pathways.

Through these collective efforts, students graduate with the skills and confidence to make a positive impact on their communities.



Words Alive

Through Life Science Cares' partnership with Neurelis, **21 volunteers joined Words Alive to assemble 792 English and Spanish literacy kits, helping young readers build home libraries and fostering a lifelong love of reading.** This hands-on event also sparked conversations about literacy in the community, supporting children in developing the skills and confidence to thrive.



SD2

As part of the SD2 program, LSC Vice Chair Trisha mentored Diana, supporting her through the college application process and helping her navigate the challenges of being a first-generation student.

From offering practical advice to modeling courage and resilience, Trisha created a safe, supportive space where Diana could grow academically and personally. Their bond reflects the true power of mentorship: transforming lives, building confidence, and leaving lasting impact that reaches beyond the student to their family and community.



Reality Changers

Erik's journey to his dream career shows the power of persistence and support. After working post-high school, he returned to college to earn his degree in broadcasting and cinema. Through Reality Changers' alumni mentorship program, he connected with a mentor at NBC 7 San Diego, leading to his first professional break and eventually a job at the station he'd dreamed of. **LSC was proud to provide support through the Meet the Moment campaign to provide a scholarship to a first-generation student like Erik on their path to success.**



Barrio Logan College Institute

Daniel's story reflects the lasting impact of BLCI's support. Once a shy fifth grader, he discovered his passion for advocacy through mentorship and career exploration. Despite setbacks and the challenge of balancing work and school, Daniel became the first in his family to earn a college degree. Today, he gives back through community leadership—helping parents gain citizenship, shaping public policy, and serving others through public service. **Daniel's journey shows how opportunity and guidance can transform a student's future.**





Nonprofit Partners

Economic Opportunity

Home Start

Home Start helped hundreds of San Diego families move toward stability in 2025, creating life-changing moments for young parents like Ary. Growing up without a safe or consistent home, Ary long believed stability was out of reach—until Home Start provided the housing, support, and community that changed her path. Now pursuing her dream career and preparing to welcome her first child, Ary is determined to give her daughter the love and security she never had. **Thanks to Life Science Cares' Meet the Moment funding for the Maternity Housing Program, Home Start was able to continue supporting families like Ary's in the midst of federal funding cuts.** Her journey reflects the heart of Home Start's work: helping families not only find stability, but finally believe a brighter future is possible.



Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement of San Diego expanded life-changing opportunities for local students in 2025, helping young people who have historically been underrepresented in STEM and professional careers see new possibilities for their futures. Through the JA Fellows Program and paid summer internships with leading companies, more than 100 students gained real-world experience, mentorship, and the confidence to pursue careers aligned with their dreams. **With continued support, including scholarships and the second installment of Life Science Cares' Innovation Grant, students are not only staying on track academically but beginning to envision themselves thriving in careers once thought out of reach.**





Nonprofit Partners

Economic Opportunity

Just in Time

Through its partnership with Life Science Cares, Just in Time College Bound program provides critical support to students facing housing insecurity and other barriers as they pursue higher education. This includes ongoing rent assistance, scholarships, and furniture donations. Support that comes to life through hands-on furniture build events, like the one held this year with our partners Deloitte and RE:Align Tenant Strategies helping students create comfortable and stable living spaces.

Jason's journey reflects the impact of this support. Growing up in foster care, he discovered a passion for space and engineering through robotics and went on to study aerospace engineering at San Diego State University. With support from Just in Time and Life Science Cares, he stayed focused on completing his degree despite the challenges he faced. Today, Jason is a graduate student designing satellite motor systems that will support future space missions – a testament to his resilience, determination, and the impact of community support.



MAKE Projects

MAKE Projects continued strengthening economic opportunity for adults from underserved communities throughout 2025.

Among adult graduates, 71% secured post-MAKE employment, and 84% are either working in permanent roles or enrolled in career credentialing programs, demonstrating strong pathways to job stability and growth. The program empowered 35 low-income refugee and immigrant women and provided participants with over \$54K in wages—reinforcing skills development, financial resilience, and inclusion in the San Diego economy.



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.

2025 Impact Highlights

- ✱ Placed 62 interns in San Diego life science companies
- ✱ Partnered with 15 life science employers advancing a more inclusive workforce
- ✱ Awarded 25 scholarships to Project Onramp students totaling \$95,000



George

From Campus Research to the Workforce

George spent much of his time at UC San Diego conducting research in the Bioinspired Robotics and Design Lab, where work is often technical, self-directed, and focused on long-term problem solving. As he began preparing for a career in industry, George felt intimidated by the faster pace, team dynamics, and day-to-day expectations of the workplace.

Through Project Onramp, George gained the support and professional exposure he needed to bridge that gap. Mentorship, networking events, and hands-on workshops helped him better understand how industry teams operate and what it takes to succeed beyond technical ability.

George credits the program's bootcamp with strengthening his professional readiness: from learning how to communicate updates clearly to navigating workplace tools and building connections with intention. That preparation helped him confidently step into his role at Dexcom and hit the ground running.

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.

FINANCIAL CAPITAL

We fund carefully vetted local nonprofits tackling urgent and systemic needs, from food security to education and workforce development.



HUMAN CAPITAL

Our Board, corporate partners, and volunteers bring skills and hands-on support to strengthen programs and amplify results.



SOCIAL CAPITAL

Through Project Onramp, under-resourced students gain access to paid internships, mentorship, and industry exposure – opening doors to life-changing career opportunities.



Meet the Moment

Thanks to the generosity and swift response of our life science community, the **Meet the Moment campaign raised over \$320,000** to support San Diego nonprofits addressing urgent community needs as a result of changes in federal funding.

These funds provided emergency response grants to organizations tackling food insecurity, homelessness, educational inequities, and limited access to opportunity. Through this campaign, our network of innovators and changemakers helped bring hope and stability to our local communities when it was needed most.

With your support, we helped fund critical programs across San Diego, through these amazing nonprofit partners:



Meet the Changemakers

Board of Managers

Our Board of Managers lead by example – contributing their time, expertise, and personal financial support to strengthen and sustain our impact.



Scott Bechtler-Levin

*Chair, CEO Group Facilitator
and Coach*



Sarah Boyce

*President and CEO, Avidity
Biosciences, Inc.*



Carin Canale-Theakston

*Founder and CEO, Canale
Communications (retired)*



Tom Daniel

*Chairman, Board of Overseers
& Director, The Scripps
Research Institute*



Wainwright Fishburn

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



Carol Gallagher

*Chair, Recludix
Pharmaceuticals*



Faheem Hasnain

*Chairman & Co-founder,
Gossamer Bio*



Rich Heyman

*Chairman, ORIC
Pharmaceuticals and
Architect Therapeutics*



JC Kyrillos

*COO, Tandem Diabetes
Care*



Shelly Meeusen

*Founder and CEO,
Rheostat, BAMTx*



Trisha Millican

*CFO,
Architect Therapeutics*



Mark Sanchez

*Superintendent/President,
Southwestern
Community College District*



Laura Shawver

*Venture Partner,
Raven*



Jason Stewart

*Founder and CEO,
Blake & Michaels*



Meet the Changemakers

Board of Advisors

Our Life Science Cares Board of Advisors are deeply committed to our mission – leveraging their networks, actively engaging in our work, and investing personally through their time and financial support to drive lasting impact.

Jennifer Arnold
Scott Arnold
Fiona & Scott Bechtler-Levin
Sarah Bhagat
Greg Bisconti
Tasia Blazeovich
Ousmane Caba
Cris Calsada
Liz Carter
Travis Carter
Joseph Castagnola
Jacob Chacko
Dan Chao
Isan Chen
James Christensen

Thomas Coll
Tracy Cole
Michael Dudley
Marc Eiskowitz
Emma Epes
Laura Escoubet
Robert Flath
Scott Foote
Peter Fritz
Robert Gaan
Betsy Gelfand
Brent Glova
Richard Glunne
David Goldstein
Todd Harris

Jackie & Gerry Hernandez
Tim Holl
Zachary Hornby
John Hundley
Alicia & Keith Kitagawa
Vicki Johnson
Fleming Jones
Chris Kelly
Ida Khodami
Craig Knox
Ajay Kshatriya
Catherine Lee
Hugh Leslie
Alyssa Levin
Adam Lohr
Erik Lundh

Bill Martin
Mason Matthies
Jason McDaniel
Emily McDonald
Alana McNulty
Andy Meyer
Hala Mirza
Chris Montgomery
Scott Moorefield
Marshall Olin
Glenn Peters
Shane Poppen
Ayesha Price
Alan Prohaska
Precillia & Matt Redmond

Hunter Reed
Vickie Reed
Markus Renschler
TD Rolf
Dan Ryan
Amelia Sanchez
Mia Sandvoll
Joshua Schimmer
The Shah Family
Tom Shoemaker
Linda Sierra
Kevin Simonsen
Randy Socol
Kristin Stafford

Carmine Stengone
Brian Taggart
Jaimie Tanner
Taj Tariq
Kristin Taylor
America Thompson
Stacy Tyree
Jodi Ungrodt
Roberto Vieira
Christian Waage
Lina Waage
Troy Wilson
Steve Worland
Thomas Woiwode
Frank Yang

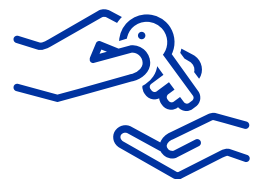
Interested in helping amplify Life Science Cares' impact across San Diego?

Contact kellejjo@lifesciencecares.org to learn how you can get involved.

Meet the Changemakers

Leadership Circle

The Leadership Circle honors individual donors who contribute or commit a minimum of \$50,000 over five years to Life Science Cares San Diego.



Legacy

(Above \$1,000,000)

Celebrating top donors whose contributions leave a lasting legacy.

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



Visionary

(\$500,000 - \$1,000,000)

Acknowledging leaders with the foresight to create transformative impact.

Sarah Boyce, Hasnain Family
Trust, Laura Shawver & Tracy
Macuga



Catalyst

(\$250,000 - \$500,000)

Honoring those who drive significant shifts in the community.

Charles & Carol Baum, Carin & Hillary Canale-
Theakston, Carol & John Gallagher, William
Rastetter, Jeff Stein & Catherine Naughton Trust



Innovator

(\$100,000 - \$250,000)

Highlighting donors who fuel innovation and progress.

Debbie & Wainwright Fishburn,
Rob Perez



Changemaker

(\$50,000 - \$100,000)

Recognizing those who provide essential momentum for change.

Dan & Annette Bradbury, Brittany Bradrick, Vika Brough, Karen Deschaine, David & Linda Hale, David & Susan Kabakoff, Erin Lavelle, Tom & Laura McMullen, Shelly Meeusen & Ben Wen, Mike & Beth Milligan, Trisha Millican & Family, Jon & Deanna Olsen, Ramchandrar-Krishnamohan Family, Aleks & Pedro Rizo, Mark & Brandi Roberts, Tim & Emily Scott, Robin Toft, Angie You, Jenny Yu & Max Wang

Corporate Partners

We're deeply grateful to our 64 corporate partners for empowering Life Science Cares to bring hope, resources, and opportunity to individuals and families in need. These companies set the standard for what it means to lead with purpose.



Be part of our mission to harness the financial, human, and social capital of the life science industry for good.

Partnering with Life Science Cares means creating meaningful change in the San Diego community —while giving your employees purpose-driven ways to connect, engage, and grow together.



Be part of the impact.

For more information, contact
LSCSanDiego@lifesciencecares.org

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

Individuals

Join our Board of Advisors

Help guide our strategy, strengthen partnerships, and expand our impact.

Become a Member of our Leadership Circle

Invest in lasting change by supporting life-changing programs across San Diego.

Life Science Shares

Celebrate a future milestone by pledging a portion of earnings to support our community.

Mentor a Project Onramp Summer Intern

Empower the next generation of life science talent through guidance and support.

Join our Council of Champions

Stand with a dedicated group of leaders committed to advancing equity and opportunity.

Companies

Become a Corporate Partner

Engage your employees through meaningful, skills-based volunteer opportunities.

Sponsor an Event or Program

Support a Life Science Cares event or help power the Project Onramp internship experience for students.

Life Science Shares

Pledge a portion of your next corporate financial milestone to create lasting impact in our community.

Host a Project Onramp Summer Intern

Provide hands-on experience and mentorship by welcoming an intern into your workplace.