

# TIES THAT BIND

### 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

The Karen and Tom Mulvaney Center for Community, Awareness, and Social Action





### A NOTE FROM CHRIS NAYVE

### ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ANCHOR INITIATIVES

Dear Friends,

This past year we had the honor of celebrating with you our 30th year anniversary. It was inspiring to reflect on the remarkable journey and growth over the past three decades and the cultivation of love and leadership forged through the desire for a stronger and more unified community.

We know we do not do this work alone and through the years we have always deeply felt the reciprocity as we continue to focus on building and uplifting community.

Our Hope with this report is to convey our appreciation and respect for each and every member of our campus and regional community who gave of their time and energy this past year. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for your commitment and wisdom as we continue to work toward the common good.

Most Sincerely,

Associate Vice President,

Chris Nayre

Community Engagement and Anchor Initiatives

### HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY VOICES

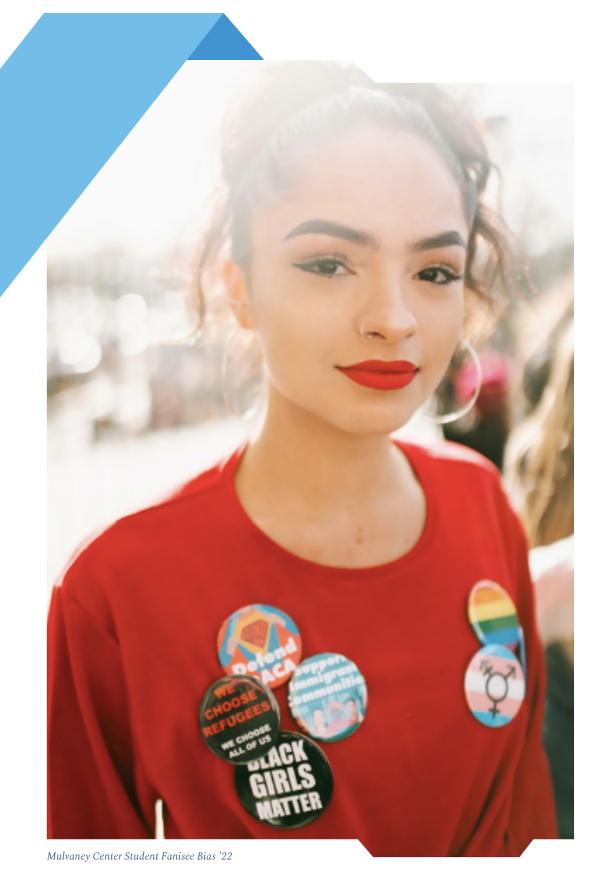
# CALIFORNIA CAMPUS COMPACT'S 20TH CONTINUUMS OF SERVICE CONFERENCE: BEYOND BORDERS — EMBRACING MULTIPLE WAYS OF KNOWING AND BEING

In March 2019, USD's Tom and Karen Mulvaney Center for Community Awareness and Social Action hosted the 20th anniversary of the California Campus Compact's Continuums of Service Conference, "Beyond Borders — Embracing Multiple Ways of Knowing and Being." This was a momentous occasion marking not only 30 years of California's Campus Compact, but also 30 years of community engagement through USD's Mulvaney Center. USD faculty and staff from across disciplines, along with USD community partners were prominently featured throughout the Conference. Participants explored ways to reach out beyond borders of nations, neighborhoods, communities, ways of knowing, and identities to think more inclusively about community engagement.

The Common Ground Voices (CGV) La Frontera Program, led by Dr. Emilie Amrein, brought the Conference theme to life at the Tijuana/San Diego border. CGV La Frontera brought together a diverse group of artists in community music and peace-building projects. The program utilized music as a springboard for a meaningful discussion regarding forced migration, identity, place, belonging, and shared humanity in this politically charged and historically contested region. Moreover, CGV La Frontera aims to generate meaningful collaboration through music and contribute to community music as an exercise of non-violence.







### STUDENT'S STOPIES

# ACADEMIC AND COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: FEATURING OUR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE PROGRAM

As we look back at 30 years of community engagement here at the University of San Diego, what better way to honor the great work and relationships that have been fostered than featuring our Youth Engagement Initiative. Better known around these parts as "YEI", this program employs upwards of 45 aspiring undergraduate and graduate students each year — students passionate about educational access and equity - to work in our local K-12 schools. This collaborative educational effort works to cultivate and strengthen our neighborhood "place-based" commitment to the Linda Vista community, while uplifting our local youth and inspiring future scholars and leaders.

Known as the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) corridor, Linda Vista K-12 education is home to all sorts of new exciting and innovative happenings. The added presence of USD-YEI students into our local Linda Vista classrooms works to support such incredible community-led efforts while bringing in fresh new faces and energy to the classrooms. At the core of this initiative, however, is the centrality of human connection. Above all else, what our students valued most from this experience is the capacity to expand their love and connection to the Linda Vista community, beginning first and foremost, with its young leaders.



Head Program Coordinator for the Mulvaney Center's Youth Engagement Initiative at Kit Carson Elementary School, Melanie Grosso '19 (BA), shares what the last four years of working in the Linda Vista community has meant to her.

### IMMERSIVE LEARNING AND STUDENT LEADERSHIP

# FOSTERING COMMUNITY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE BORDER: IMMERSIVE EDUCATION IN THE TIJUANA COMMUNITY

The Mulvaney Immersion Communities for Action and Humility (MICAH) Summer Fellowship is our center's flagship student leadership program. Hand selected through a competitive process, eight students from the University of San Diego along with eight others from St. Mary's College embark on eight weeks of immersive learning, working and living alongside members of both the Bay Area and Tijuana communities. Built on the values of doing justice, loving mercy, and walking humbly, students intern with their respective community partner sites throughout the region, assisting local nonprofits across a wide range of topics including homelessness, immigration and food insecurity.

2019 also marks the second iteration of the MICAH fellowship's expansion across the U.S.-Mexico border and into the Tijuana community. Working alongside some of our amazing partner organizations, such as Atención Integral al Deportado (AID), Agencia Migrante, and Espacio Migrante, students are supporting the work of local nonprofits and community experts.

This uniquely challenging and yet expansive opportunity is designed to stretch students' capacity, pushing them well beyond their comfort zones as leaders, and broadening the scope through which they come to view and understand the world around them.



2019 MICAH Fellows share how the fellowship experience impacted them during the eight weeks they spent fully immersed into the community of Tijuana, Mexico.



#### Stephanie Ramirez, SMC Undergraduate:

"These kids gave me the courage, strength, reassurance, inspiration and life which built me to be the person I was in MICAH but also to push myself to be the best authentic version of myself I can be in every moment and provide that version of myself within different communities."

#### Carla Aguirre Puerto '21:

"I got to further understand people for who they are as individuals and their life journeys, not for a label that society has imposed on them. I will walk through the world remembering what I have learned, to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly."





### STUDENT REFLECTIONS

### EDUCATION THROUGH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT: LESSONS LEARNED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH URRAN CORPS

"Our project was centered around supporting those experiencing homelessness, specifically veterans in San Diego. Our idea was to create a mobile hub dedicated towards assisting veterans with housing, comprehensive health resources, and giving them another chance to make a difference in their lives by utilizing open hiring. This project as a whole really opened my eyes because never have I ever before thought this deeply about making such a substantial change in the larger community. This made me realize that the more people who actually think of ways to make a difference in the world, the better the chance the world has to change. If everyone tried to make the world a better place, the world would advance much faster, however; right now that is not realistic considering how selfabsorbed most people are in their everyday lives. It is something we can strive for."

"For my Changemaker project I worked with Urban Corps. The experience was very rewarding in many ways. I found value in working so closely to people of such different backgrounds than most of my peers here at USD. Their work ethic and dedication shows how their life has shaped them into such strong individuals. Their insights really helped towards ensuring the success of the project. This experience was very different from the other community engagement and community service projects I have taken on in the past. But through Urban Corps I was actually able to gain a deeper understanding of the many other people going through the struggles that life can bring while also making new friends."

### AN ANCHOR INSTITUTION

# USD'S SUPPLIER DIVERSITY INITIATIVE: HONORING OUR LOCAL HEROES

The success of Irene's Kitchen can be linked to her community engagement as a young adult. Irene's community organization centered around the arts, including spoken word and singing. She performed at concerts and instructed community workshops for youth. At the time, Irene's activism were a response to injustices she saw around her. She eventually realized that only love and nurturing energy can advance social justice and decided to use food as a vehicle to promote this. Her change in perspective catalyzed the journey towards Irene's Kitchen.

Irene and her family moved to San Diego when a friend invited her to come work on a garden project. She accepted the invitation and transformed an abandoned lot into a community garden in Logan Heights, the neighborhood she grew up in. Via International, USD Anchor Partner in the Barrio Logan Community, was an instrumental force in helping her transform the community garden by providing volunteers and resources. This informal partnership prompted Irene to get connected with the University of San Diego through Via International. Since its beginning, the relationship between Irene's Kitchen and USD has notably grown. Irene states that this past year has been

the best year for her business since its start with USD alone contributing over \$9,000 in return for Irene' catering services. The consistency of USD hiring Irene to cater provides greater stability for her business.

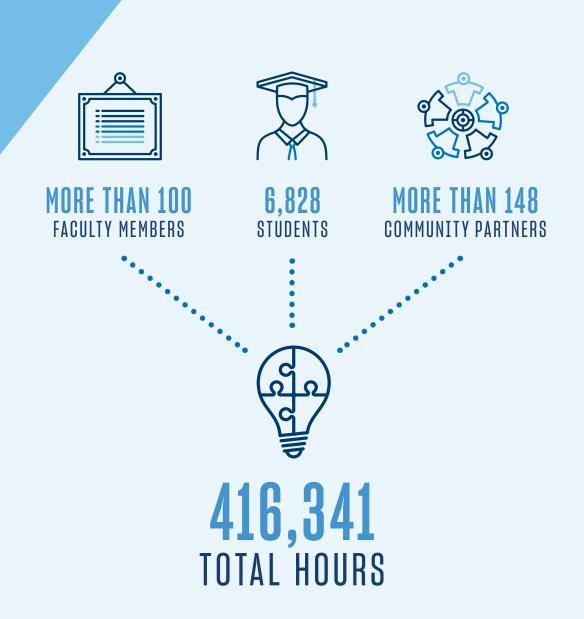
As an Anchor Institution, USD is committed to the economic wellbeing of the local community. Irene is one of the local business owners supported through USD's Supplier Diversity Initiative. The Initiative increases small businesses' capacity to do business with USD by facilitating the procurement process as well as assisting with business certifications. Despite this financial benefit, Irene says that the best part about working with USD is the connections and friendships she has made with everyone. Sharing her food and culture with students has been such an amazing experience for her. Irene has been able to partner with USD and do a lot of work in the community she loves, Barrio Logan. "Through my partnership with USD, I've also participated in workshops and presentations and that has grown my business in other ways. To be able to speak about my business, food justice, social justice and self-care to other students is important. I know my work is valuable and I feel inspired to keep sharing and growing."

"Yeah I make food, and I sell food, but it's more than that."

— Irene Castruita







 $<sup>^*</sup>$ These figures include faculty, staff, and students who actively participate in multiple community engagement activities throughout the academic year.

#### Campus Partners

- Admissions
- Athletics
- BRINK
- Career Development Center
- · Center for Educational Excellence
- · Center for Inclusion and Diversity
- Changemaker Hub
- College of Arts and Sciences
- · Community and Government Relations
- Hahn School of Nursing and Health Science
- Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Initiatives
- · Institutional Research and Planning
- International Center
- · Jacobs Center
- Joan B. Kroc School of Peace Studies
- · Living Learning Communities
- · Non-Profit Institute
- NROTC
- · Office of Sustainability
- · Procurement Services
- · School of Business
- · School of Law
- School of Leadership and Education Sciences
- Shiley-Marcos School of Engineering
- Student Affairs
- Student Employment
- Student Support Services
- The Brink
- University Ministry

#### **Community Partners**

- Access Community Center
- · Alameda Point Collaborative
- Alma Migrante
- · American Indian Recruitment Programs
- Barrio Logan College Institute
- Border Angels
- · Boys and Girls Club
- · Carson Elementary School
- · Casa del Migrante
- · Chesterton Elementary School
- · Civic San Diego
- Dreamers Moms
- · Ebenezer Church

- El Cajon Boulevard Improvement Association
- · El Faro Church
- Empower Charter School
- · Espacio Migrante
- Friends of Friendship Park
- · Fundacion GAIA
- · Granville Child Development Center
- Hugo Sanchez Foundation
- Include Autism
- Jewish Family Service
- · Kearny High School
- Kearny Mesa Juvenile Detention Facility
- · Kit Carson Elementary School
- · Linda Vista Boys and Girls Club
- · Linda Vista Elementary School
- Linda Vista Library
- · Linda Vista Teen Center
- Mission Valley YMCA
- · Montgomery Middle School
- · New Americans Museum
- · Our Lady of Guadalupe Church
- · Reality Changers
- · Saint Mary's College of California
- · San Diego Blind Community Center
- · San Diego Cooperative Charter School
- · Scouts de Tijuana
- · Somali Family Service
- · Thrive Charter School
- · Urban Corps
- Via International
- YALLA

#### Networks and Affiliations

- · Anchor Learning Community
- · California Campus Compact
- · Campus Compact
- Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement
- Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU)
- · Place-Based Justice Network
- The International Association for Research on Service-Learning and Community Engagement (IARSLCE)

#### Research Scholar

· Colton C. Strawser



#### MULVANEY CENTER STAFF



Christopher Nayve Associate Vice President for Community Engagement and Anchor Initiatives



John Loggins
Director, Community Engaged
Learning



Maria Silva Director, Neighborhood and Community Engaged Partnerships



Assistant Director, Student Leadership and Learning



Kevin Guerrieri, PhD Associate Professor, Spanish



Judith Liu, PhD
Faculty Liaison and Professor



Sandra Sgoutas-Emch, PhD Campus Compact Scholar in Residence



Jaime Rivera Executive Assistant

#### VISTA MEMBERS AND 2018-19 STUDENT LEADERS

#### AmeriCorps VISTA Members Corin Thornburg Linda Vista Library

Linda Vista Librar Jocelyne Olguin Via International

### Youth Engagement Initiative

Edgar Chavarria
Erin Lindsay
Gaby Rivera
Guillermo Ortega
Isabelle Gehrs
Melanie Grosso
Nina Schneider
Raquel Markham
Robert Ornelaz
Yarissa Valdez

#### **MacDonald Scholars**

Erick Deyden
Fanisee Bias
Isabelle Gehrs
Kapri Tulang-De Silva
Madonna Connors
Melissa Arana
Valerie Jaimes
Yarissa Valdez

#### MICAH Summer Fellowship

Edgar Chavarria
Emmanuel Enobulele
Jesenia Villasenor
Kaya Agustin
Maribel Orozco
Riley Dean
Valerie Jaimes
Victoria Zomalt

#### **Beyond Borders**

Alejandra Perez
Alyssa Herrera
Ana Trejo Aguilar
Andrea Tecpoyotl Tepale
Daniel Rodriguez
Jesenia Villasenor
Jesse Magana
Josefina Jaramillo
Kevin Sierra
Leslie Martinez

### Other Community Partners

Anais Rivera Diana Robles Hannah Rouret-Valencia Kaya Agustin Kimberly Riveros Maria Coleman