

Everyone's San Diego



**Support Immigrants
& Welcome Refugees In Our
Community**





*Supporting Immigrants &
Welcoming Refugees In
Our Community*

San Diego has always welcomed immigrants from across the border and around the world. Our amazing diversity and multicultural heritage make our city stronger, enrich our neighborhoods and contribute to a growing economy.

Immigrants make up nearly one quarter of San Diego County's population and we are the proud home of the largest refugee community in California, and second largest in the entire United States. San Diego belongs to everyone - and I'll fight every day to keep it that way.

With increasingly dangerous anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies from Washington, we must do everything we can here in San Diego to ensure we stay a welcoming, diverse city where all residents feel like they belong, are treated with dignity and have a fair shot at achieving the American Dream.



Stand up for immigrants, welcome refugees and build a bright future for every San Diego community:

- **Launch the first-ever San Diego County Center For New San Diegans.** This county office will affirm our community's commitment to welcoming immigrants and help new San Diegans adjust, achieve and succeed.
 - Help new San Diegans make their home in the County and assist families accessing local government services, including help with enrolling children in schools, starting small businesses, accessing healthcare, obtaining driver's licenses, naturalization processes. We want everyone to feel welcome and especially ensure immigrant children are healthy, safe and ready to succeed in school.
 - Ensure new San Diegans know their basic rights, have access to fair legal representation and know how to report discrimination to local law enforcement so we can stamp out bigotry and hate and keep San Diego safe for everyone.
 - Partner with nonprofits such as the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to connect New San Diegans with needed services, provide community outreach in local neighborhoods and ensure both non-profit and county provided services are widely available and accessible.

Center for New San Diegans

1. Welcome New Americans

Help new San Diegans make their home in the County and access county resources

2. Know Your Rights

Ensure new San Diegans know their basic rights

3. Provide Services

Provide community outreach in local neighborhoods

- **Advancing Economic Opportunity And Fairness For Immigrants & Refugees.** For generations, immigrants have helped contribute to our local economy, founded thriving small businesses and helped our region succeed and thrive. I'll work to ensure the County works to support the next generation of new San Diegans working to achieve the American Dream and provide for their families.
 - Join with the San Diego Community College District (SDCCD) and San Diego Workforce Partnership to help new San Diegans find jobs, access vocational training opportunities like apprenticeships, and offer ESL, computer training and other services so new San Diegans have an opportunity to succeed in today's modern economy.
 - Create an *Entrepreneurship And Innovation Hub* where refugees and immigrants, many of whom have an entrepreneurial spirit and unique skills, ideas and backgrounds to launch successful small business, develop financial expertise, professional coaching, and access to support to seed small businesses.
 - Help refugee youth and immigrant children get on a track to succeed educationally by working closely with the County Office of Education and local school districts to place newcomer students by ability, help immigrant kids overcome language and other barriers and help newly arrived parents get involved in their children's education.
- **Affordable Housing and Action On Homelessness.** Today's affordable housing shortage and homeless crisis are affecting every San Diego. But often, it's working families, immigrant communities and refugees who are hit the hardest. A study conducted by the Partnership of Advancement of New Americans (PANA) found that refugees in the city of San Diego are paying upwards of 75-84%¹ for housing. As County Supervisor, I'll fight for action on affordable housing and ensure all San Diegans, regardless of immigration background, get the help they need.



¹ <http://www.kpbs.org/news/2016/jun/01/initiative-improve-refugee-experience-san-diego/>

- Include housing in San Diego's refugee resettlement plan, developing a Countywide transitional housing program for newly resettled families covering up to three years.
- Push to pass a Countywide Affordable Housing Bond in 2020 to address the need to make additional affordable housing units available and protect the current affordable housing stock.



- **Stamp Out Discrimination And Hate.** The rise in hate crimes, anti-immigrant targeting and discrimination of all kinds makes San Diego less safe for everybody. I'll push for County Government to take the lead in cracking down on hate crimes, building trust between immigrant communities and law enforcement and opposing the national efforts to target immigrant communities and pit native-born Americans and against new Americans. The San Diego I love belongs to all of us and I'll never back down from fighting to keep it that way.
 - No County resources should be used to aid in federal deportation efforts or surveillance, based on immigration status. No County resources should ever be used to support creating a registry based on any protected characteristics including religion, race, gender, national origin, or sexual orientation.
 - No County resources should be expended in contravention of the California Values Act, which ensures that local law enforcement focusing on preventing crime in our neighborhoods, instead of doing the federal government's immigration enforcement.
 - More County law enforcement investment in neighborhood policing, building trust with communities and recruiting more police officers from our local communities to encourage diversity, officer-retention and stronger bonds between residents and public safety.
 - County Government should speak out early and often - in the public square, in the halls of power and in the courts - when the federal government pushes discriminatory, anti-immigrant policies that would harm San Diego.