



MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

between **The San Diego Youth Homelessness Consortium (SDYHC)**
and

MISSION

The mission of the SDYHC is to prevent and end youth homelessness in San Diego County by creating a multi-disciplinary, community-wide system, in alignment with San Diego's Coordinated Community Plan (CCP), to serve youth ages 24 and under.

VISION

Youth homelessness will decrease in San Diego County, and any housing instability faced by young people will be brief and non-recurring through our collective service efforts.

PURPOSE

The SDYHC is a collaborative entity designed to increase the effectiveness of the service delivery system in San Diego County for youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness. We accomplish this through the sharing of resources, coordination of efforts around the CCP, and advocacy around the following efforts:

- Informing and advancing the creation and maintenance of a youth-focused coordinated continuum of services.
- Building capacity around the network of providers.
- Coordinating knowledge and leveraging resources through collaboration.
- Amplifying and integrating youth voices.
- Increasing youth-focused housing options with a bridge to adulthood (i.e. stability, self-sufficiency, wellness).
- Creating a network of preventive supportive services for youth at risk of experiencing homelessness.
- Using quality data to drive decision-making.
- Opening doors to self-sufficiency through education, employment, and entrepreneurialism.
- Supporting well-being and permanent connections for youth.

VALUES

- *Integrity:* We demonstrate honesty, transparency, and fairness in everything we do as a Consortium.
- *Respect:* We treat each other with mutual consideration and sensitivity, recognizing the importance of diversity and inclusion.
- *Innovation:* We seek new approaches, capitalize on opportunities, and amplify the impact of initiatives.
- *Inclusion and Access:* We commit that all systems will be inclusive, in that all programs and services will be accessible and responsive to youth, parents, and caregivers with varying abilities, cultures, races, colors, languages, socioeconomic status, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, and religious backgrounds.
- *Equity:* We intentionally seek to reduce barriers to fair treatment, access, and opportunity for youth experiencing homelessness in our region.
- *Collaboration:* We work together through our Values to accomplish our Mission, Vision, and Purpose.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is comprised of young people with lived experience, service providers, advocates, public systems, private systems, and key stakeholders and influencers in the field of youth homelessness who support the Consortium’s vision, mission, and values. Members designate a consistent staff person to represent them at SDYHC meetings. SDYHC members provide oversight and leadership to Consortium, ensuring alignment of Consortium with the CCP.

Membership in the SDYHC carries both obligations and benefits.

Benefits

- Free membership
- Working collaboratively to improve outcomes for youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness
- Name and link to website of member organizations posted on the SDYHC website
- Use of the SDYHC logo, as approved by the Steering Committee
- Participation in collective assessment of community needs in relation to programs and services to help build relationships and new partnerships
- Garnering of community support for new initiatives that your organization may wish to move forward
- Collaborative advocacy for youth-focused services
- Synergy of actions and continuity of service
- Influence programming across the region

Obligations

- The commitment of a senior staff person to prepare for and attend six SDYHC general membership meetings per year.
- Active participation in priority setting, policy development, initiatives, and activities by member organizations
- Represent the SDYHC perspective and speak with one voice on issues of importance to the collective
- Be willing to make quickly and soundly decisions about pending policy and other actions
- Communicate and collaborate with transparency and integrity to maximize the impact of funding opportunities
- Maintain a safe and welcoming environment for underserved communities such as the LGBTQ population and persons of color.
- The SDYHC strongly encourages all member agencies to follow the Authentic Youth Engagement Guidelines found on the SDYHC website.

Term & Termination

This agreement is to remain in effect from the date signed and until either party gives written notice of an intent to withdraw from the SDYHC or when a new document is signed.

Organization Representative Name & Title

Organization Representative Signature

Date

SDYHC Steering Committee Signature

Date