



EDC Workforce Committee

Goal: The San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation will catalyze solutions in two priority workforce areas:

Acute Workforce Shortages: San Diego's innovation economy - bio-technology, communications and health care industry clusters - requires large numbers of employees with all levels of education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), as well as nursing and allied health professions. The San Diego Workforce Partnership projects shortfalls in the region's supply of these skilled, high-wage professionals by 2020 -- requiring a strategy to recruit, retain and train.

Entry-level and Mid-Career Development: Business leaders have identified workplace readiness of new employees, and the need for mid-career development tools as priority strategies to increase local productivity. Two initiatives are underway:

- Developing a training model that serves San Diego's small businesses where employee development programs may be scarce.
- K-14 education reform: improving skill sets of high school graduates, and better preparing them for workforce participation through "boot camps" and other special training.

Outcomes

Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM):

- Organize the region to prioritize competing programs that focus on both STEM teaching resources and student STEM aptitude. Scale successful programs to regional needs.
- Champion funding for the San Diego County Office of Education's College and Career Readiness Campaign, broadening the requirement for math and science classes in high school education.
- Increase student interest and aptitude in STEM courses, as well as better resourcing teachers to inspire STEM professionals.

Nursing and Allied Health Professions: EDC is evaluating partnerships and programs to resolve two shortages that currently limit training of the nursing workforce: nursing teachers and clinical training site opportunities for nursing students.

Entry-level and Mid-Career Development:

- Partner with economic development organizations throughout California to prioritize K-14 education reform and performance tracking - an effort to ensure educational excellence and workforce preparedness.
- EDCC is evaluating strategies to better inform post secondary education leaders of workforce training and education needs.
- Evaluate existing employee development programs to determine whether new models for employee training should be explored to address factors such as San Diego's concentration of small companies, innovation-based companies, and/or related factors.

EDC Staff Contacts

Chris Duggan, Senior Manager, Policy
cd@sandiegobusiness.org; (619) 234-8484

Margaret Beauchamp, Policy Coordinator
mb@sandiegobusiness.org; (619) 234-8484

Executive Committee

Rick Beach, Classroom of the Future Foundation
Julia Brown
Mike Chapin, GEOCON, Inc.
Chuck Flacks, San Diego Workforce Partnership
Pete Garcia, San Diego Regional EDC Foundation
Nancy Taylor, San Diego Science Alliance

Members

Nadine Bezuk, SDSU
Charlene Dackerman, Bridgepoint Education
Barbara Edwards, Math for America San Diego
Robert Gavin, Gavin & Gavin Advertising, Inc.
Bernie Greenspan, Greenspan IP Management
Shawn Loescher, San Diego Unified School District
Ricardo Nemirovsky, SDSU CRMSE
Sharon Rhodes, San Diego Community College District
Jan Sutton, Solar Turbines Incorporated
Gail Welch, QUALCOMM
John Yochelson, Building Engineering & Science Talent (BEST)