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# San Diego wants youth to share ideas on what they need most



(Courtesy of the city of San Diego)

The city wants residents 24 and younger to help in creating a road map for providing services, programs and resources for San Diego's youth

BY EMILY ALVARENGA

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The city is calling on young San Diegans to help them uncover what young people need most by helping them in creating its first [youth master plan](#).

The plan, which is being developed by city's Office of Child and Youth Success and the nonprofit Social Advocates for Youth, or [SAY San Diego](#), will help ensure kids and families have access to services, programs and resources they need.

The city wants to make it easier for young people to get around, find good jobs, secure housing, cope with homelessness and access health care, said Andrea O'Hara, the youth office's executive director.

The plan will focus on creating guidelines in five priority areas: access to child care and camps; education and enrichment; youth empowerment; engaging activities; and economic and workforce development.



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The youth success office is assessing existing services and working with steering committees to begin designing the plan. Now it wants youth 24 and younger to create focus groups where they can share their ideas, either virtually or at schools or other organizations, focused on the plan's five priority areas.

Once complete, the plan is expected to go before the mayor and City Council in the spring.

To learn more about hosting a youth focus group, email [OCYS@saysandiego.org](mailto:OCYS@saysandiego.org). Community members can also submit an online questionnaire on the youth success office's website at [sandiego.gov/child-youth-success/master-plan](https://sandiego.gov/child-youth-success/master-plan).



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