# SO MUCH TO SAY!

#### **December Newsletter**



Happy holidays from SAY San Diego! We extend our warmest wishes to you and your loved ones. May your holidays be filled with joy, laughter, and the spirit of giving!

Thank you for being a crucial part of our SAY San Diego family. As we reflect on the past year's achievements and look forward to the opportunities ahead, let's continue working together to build a brighter future for the youth and families we serve!

Keep scrolling to check out some exciting highlights from this month.



## **Pride Outside Tobacco: The Stories Behind** the Statistics

The Collective, an LGBTQ+ harm-reduction coalition staffed by SAY San Diego, made a short film called, Pride Outside Tobacco: The Stories Behind the Statistics. This film sheds light on the disproportionate impact of tobacco and nicotine on the LGBTQ+ community.

Four queer and trans community members are interviewed on their experience with smoking, how and why they started, and how their journey to quitting is going. Smoking and vaping rates are higher in the LGBTQ+ community and providing stories behind these statistics is a way to humanize them and make a path forward.

We appreciate all of the community members who were vulnerable and shared candidly.



# Only Two Weeks Left to Make a Difference This Season!

Your generosity will bring hope to a family like Maria's!







**Donate Today** 

## **Sycuan Holiday Gift of Giving Ceremony**

Thank you Nathan LaBrake, Councilman of the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation! SAY San Diego was truly honored to be your awardee at the 2023 Sycuan Holiday Gift of Giving Ceremony.



# **Youth Community Access Awards**



We are thrilled to announce that SAY San Diego has been granted \$237,000 as a part of the California Natural Resources Agency effort, *Outdoors for All* initiative.

This grant will allow us to train approximately 50 young leaders through a Youth-Led Participatory Action Research framework. They will conduct community needs assessments to address challenges impacting youth well-being, ensuring our initiatives are responsive and meaningful.

This project includes 30 field trips to natural and cultural resources, offering enriching experiences to the youth leaders.

### **Keep Yourself & Your Family Covered!**

Make sure Medi-Cal can reach you. Visit KeepMediCalCoverage.org to learn how to log in and check that Medi-Cal has your current contact information – and update it if you need to.

Keep Your Medi-Cal





12/14/2023: Linda Vista Certified Farmers Market

Visit the Linda Vista Certified Farmers Market every Thursday and nourish yourself and your community. Not only will you get top-quality goods, but

they also accept EBT! When: 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Where: 6931 Linda Vista Rd- San Diego, CA 92111

12/14/2023: Toddler & PreSchool Story Time

This story time program for children aged 2-4 includes books, songs, games,

and early literacy fun! A to-go craft will be provided at the end. When: 10:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.

Where: Community Room, Mission Valley Library, 2123 Fenton Parkway,

San Diego, CA 92108

#### 12/18/2023: Last Chance to Enter Dads Corps Giveaway

What: Enter for your chance to win a Dads Corps swag mystery box!

How to enter:

- 1. Follow @dadscorps on Instagram
  2. Tag two dads in the comment section of their giveaway post
  3. Post a family holiday sweater picture on your grid, your story, or make it your profile picture and tag @dadscorps!

# **A Great Place to Work**



We're currently hiring! SAY San Diego has been consistently selected as a Top Workplace Award winner, qualifying SAY as one of the best places to work in San Diego based on employee surveys.

In this video, Senior Program Director of our Child Youth and Development unit Iriz Stone shares how meaningful the past 21 years of work at SAY San Diego have been for her.

# **Annual Report**



To see more examples of SAY San Diego's values in action, take a look back at the incredible work we have achieved during 2022.









