

**County of San Diego
Awards & Recognition
Fiscal Year 2008-2009**

During Fiscal Year 2008-09, the County of San Diego again received numerous awards and recognition from local, state and national organizations, as well as by a variety of industry, civic and professional organizations, for excellence and innovation. Three of the more high-profile awards are described below, with a comprehensive list of all other recognition following, listed by County business group.

SERIAL INEBRIATE PROGRAM EARNS 2009 TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION AWARD

The County's award-winning Serial Inebriate Program (SIP) earned another honor for its success in addressing the community-wide impacts of chronic alcoholism. In May 2009, Chairwoman Dianne Jacob, along with Vice-Chairwoman Pam Slater-Price and Supervisors Greg Cox and Bill Horn, accepted the San Diego County Taxpayers Association "Golden Watchdog Award" for the County's program aimed at reducing costs associated with chronic alcoholics living on the streets. The program is a joint effort between Alcohol and Drug Services and local law enforcement agencies.

Under the program, clients taken to jail, area hospitals or detox centers are encouraged to seek treatment. In 2008, 39% of clients entering the SIP program successfully completed a 30-day intervention program, with 24% completing the entire in-patient or out-patient treatment. According to a study by SDSU's School of Public Health, the program saves taxpayers over \$73,000 per month. It is estimated that there are some 300 chronic public inebriates in the central San Diego area, with another 500 who are "at-risk." In 2008, the SIP won a 2008 California State Association of Counties Merit Award.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY AGAIN GARNERS MOST NACO HONORS

For the fifth consecutive year, San Diego County received more National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards than any other county in the nation. Thirty-nine San Diego County programs were recognized for excellence. Los Angeles County was the next-highest recipient, with 37 Achievement Awards. Maricopa County in Arizona received 22 awards.

The award-winning programs operate within all five County business groups and include programs that serve children, youth and seniors as well as those that promote environmental protection, public safety and efficient, effective county administration.

A complete list of the programs selected for recognition can be found on page 9 of this document.

CSAC CITES FOUR COUNTY PROGRAMS FOR EXCELLENCE

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) presented San Diego County with a prestigious Challenge Award and three Merit Awards at the September 16, 2008 Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Challenge Award was given to the County for its Rapid Response to Local Emergencies, referring to the four Local Assistance Centers (LACs) the County established and opened to help fire victims within 72 hours of last October's devastating

wildfires. CSAC praised the efficiency and speed with which County staff was able to respond and also cited the large number of people who were served at the LACs. This award was one of only 10 given this year, for which 58 California counties compete.

CSAC also recognized three County programs for innovation and excellence with Merit Awards. Those programs include the Serial Inebriate Program, operated by HHS; Food for Thought, a partnership between County Library and Aging and Independence Services; and the Workforce Academy for Youth, an innovative program for older foster youth which Human Resources staff administers, with support from numerous County departments.

TWO COUNTY UNITS RECOGNIZED FOR WORKPLACE EXCELLENCE

In November 2008, the Society for Human Resources Management selected two San Diego County programs as "Outstanding Workplaces." The San Diego District Attorney's Office received a Workplace Excellence Award in the category of large employers and the In Home Supportive Services Public Authority was cited in the category of small employers. Both programs were complimented for their commitment to supporting employees' quality of life and work/life balance, as well as their commitment to effective communication with employees and their recognition initiatives.

COUNTY RANKED TOP DIGITAL COUNTY IN 2008

The Center for Digital Government ranked San Diego County #1 for its use of technology among U.S. counties with populations over 500,000. In its annual evaluation of counties nationwide, the Center rated the County's delivery of services on-line service, as well as its information technology infrastructure, architecture, applications and governance.

San Diego County was ranked #1 in the nation in 2004 and has consistently placed in the top 10 counties since then, reclaiming the top honor in 2008.

.... AND EARNS BEST OF THE WEB HONOR

The County's revamped website www.sdcountry.ca.gov won second place in the Center for Digital Government's Best of the Web Awards. San Diego was the only California county to receive an award.

The Best of the Web recognizes the most innovative, user-friendly state and local government websites and honors efforts to improve access and efficiency in the web-delivery of public services. Judges from all over the nation determined the winners.

COMMUNITY SERVICES GROUP

P&C Continues Winning Streak with Eighth Excellence Award

On July 22, the Department of Purchasing and Contracting (P&C) received its eighth consecutive Achievement of Excellence in Procurement award from the National Purchasing Institute. P&C has received this prestigious award every year since 2001.

The National Purchasing Institute established this program in 1995 to recognize organizational excellence in public procurement. The award is earned by those organizations who demonstrate excellence in innovation, professionalism, productivity, e-procurement and leadership. The evaluation criteria changes annually to keep pace with technology and innovative practices.

Real Estate & Facilities Staff Recognized by General Services Association

Deborah Bailey, Real Estate Project Manager, and Mike Urquhart, Chief of Facilities Operations, received this year's County General Services Association (CGSA) awards for innovation and service excellence. Their nominations recognize outstanding program contributions to customer service and innovative business practices, programs or service delivery provided by CGSA member agencies.

Ms. Bailey was honored for advancing the Multiple Species Conservation Program to protect endangered species and habitat over 98,000 acres of natural lands. She has been recognized by the Board of Supervisors for her work on the Ramona grasslands project.

Mr. Urquhart was honored for establishing a Service Contract Compliance Audit Program, which has also received a NACo Achievement Award. This innovative, comprehensive program includes measurable performance standards, enforceable contract provisions, inspection and documentation processes, and effective use of contract payment deductions for non-compliant contract management systems. Additionally, the program has realized more than \$2 million in cost savings related to non-compliant and substandard contract performance over a three-year period.

DGS Receives 2008 Award of Excellence

The California Counties Facilities Services Association (CCFSA) named the San Diego County Department of General Services as a recipient of its 2008 Award of Excellence. Program evaluation was based on facilities excellence demonstrated through best practices, process innovation, staff development, department automation and energy program improvements. San Diego DGS was commended for its exceptional dedication and continued efforts to advance the development of programs and processes that extend the life of our many public facilities.

Architect Wins Award of Merit for Encinitas Community Library Design

California Construction magazine honored Manuel Oncina Architects, Inc., with its Award of Merit for the Encinitas Community Library in its Best of 2008 competition.

The statewide program annually recognizes construction and design excellence in Northern and Southern California. The independent jury of industry experts in design and construction judged more than 140 nominated projects based on criteria, including project management, overcoming challenges of the job, overall excellence in architectural or engineering design, innovation, safety and the contribution to the community and/or the construction industry.

County Chosen for SANDEE Award for Organizational Achievement

San Diego County was chosen to receive the California Center for Sustainable Energy's 2009 San Diego Excellence in Energy, or SANDEE, Award for organizational achievement. SANDEE Awards recognize projects and activities in San Diego County that save significant energy through the implementation of energy efficiency, energy conservation, renewable energy or transportation measures.

Among the County's notable "green" innovations:

- The replacement of six 45-to-80-ton rooftop air conditioning units with gas-fire heating at the Health Services Complex on Rosecrans Street with a 500-ton

- The new Edgemoor Skilled Nursing Facility, featuring climate control and energy efficient technology, including occupancy sensors, solar panels and extra insulation. Savings: \$207,000 annually on utility bills, \$4.1 million on annual operational costs; \$75,000 one-time utility incentive payment.
- The county's only free water playground, located at Hilton Head County Park in El Cajon, where a re-circulating water filtration system uses broad-spectrum ultraviolet and chlorinated disinfection to kill harmful bacteria, such as cryptosporidium and E. coli. Savings: \$9,217 annually.

FINANCE AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT GROUP

County Budget Earns Distinguished Award

The County of San Diego's 2008-09 and 2009-10 Operational Plan earned the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for the seventh consecutive year. This award is a significant achievement for the County as it reflects the organization's commitment to maintaining the highest standards of governmental budgeting.

To earn the award, the County's Operational Plan satisfied a set of rigorous nationally recognized guidelines for effective budget presentation. The guidelines assessed how well the County's Operational Plan serves as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide and a communications device. The County's Operational Plan was rated proficient in all categories.

CTN Programming Earns National Recognition

The County Television Network (CTN.org) took three first place and two second place awards at the National Association of Telecommunications Officers & Advisors (NATOA) Government Programming Conference in Atlanta this fiscal year.

CTN won first place in the Public Education category for *How to Manage Manure*, which is a humorous take on protecting our watersheds with the proper disposal of manure. The gardening show *Down to Earth* garnered first place in the Magazine Format Series category and *Sam the Cooking Guy* took first place in the Ethnic Experience category.

A story on *Kamishibai* programs at the Poway Brach Library won second place in the Library category. Second place in the Community Awareness category went to a feature story on La Mesa art restorer Milroy Harrison.

CTN took a third place in the Special Audience category for the Spanish version of the *Seniors Fall Prevention* video and third place in the Profile for a City/County Department category for the Probation Department's Centennial program. The video on the County's *General Management System* and a *Java Jams* episode took Honorable Mentions.

DHR Wins NEOGOV Award

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) was awarded Best Managed Implementation - 2008 for their conversion to NEOGOV's online job application system.

The County was selected by NEOGOV as the winner out of 15 large agencies. The award was based on a variety of factors, including the speed of the implementation, thoroughness of the business process re-engineering and the team effort by Human Resources, the County Technology Office and Northrop Grumman.

The project was completed on time and under budget in approximately 60 days and was highlighted during a presentation at the NEOGOV annual conference in October.

County Auditor Earns International Award for “Risky” Article

Jim Pelletier, of the County of San Diego Auditor & Controller’s Office, was recently recognized for an outstanding literary contribution in the field of internal auditing. His article, entitled “Adding Risk Back into the Audit Process”, was submitted and published in the magazine *Internal Auditor* in 2008. Subsequently, the article was chosen by the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) to receive the John B. Thurston Award, a recognition given annually for an article judged to be the outstanding paper in the field of internal auditing.

Jim accepted his award at the 2009 IIA International Conference, held in Johannesburg, South Africa. Established in 1941, the IIA is an international professional association that serves as the internal audit profession's global voice, recognized authority, acknowledged leader, chief advocate and principal educator. Members work in internal auditing, risk management, governance, internal control, information technology audit, education and security in private companies and public agencies.

County Counsel Attorneys Recognized

Eight County Counsel attorneys received Statewide Recognition Awards at the 2009 annual conference of the County Counsels’ Association of California. For the second year in a row, San Diego County Counsel's Office had the largest number of award recipients from any of the 58 counties. The second largest number was three recipients each from Orange, San Francisco and Santa Clara counties. A total of 29 awards were presented to county counsel attorneys from 12 counties.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES GROUP

County’s Disaster Food Stamp Program - Model for State & Fed

The County’s experience in responding to the Wildfires of 2003 and 2007 led to the development of a best-in-class Disaster Food Stamp Program resource guide, which is now being replicated at the national level by the US Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Services (USDA-FNS). The seamless program protocols and training materials developed by the County’s Health and Human Services Agency will be the basis of the USDA’s generic disaster template. The County’s materials were also used by the California Department of Social Services for their Disaster Response and Preparation training and will be replicated in other California counties.

Children’s Mental Health Awarded for Wraparound Services

Children’s Mental Health Services (CMHS) is the first organization to win the National Federation of Families award for children’s mental health. The award, which honored CHMS’s decade-long work, was presented at the Federation’s 20th annual conference held in Atlanta last month. CHMS’s success is due, in part, to a 1998 grant award dedicated to the Children’s System of Care (CSOC). When the grant ended ten years

later, CMHS continued to work with the community to seek best treatment practices for children.

County EMS Team Recognized for Firestorm '07 Efforts

The County's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) unit was awarded the California Emergency Services Association – Southern Chapter's Silver Award for outstanding service during the 2007 Wildfires. The award recognizes EMS for serving as the nucleus in coordination of medical services for the entire county and for their work supporting medical shelters, nursing facilities and hospitals. EMS was lauded for maintaining the population's safety and security while minimizing trauma for evacuees during the disaster. The award was presented at the Chapter's Annual meeting on September 3 in Anaheim.

San Diego County Adoptions Program Receives National Honors

San Diego County Adoptions received a 2008 Adoption Excellence Award from the US Department of Health and Human Services in Washington DC. The award recognized the extraordinary contributions the County has made in providing adoption and other permanency outcomes for children in foster care. The awards were presented at an October 2008 ceremony in Washington, DC.

WAY Program Garners Metlife Foundation Award

The Workforce Academy for Youth (WAY) Program for former foster youth was one of three recipients of the Metlife Foundation 2008 Volunteers Enrich America's *Award of Excellence in Older Volunteer Program Management*.

The WAY Program enhances future career opportunities for foster youth who are "aging out" of the foster system by bringing together job coaches and senior life skill coaches to help former foster youth get and keep jobs, inside and outside the County. The WAY Program is a cooperative effort between the Department of Human Resources, and the Health and Human Services Agency's Aging & Independence Services, Child Welfare Services, and Casey Family Programs. Approximately 40 County departments participate in the program and staff from the County's Farm and Home Advisors' Office coordinates the program evaluation.

Feeling Fit Program Receives National Recognition

The Feeling Fit program, which was developed and is operated by the Aging and Independence Services (AIS) unit of HHSA, received an award from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging, which cited Feeling Fit as a creative and effective way to increase healthy activity among seniors.

HHSA Senior Program Wins MetLife Prize

The MetLife Foundation is awarding the Silver Age Yoga program a \$2,500 prize as one of three recipients of their 2009 Older Volunteers Enrich America Award. Nominated by Aging & Independence Services (AIS), Golden Age Yoga increases participants' strength, balance, energy and overall health through physical activity and education. The program also focuses on improving chronic health conditions and fall prevention for seniors.

Edgemoor Head named "Medical Director of the Year"

The American Medical Director's Association has chosen the County's Director of Edgemoor Hospital as the "Medical Director of the Year." Rebecca Ferrini, MD, MPH,

was selected from more than 50 nominees by an interdisciplinary panel for her work as an educator, patient advocate and clinician. The Association's Executive Director, Lorraine Tarnove, stated, "Dr. Ferrini exemplifies the passion, commitment and leadership abilities that we see among our members. She has embraced challenges and tackled them head on. She makes a difference every day and touches the lives of residents, staff, family members and her medical colleagues."

AIS Director Receives National Award for Innovation

Aging & Independence Services Director, Pam Smith, was honored as this year's recipient of the Generations United Award for Intergenerational Innovation. The award was presented during Generations United's Awards Banquet in July on Capital Hill.

LAND USE AND ENVIRONMENT GROUP

McClellan-Palomar Airport Terminal Improvements Project Receives Accolades

The San Diego Chapter of the Construction Management Association of America selected San Diego County's McClellan-Palomar Airport Terminal Improvements Project as the "Best Transportation Project less than \$25 Million." In addition, the Project was selected as a California Transportation Foundation TRANNY Award finalist; one of the top two aviation projects in 2008.

Financial Education Program Receives Two National Awards

The Farm and Home Advisors' Office received two national awards for a program designed to teach teens about money management. "Money Talks for Teens" received the top national award from the National Extension Consumer and Family Sciences Association, and from the Association for Financial Counseling, Planning and Education. The program consists of 10 lessons and an interactive Web site designed to increase awareness and good financial decision making among teens.

County Planners Honored for Best Practices

County planners won the only two "Best Practices" awards presented in June 2009 by the American Planning Association's San Diego Chapter, for creating guidelines to evaluate environmental impacts and to reduce water pollution.

County teams won a first-place award for creating environmental guides known as the "California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines for Determining Significance". The guidelines outline for planners and developers how to determine the level of environmental harm projects could cause and how that harm might be mitigated.

The County also received an honorable mention for creating an illustrated "Low Impact Development Handbook". The handbook will help the County comply with expensive stormwater regulations passed by the State in January 2007 by outlining how to build projects while cutting water pollution; for example, by building curbs and gutters that funnel rain to open ground, rather than to storm drains that flow to beaches.

Valley Center Road Project Cites as Outstanding Environmental Solution

During an awards banquet at the Natural History Museum in September, the San Diego Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals presented the County with its annual award for Outstanding Environmental Solution. The award was given for the Valley Center Road Widening Project, which included implementation of wildlife

crossings and award of an Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program grant for the Valley Center Roadside Recreational Heritage Trail Extension. Environmental Services Unit staff from the Department of Public Works received the award.

The County's efforts to work closely with the community and secure funding for the Heritage Trail extension will help ensure that the Valley Center rural character is preserved and the on-site environment is enhanced.

DEH Receives Environmental Justice Award

The Department of Environmental Health (DEH), Hazardous Materials Program received an award from the US EPA's National Environmental Justice Advisory Council for its role with the Negocio Verde Environmental Justice Task Force. Susan Hahn, DEH coordinator, received the award on behalf of the County during a conference in Atlanta in October 2008.

San Diego's Negocio Verde Environmental Justice Task Force provides free, bilingual compliance assistance and pollution prevention training, primarily in the county's communities that face the greatest environmental justice concerns. Since 2003, the Task Force has trained over 6,500 individuals and promoted interaction between small businesses, local agencies and community members on issues of environmental justice.

***Movies in the Park* Series Wins California Parks & Rec Achievement Award**

San Diego County's Department of Parks and Recreation was recognized by the California Parks and Recreation Society with the 2008 Achievement Award in Recreation Programs for the *Movies in the Park* series. This award is given to an agency for outstanding and innovative achievement in development and implementation of a project.

The *Movies in the Park* series was selected for supporting several aspects of the mission of parks and recreation - predominantly, strengthening community image and sense of place, and strengthening safety and security. In addition, the Department was also recognized for successfully collaborating with six other agencies to provide movie events to over 11,500 community members in 13 communities.

Environmental Health Staff Earn Top Honors

Liz Pozzebon, Chief of the Food and Housing Division in the Department of Environmental Health (DEH), won the prestigious *Manager of the Year* award from the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health for her work on the adoption of the new State food code, referred to as CalCode, and its uniform implementation statewide. Specifically, she developed guidance for staff and industry that is used in San Diego County and has now been adopted statewide.

In addition, Julie DeGraw of DEH's Food and Housing Division has won the *Environmental Health Specialist of the Year* award from the California Environmental Health Association. Julie was recognized for her efforts to create a Web site, www.eatsSAFEsandiego.org, where San Diego residents and visitors can find the food safety score of their favorite restaurant before leaving home. This project was exceptionally challenging and required the development of a data validation process to ensure the information is accurate before posting. Since its launch in January 2008, the web site has had over 30,000 visitors.

Parks & Recreation Recognized with Multiple Awards

The "Ranchos of San Diego County" book received a Recognition of Outstanding Accomplishment award from the National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials for excellence in the field of Parks and Recreation, Historical/Cultural category.

The Hilton Head Park Aquatic Playground, a central recreational feature at Hilton Head Park, received a 2009 National Association of County Parks and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) award for excellence in national park and recreation facility design; outstanding planning, construction, and benefits to the community; and serving as a resource of information for the highest quality of national recreational facility development.

Hilton Head Park is located in the community of Rancho San Diego. In addition to winning a NACPRO award, the aquatic playground was also the cover and feature article in the May 2009 World Waterpark magazine.

PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP

DCSS Honored as Top Performing Large County by State

For the first time ever, the Department of Child Support Services topped the other "Big 6" counties (Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Sacramento and Orange County) to garner the coveted *Large Caseload County for the Federal Fiscal Year 2008* award from the State of California, Department of Child Support Services.

Each year the State DCSS recognizes the top performing local child support agencies for their performance, based on an average of their ranking in five federal performance measures.

2009 National Association of Counties (NACo) Achievement Awards

Program Name	Category	Group/Dept
World Music and Cultural Arts Series	1 Arts & Historic Preservation	CSG/Lib
Collaboration for Community Art	1 Arts & Historic Preservation	CSG/Lib
Fiesta! Community Building through Library Cultural Program	1 Arts & Historic Preservation	CSG/Lib
Independent Living Skills/ Foster Youth Workforce Services	2 Children & Youth	HHSA
Counseling Cove	2 Children & Youth	HHSA
Summer Reading Club for Off-Site Groups	2 Children & Youth	CSG/Lib
Students Taking Academic Responsibility (STAR)	2 Children & Youth	PSG/Prob
OES for Kids	2 Children & Youth	PSG/OES
Collaborative Citizenship Classes at Neighborhood Library Branches	3 Civic Education & Public Information	CSG/Lib
Wildfire Public Awareness Campaign	3 Civic Education & Public Information	PSG/OES
Animal Disease Network	3 Civic Education & Public	LUEG/AWM

	Information	
San Diego County Report Card on Children and Families	3 Civic Education & Public Information	HHSA
Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC)	5 County Administration & Management	CSG/HCD
Crime Analysis Early Warning System	7 Criminal Justice and Public Safety	PSG/Sheriff
Medical Examiner John/Jane Doe Center	7 Criminal Justice and Public Safety	PSG/ME
Biological Risk Management Education Seminars	8 Emergency Management & Response	LUEG/AWM
High School Student Outreach Program	9 Employment & Training for County Residents	HHSA
Integrated Fire Suppression/Stormwater Compliance Program	10 Environmental Protection & Energy	CSG/DGS
Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Adoption	10 Environmental Protection & Energy	LUEG/DPW
Contractor Financial Reviews	11 Financial Management	HHSA
OMB A-133 Centralized Compliance	11 Financial Management	HHSA
Treasurer's Investment Manual	11 Financial Management	FG3/TTC
Senior Expo: Protect Yourself and Your Wallet	13 Human Services	HHSA
Intergenerational Dance at the Library	13 Human Services	CSG/Lib
eQuest	14 Information Technology	HHSA
e-PAF (Electronic Personnel Action Form)	14 Information Technology	HHSA
"Gateway/AI-Bawaba:" A Library-Based Bilingual Computer Literacy Project	14 Information Technology	CSG/Lib
Sheriff Mobile Photo Identification System	14 Information Technology	PSG/Sheriff
Sheriff Office Co-Located in Public Library Branch	15 Criminal Justice and Public Safety	CSG/Lib
Ranchos of San Diego County	16 Parks and Recreation	LUEG/P&R
Spring Valley ADA Fitness Walkway	16 Parks and Recreation	LUEG/P&R
Job Shadow Program	17 Personnel Management, Employee Training, Employee Benefits	HHSA
Finance Academy	17 Personnel Management, Employee Training, Employee Benefits	FG3/DHR
Supervisor Development Package	17 Personnel Management, Employee Training, Employee Benefits	HHSA
Groundwater Model	18 Planning	LUEG/DPLU
Preventive Maintenance Quality Assurance Program	19 Risk Management	CSG/DGS
Wildfire Inspection Program	19 Risk Management	CSG/DGS
"Tweenie" Kitten Foster Program – In-Home Care for Kittens 6-8 Weeks Old	21 Volunteers	CSG/DAS
Medical Examiner Bereavement Center	21 Volunteers	PSG/ME