



# NEWSLETTER

**2025 SPRING EDITION**

## New Year with new beginnings

In January, the FACES San Diego team started off the new year of 2025 with an exciting alumni event held at Rady Children's Hospital. Alumni from FACES for the Future and San Diego Medical Academies were invited to participate in an eventful morning comprised of a diverse career panel Q&A, networking with Rady employees, and professional development booths. Thirty-four Rady employees were present at the event and excited to engage and network with the participants. The career panel included Dr. Michael Levy, Chief of Pediatric Neurosurgery; Dr. Themba Carr, Licensed Clinical Psychologist at the Autism Discovery Institute; Dr. Danielle Strah, Fellow with the Pediatric Cardiology department; Jacquie Small, Licensed Clinical Social Worker; and Morgan Martin, Talent Sourcing Specialist from Human Resources.

This event was the first alumni event held at Rady Children's hospital, and hopefully a new yearly tradition! We are thrilled that the event had such a great turnout with over eighty registered attendees. Thank you to everyone that participated as it was a truly memorable start to the year.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Stay tuned for a brand-new virtual event series for FACES alumni hosted by our very own Rady Children's Health Human Resources (HR) team. This free event will be on June 12th from 12:00-3:00pm PST and is open for attendees to select a time slot that works for their schedule. Each attendee will be allotted a fifteen-minute individual resume review session with a Rady HR partner to receive useful feedback and advice on personal resumes. Space is limited and sign-ups will be first come first serve.

More information can be found on the sign-up page [here](#).

### Welcome Mayerling!



The Center for Healthier Communities welcomed a new FACES for the Future staff member, Mayerling Colin. Mayerling joined the team in February 2025 as a Community Health Programs Coordinator, bringing with her a strong background in community-based health programming, student mentorship, and public health research. As a San Diego native, Mayerling is a proud graduate from the 2018 Summer Medical Academy program! Her educational background includes a Bachelor of Arts in History of Science, Medicine, and Public Health from Yale University. In her current role, Mayerling coordinates health career pathway programming for high school students at Hoover High School, mentors youth pursuing healthcare careers, and builds partnerships with local healthcare and social service organizations. In her free time, she enjoys going on runs along the beach, spending time with her family, and continuing to support young people in her community through tutoring and volunteer work. We are excited to have Mayerling on the FACES team and look forward to the impact she will make!

## FACES UPDATES

### College Field Trips

In March of 2025, FACES San Diego had their annual college field trips, an exciting event for the FACES students who are planning for their future. This year sophomore and junior year students had the opportunity to tour the college campuses of Cal State Fullerton, Cal State Dominguez Hills, Cal State San Marcos, and University of San Diego! These field trips were an amazing opportunity for students to tour potential colleges and bond with their cohort.



Group photo of FACES students during a college field trip.



Halima and Layla of Crawford High School are captured enjoying a frozen yogurt treat after spending a full day of touring college campuses!



Students from Hoover showcasing their Hoover pride by posing and showcasing the Hoo-ryde sign.



The FACES Class of 2025 seniors celebrated their accomplishments with fun activities planned by their FACES coordinators before their graduation from high school. Hoover FACES seniors went on an adventurous field trip to an escape room! They bonded over solving mysteries and having lunch at Belmont Park together. Crawford FACES seniors had an on-campus luncheon with catering by In-N-Out. They also created lasting memories through Polaroid pictures and decorated frames to highlight their experience in FACES. These events are a fun reward for seniors to recognize their hard work throughout high school and the FACES program.



## PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

### illumina

For this edition of the newsletter, we'd like to highlight our community partner, Illumina. Senior students from Hoover and Crawford were provided with an opportunity to tour Illumina's headquarters with a firsthand experience to witness their unique technologies and learn about the company. They also were able to meet some industry professionals and learn from a career panel Q&A session on careers paths in Biotechnology. Some of the professionals that participated included a Senior Laboratory Manager, Bioinformatics Engineer, System Integrations Engineer, Staff Scientist, and Genomics Support Scientist. Students were able to learn about how these important roles are a part of transforming healthcare and improving health equity!



### UC San Diego SKAGGS SCHOOL OF PHARMACY AND PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Another exciting field trip was hosted by our partners at UCSD Pharmacy School. Pharmacy School students invited FACES sophomore and junior year students from Hoover and Crawford High School for an exciting day filled with education about careers in pharmacy doing hands-on rotations and hearing mini lectures on health topics to experience a day in the life of a pharmacist! Many other high schools in San Diego also participated which was a great opportunity to meet new friends who shared similar interests.



- The FACES for the Future Coalition has launched a brand new initiative providing FACES alumni with the opportunity to become a FACES Coalition mentor! This is an opportunity to gain volunteer hours, learn mentorship skills, and help support younger FACES members. Submit a mentor interest form [here](#).
- Family Health Centers of San Diego has several healthcare student internships open that can found [here](#).
- University of San Diego is hiring Health Promotion Interns; [application](#) due by April 29th!
- The next cycle for applicants for the Pathmaker Internship at [Palomar Health](#) opens during the month of July intended for those interested in healthcare careers.

## STAY CONNECTED

We are excited to announce that there are new resources that can be found on our website! The [alumni tab](#) on our website has examples to help you with professional development. There is a [resume](#) and a [cover letter](#) template that has been vetted by the Rady HR team especially for FACES alumni to utilize. Be sure to review these resources for the next time you apply for a new position or plan to update your professional materials.

Our newsletters are also available to download on our website for easy access to embedded links and for personal use. Every edition of the newsletter can be located on our website [here](#).



**Instagram**

@faces\_future\_sd



**Linked In**

Faces for the Future  
Coalition



**Facebook**

Faces for the Future  
Coalition



**San Diego Website**

sdhealthscholars.org

### **Contact Information:**

**Alicia Wood**

Lead Community Health  
Programs Coordinator  
awood@rchsd.org

**Jose Perez**

Supervisor of Youth  
Development  
jperez6@rchsd.org

**Maddie Moran**

Community Health Programs &  
Alumni Coordinator  
mmoran1@rchsd.org