

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Pinkston Team

[wr@pinkston.co](mailto:wr@pinkston.co)

### **World Relief Southern California to Host Grand Opening Celebration for New San Diego Office**

**San Diego, CA (May 11, 2023)** – World Relief Southern California will host a grand opening celebration for a new office location in San Diego on Saturday, May 13 at 6565 Balboa Avenue from 11 a.m PST to 1 p.m PST. The new location will complement World Relief’s long-standing office in [Orange County](#) by providing services that both welcome immigrants and refugees and empower them to integrate into their new communities.

“World Relief SoCal is thrilled to announce the opening of our new office location in San Diego as we expand our efforts to live out God’s heart for displaced people by creating a community of welcome for our newly arriving neighbors,” **said Jane Register, the San Diego Program Director of World Relief Southern California.** “At World Relief, we envision a San Diego where refugees and immigrants can thrive and flourish.”

World Relief’s San Diego office will offer case management aid, along with Immigration Legal Services. Additionally, as in all World Relief locations, the new San Diego office will work closely with local churches and volunteers to provide community-based services for immigrant families, including Good Neighbor teams, host homes, tutoring, and mentorship.

“For more than 40 years, World Relief has partnered with local churches to welcome refugees, asylum seekers and other immigrants to Southern California through our Orange County office,” **said Aerlande Wontamo, Senior Vice President of US Programs at World Relief.** “We’re excited to now have this new physical space from which to serve San Diego County at a time when there is such significant need for those seeking protection, freedom and opportunity in the United States.”

The World Relief San Diego grand opening event will be open to the general public, as well as the press. The celebration is a community-wide grand opening for neighboring businesses as well as the kick-off event for Clairemont’s 2nd Saturdays monthly pop-up shop that features local businesses. It will include food trucks, bounce houses, pop-up shops, and more.

“For the last three years we have been mobilizing San Diego churches to both welcome and walk alongside newly arrived immigrants in the Borderlands of San Diego,” **said Heather Kwak, the Office Director of World Relief Southern California.** “We are glad to take this next step in opening an additional office location that will allow more communities to welcome new neighbors and meet the needs of the immigrant communities.”

To learn more about World Relief's work in Southern California and how to get involved, please visit [worldrelief.org](http://worldrelief.org).

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**About World Relief**

[World Relief](http://WorldRelief.org) is a global Christian humanitarian organization whose mission is to empower the local church to serve the most vulnerable. The organization was founded in the aftermath of World War II to respond to the urgent humanitarian needs of war-torn Europe. Since then, for over 75 years, across 100 countries, World Relief has partnered with local churches and communities to develop sustainable, locally-driven solutions to some of the world's greatest problems. To learn more, visit [worldrelief.org](http://worldrelief.org).