



**Sarah Buchanan**  
**Executive Vice President | San Diego Housing Federation**  
San Diego, CA  
[sarah@housingsandiego.org](mailto:sarah@housingsandiego.org)

**Work Locations:**  
Regional

**Area of Expertise:**

- Community Development
- DEI&B
- Housing production
- Housing history/redlining
- Policy
- Workforce development
- Program implementation
- Operations
- Fundraising
- Development
- Community organizing
- Philanthropy
- Strategic planning
- Event Production
- Planning, budget planning

**Preferred Presentation Format:**

- Conference Panel
- Virtual Presentation
- Keynote Speaker
- Podcast

**Bio:**

Sarah Buchanan grew up in a small town in Oklahoma, where she learned first-hand the importance of serving the community through volunteerism, empathy, and creativity. Known for her dedication and hard work, Sarah tackles challenges with positive energy and insightful solutions.

Sarah serves as the Executive Vice President for the San Diego Housing Federation where she utilizes her skills in organizational strategy and effectiveness, strategic partnerships, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and board governance. Sarah understands that we all have the desire to be seen, heard, and appreciated and she offers this to everyone she meets with joy. She is known for creating an organizational culture that thrives on authenticity, kindness, vulnerability, and transparency. Sarah believes that focusing on her team's well-being drives positive experiences for the sector.

Giving back is a priority for Sarah. She devotes significant time to serving the community through volunteerism,

curating fundraising events, and music instruction for youth in the foster care system. Sarah has cultivated relationships with nonprofit organizations across the country and organized more than 400 opportunities to give back through donations and volunteerism. When she is not serving the community, she spends her time exploring with her dog, Lola, creating in any form, and connecting with others.

Sarah earned her Bachelor of Arts in English and Native American Studies from the University of Oklahoma.

#### Boards Service

- Circulate San Diego, Board Chair
- Volunteer with Cheli
- University of San Diego's 2024 Fowler Global Social Innovation Challenge
- ICON National Cares Foundation

#### Awards and recognition

- San Diego Business Journal and San Diego Equality Business Association's Top 50 LGBTQ+ Leaders 2023
- San Diego Business Journal's – 40 Under 40 Finalist 2022
- San Diego Housing Federation's Ruby Awards – Hearth Stone Award 2022
- Bring the Music Initiative's – Mentor of the Year 2021
- San Diego Metro's – 40 Under 40 Award 2020
- San Diego Metro's – Woman of Influence 2020
- Women of Influence – Woman to Watch 2020