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UCSD Volunteer Connection spotlights the homeless volunteer week

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UCSD VOLUNTEER CONNECTION SPOTLIGHTS THE HOMELESS DURING INTERCOLLEGIATE VOLUNTEER WEEK

The University of California, San Diego Volunteer Connection will spotlight the needs of the San Diego homeless, Thursday, Feb. 18, at the UCSD International Center during Intercollegiate Volunteer Week, Feb. 15-20.

The UCSD "Spotlights the Homeless" program will be from 11:00 a.m. until 2 p.m. and will inform the student body about the variety of ways they can get involved in assisting in the community.

Mary Case, director of the St. Vincent de Paul - Joan Kroc Center, which serves 3,000-5,000 homeless people from the Center in downtown San Diego, will be the guest speaker. Case will speak at 12:00 p.m. at the International Center and will outline the need to staff 250 volunteer positions at the downtown Center.

These positions include recreation aides for the Children's Activities Program; staff for the Tot Room, a playroom for children ages one through five years; clothing distributors and assistants for the Day Center; employment, housing and information referral assistants; kitchen assistants for the three meals a day the Center serves; and drivers to pick up donations and volunteers to staff the reception desk. These are just a few of the areas where volunteers are needed. The Center is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, therefore students may volunteer anytime.

The UCSD Volunteer Connection is an Associated Student Service, designed to interest student participation in community activities on behalf of those who are hungry, homeless, unemployed, disabled, educationally limited, or in need of a friend. The Volunteer Connection is affiliated with the Campus Outreach Opportunity League, a national, nonprofit organization which promotes and supports student involvement in addressing community needs from over 400 campuses in the United States.

On Feb. 20, UCSD will join USD and SDSU in a joint project to assist students in a clean-up effort at Wilson Junior High School. Approximately 100 students from the three universities will assist Wilson students in cleaning, painting and trash pick-up.

For more information on the "Spotlight the Homeless Program," or the UCSD Volunteer Connection, call Ellen Caprio at 534-1414.

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