The Paradox of Partnership: From Dialogue to Action  
1:15 – 4:00, Friday, June 5, 2015  
USD State of Nonprofit and Philanthropy Summit

Over the past few months, a few nonprofit and philanthropic colleagues came together at USD’s Leadership Institute in the School of Education and Leadership Sciences (SOLES) to explore how honest dialogue could lead to the kind of authentic relationships that are the underpinning of a strong social sector. Over the course of these sessions five specific areas (Collaboration, Relationship/Dialogue, Social Equity, More Resources, Data and Mapping) were identified where nonprofits, philanthropy, academia, business, and government can work collectively to create a positive difference in San Diego County.

We invite you to join these continuing conversations as a co-creator of action-oriented ways to leverage what is good in San Diego for the benefit of all in our region. Attendees will engage in dialogue, design, and action to build on existing work and address continuing, often unavoidable, paradoxes in the nonprofit/philanthropic sector (e.g., the need for greater collaboration juxtaposed against funding limitations that fuel competition; the drive for measurable outcomes juxtaposed against the urgent need to take the kinds of risks that lead to innovative social solutions) while catalyzing new options.

Breakout Groups:

1. **Collaboration: Building on the Collective Efforts that Currently Exist**
   Our region has many active collaborations across numerous community challenges and opportunities. Ideally, these collaboratives will be well known throughout the county and attract more individuals and institutions to invest their time, money, knowledge, and/or skills. **Questions:** How can local collaboratives meet their full potential? What are the ingredients of sustained, effective collaboration?

   We spend a lot of time connecting with others through meetings, conversations, and convenings. Many times at the end of the day, we ask ourselves, so what did we accomplish? Ideally, all gatherings would serve a dual purpose to allow us to build relationships as well as to move our work in the community forward. **Questions:** How do we pay attention to purpose—both task and relationship—in each meeting to generate desired outcomes? How do we create enough space for genuine connection that builds trust, community, and mutual accountability?

3. **Social Equity: Connecting the Dots Regionally**
   There is a lot of great work taking place in San Diego to help individuals and communities have more opportunities for demographically representative leadership in our region, and to create dynamic paths to well-being for all San Diegans. **Questions:** How do we move nimbly back and forth between macro perspectives and structures and local/resident level insights and ownership in the course of efforts to advance social equity? How can we attract a diverse array of stakeholders to get involved and take action?

4. **More Resources: Leveraging Opportunities to Meet Challenges**
   Our communities have challenges that we are all helping to address. Ideally, our region will be better organized and aligned to attract and invest resources (money, time, talent) to achieve our vision for a better San Diego for all. **Questions:** How can we better attract and mobilize resources for our efforts? How can we better leverage resources?

5. **Data & Mapping: Creating an Accessible Single Source**
Currently in San Diego and across the state there are many institutions collecting data. The challenge is that those who need to use the data spend a lot of time looking for it. Ideally, there would be one source to which all of us could go for the information we need. **Questions:** What would access to data need to look like to allow us to more effectively use it? What are the kinds of data that should be widely and easily accessible? How can we engage productively with data while remaining mindful that the long-term complexity of social challenges, and the kinds of social change our communities seek, are not always easily captured by data?