



## Independent Facilitators Listing for Los Angeles County

Below is a list of individuals and companies who have notified the State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Los Angeles Office that they provide independent facilitation services in Los Angeles County. We cannot guarantee the quality of their work, the training they have received, or your satisfaction with their services. This listing is provided as a public service only and is not an endorsement of any person or company listed below.

An individual who serves as an independent facilitator is required to receive training in the principles of self-determination, the person-centered planning process and other responsibilities and roles of the independent facilitator. The independent facilitator shall meet standards and certification requirements established by the department [pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code §4685.8 (c)(2)]. **Participants should verify that the prospective independent facilitator has met the training requirements. Your regional center may also choose to verify this information.**

Name	Business Name/website	Phone Number	Email	Other information/specialties	Language(s)
Acuna, Luana	LiNk	909-843-6590	<a href="mailto:luana@linksrvs.org">luana@linksrvs.org</a>		
Alvarado, Danielle	Special Needs Advocacy <a href="http://www.DanielleAlvarado.org">www.DanielleAlvarado.org</a>	562-805-7820	<a href="mailto:Det4kds@aol.com">Det4kds@aol.com</a>		
Amster, Melissa (Meira)	Amster Law Firm <a href="http://www.amsterlawfirm.com">www.amsterlawfirm.com</a>	213-444-6028	<a href="mailto:melissa@amsterlawfirm.com">melissa@amsterlawfirm.com</a>		
Ardon, Melissa	<a href="http://www.MelissaArdon.com">www.MelissaArdon.com</a>	310-654-2750	<a href="mailto:melissalifeProtection@gmail.com">melissalifeProtection@gmail.com</a>		Spanish
Askew, Octavia	Excellence Community Rehabilitation Program <a href="http://www.excellencecrp.com">www.excellencecrp.com</a>	424-789-0439	<a href="mailto:excellencecrp@gmail.com">excellencecrp@gmail.com</a>		
Baca, Catherine	My Living Specialist	213-590-2273	<a href="mailto:MyLivingSpecialist@gmail.com">MyLivingSpecialist@gmail.com</a>	Independent Specialist since 1996, Aging Advocate, Conservator/Trust Administrator, Rehabilitation Services, and LGBTQ	
Barker, Iris		310-874-9861	<a href="mailto:irisbarkersd@gmail.com">irisbarkersd@gmail.com</a>	Parent of an SDP participant, Community	English

Updated: 12/2022

Name	Business Name/website	Phone Number	Email	Other information/specialties	Language(s)
				Liaison at Club 21 Pasadena, Care Navigator/IF for Undivided	Spanish
Barry, Cindy		661-645-7726	<a href="mailto:CBarryMBA@gmail.com">CBarryMBA@gmail.com</a>	Medical services/supports Autism spectrum School care Contracts Community integration Sports	
Beavers, Dustlyne	First Choice Solutions <a href="http://www.gofcsolutions.com">www.gofcsolutions.com</a>	760-201-5121	<a href="mailto:dbeavers@gofcsolutions.com">dbeavers@gofcsolutions.com</a>	All ages served Specialize in complex planning needs & extensive budget development IEP support Former Service Coordinator and SD Pilot Coordinator	
Bell, Louise		626-676-7949	<a href="mailto:lauren717@sbcglobal.net">lauren717@sbcglobal.net</a>		
Bernstein, Diane		818-943-8159	<a href="mailto:desianer@gmail.com">desianer@gmail.com</a>	Parent of SD Participant Employment Financial Resource Educator Art teacher/owner Desianer Studios Special Education	
	Alisson Cameron Gray <a href="https://www.allisoncamer.com">https://www.allisoncamer.com</a>	818-577-5367	<a href="mailto:independentallison@gmail.com">independentallison@gmail.com</a>	Cerebral Palsy, AAC, School and Transition-age	

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Cameron Gray, Allison	<a href="http://ongray.com/if.html">ongray.com/if.html</a>			children, and Finding community-based resources	
Carter, Charmaine	PACE	805-827-3687	<a href="mailto:paceconsultant91326@gmail.com">paceconsultant91326@gmail.com</a>		
Cha-McGrath, Jamie	Life Enrichment Project LLC	818-357-1705	<a href="mailto:jmcgrath@lifeenrichmentproject.com">jmcgrath@lifeenrichmentproject.com</a>	Worked as Service Coordinator and Family Support Specialist at Regional center. PCP Vendor # PD4135	Korean bilingual
Charness, Sonni	Guidelight Group <a href="http://www.guidelightgroup.org">www.guidelightgroup.org</a>	310-883-8343	<a href="mailto:hello@guidelightgroup.org">hello@guidelightgroup.org</a>	Person-centered planning Facilitation for teens and adults	English
Cisneros, Steven	Ally Comprehensive Services LLC	310-878-8485	<a href="mailto:scisneros@allycs.org">scisneros@allycs.org</a>	All ages served. Strength-based goals Person centered planning.	English Spanish
Cuevas, Elizabeth		626-354-8685	<a href="mailto:Elizabethcuevassdp@gmail.com">Elizabethcuevassdp@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:cuevasmom@mac.com">cuevasmom@mac.com</a>		Spanish
David-Nicolas, Vivian	B&D Assessment and Consulting Services	310-341-9729 209-287-1907	<a href="mailto:info@bdassessmentservices.com">info@bdassessmentservices.com</a>	Over 30 years of collective experience serving individuals with disabilities. Serves all ages and disabilities. Works with all California state	Spanish Arabic Assyrian Farsi

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				regional centers. Experts in working with autism spectrum disorders, educational and clinical services. Family members of regional center consumers. Specialized in understanding and developing individualized programs and understanding complex planning needs. Person Centered Planning, Transition Supports and Independent Facilitation in addition to consultation services related to areas of expertise.	English
Frack, Gigi	<a href="http://www.goldenmonkeyyoga.com">www.goldenmonkeyyoga.com</a>	323-813-5862	<a href="mailto:gfrack@me.com">gfrack@me.com</a>		Spanish
Francis, Jon	FXD Alliance <a href="http://www.fxdalliance.com">www.fxdalliance.com</a>	818-275-0372	<a href="mailto:support@fxdalliance.com">support@fxdalliance.com</a>		
Faulkner, Renee		323-447-2231	<a href="mailto:Laderahomes1@yahoo.com">Laderahomes1@yahoo.com</a>		
Garcia, Jocabed	Tools for Legacy <a href="http://www.toolsforlegacy.com">www.toolsforlegacy.com</a>	323-592-0233	<a href="mailto:jocabed@toolsforlegacy.com">jocabed@toolsforlegacy.com</a>		Spanish
Gomez-	Ideal Program Services	310-701-3889	<a href="mailto:jgomez@idealprogramsservice">jgomez@idealprogramsservice</a>		

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Kulnapermisiri, Janet			<a href="#">s.org</a>		
Gordon, Gayle	Empower Training Institute Inc. <a href="http://www.empowertraining.org">www.empowertraining.org</a>	323-684-7558 424-291-2774	<a href="mailto:empowertraining3@gmail.com">empowertraining3@gmail.com</a>		
Grajeda, Martha	Ally Comprehensive Services LLC	310-878-8485	mgrajeda@allycs.org	All ages serviced. 10+ years' experience providing Regional Center Services and advocacy	English Spanish
Grant, DeLawrence	Understanding Needed Integration, LLC.	424-292-3726 Office	<a href="mailto:dg@unisupportservices.com">dg@unisupportservices.com</a>	Person-Centered Planning Employment Service/Individual Support	Spanish/English
Grubbs, Kristina	B&D Assessment and Consulting Services	310-341-9729 209-287-1907	<a href="mailto:info@bdassessmentservices.com">info@bdassessmentservices.com</a>	Over 30 years of collective experience serving individuals with disabilities. Serves all ages and disabilities. Works with all California state regional centers. Experts in working with autism spectrum disorders, educational and clinical services. Family members of regional center consumers. Specialized in understanding and	Spanish Arabic Assyrian Farsi English

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				developing individualized programs and understanding complex planning needs. Person Centered Planning, Transition Supports and Independent Facilitation in addition to consultation services related to areas of expertise.	
Iñiguez, Laura		818-462-3248	<a href="mailto:leis0323@yahoo.com">leis0323@yahoo.com</a>		
Jinzo, Elizabeth	Exceptional Services for Independence <a href="http://www.desiserve.org">www.desiserve.org</a>	323-303-4292	<a href="mailto:lizjinzo@outlook.com">lizjinzo@outlook.com</a>		
Jones, Melissa		714-329 3554	<a href="mailto:selfdeterminationwithmj@gmail.com">selfdeterminationwithmj@gmail.com</a>		
Jordan Jones, Shelia	JJA: Impact Solutions, LLC	310-528-9351	<a href="mailto:jja.impactolutions@gmail.com">jja.impactolutions@gmail.com</a>	Person Centered Plans Certified Person-Centered Trainer 39 yrs. Transition Specialist Special Education Work Incentive Practitioner	
Karakunnel, Ben	Home Instead	818-235-3849	<a href="mailto:Ben.karakunnel@homeinstead.com">Ben.karakunnel@homeinstead.com</a>		Spanish

Name	Business Name/website	Phone Number	Email	Other information/specialties	Language(s)
Khatchadourian, Taleen	Guidelight Group <a href="http://www.guidelightgroup.org">www.guidelightgroup.org</a>	cell 626-838-3568 office 310-883-8343	<a href="mailto:taleen@guidelightgroup.org">taleen@guidelightgroup.org</a>	Person-Centered Planning, Transition Assistance into SDP and Independent Facilitator for ongoing support on transition age teens and adults	English Armenian
LaRose, Julie	Path Forward Facilitation	747-217-3088	<a href="mailto:julielarose@pathforwardllc.com">julielarose@pathforwardllc.com</a>		
Lehman, Carla	Exceptional Connections <a href="http://www.exceptionalconnections.co">www.exceptionalconnections.co</a>	310-425-4485	<a href="http://www.exceptionalconnections.co">www.exceptionalconnections.co</a>	Working as an Independent Facilitator since 2019 Certified in Person Centered Thinking Services: Person Center Planning, Independent Facilitator, Parent Coaching, and Training. Parent Support Groups, Help Accessing Generic Resources and Services in the Community. IPP, and IEP Advocacy	English Spanish
Liu, Cathay			<a href="mailto:ckliu3@gmail.com">ckliu3@gmail.com</a>		Mandarin
Longmire, Doris	Empowered Life Planning	818-671-7846	<a href="mailto:empowered.lifeplan@gmail.com">empowered.lifeplan@gmail.com</a>	Licensed Marriage/Family Therapist Former regional center self-determination manager and service	Spanish

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				coordinator.	
Lopez, Griselda		323-928-0442	<a href="mailto:Griselda.lopez48@yahoo.com">Griselda.lopez48@yahoo.com</a>		
Lee, Soo	SERAC (Special Education Research, Advocacy and Consulting)	925-335-6431	<a href="mailto:serac@sooleephd.com">serac@sooleephd.com</a>	Ph.D. Candidate / Researcher at UCLA Center for Autism Research and Treatment; Special Education Consultant at SERAC; Over 10 years of experience collaborating with autism researchers, agencies, and families across the country	English, Korean
McElwee, Sandra	Empower Person Centered Planning	949-433-1702	<a href="mailto:Empowerpcp@gmail.com">Empowerpcp@gmail.com</a>	Adults Setting up micro-business	
Maranon, Carola Camacho	Resilience Facilitation Services	562-688-5579	<a href="mailto:carolcmaranon@gmail.com">carolcmaranon@gmail.com</a>	Person-Centered Planning, including all necessary services to transition to SDP. Independent Facilitator after transition to SDP.	Spanish English
Marhaba, Jonathon		818-368-2600	<a href="mailto:jonathanm@martecconstruction.com">jonathanm@martecconstruction.com</a>	Children through age 22	



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Marhaba, Raja (Amy)		818-368-2600	<a href="mailto:amym@martecconstruction.com">amym@martecconstruction.com</a>	Children through age 22 Specialize in IEPs	Arabic
Marmolejo, Rita		323-682-2440	<a href="mailto:Rmarmolejo.sis1@gmail.com">Rmarmolejo.sis1@gmail.com</a>		
Martinez, Joe	Moving Closer Together	747-224-1185	<a href="mailto:joe@movingclosertogether.com">joe@movingclosertogether.com</a>		Spanish
McBurnie, Michelle		323-236-2939	<a href="mailto:michelleofthebay@yahoo.com">michelleofthebay@yahoo.com</a>		
Melgar, Karla	Ideal Program Services	310-701-1995	<a href="mailto:Kmelgar@idealprogramsservices.org">Kmelgar@idealprogramsservices.org</a>		
Meraz, Jose	LiNk	626-408-5847 562-447-6545	<a href="mailto:jose@dtwgroups.com">jose@dtwgroups.com</a>		
Mercado, Cecilia	Conexiones Educativas <a href="http://www.conexioneducativasOC.org">www.conexioneducativasOC.org</a>	714-398-4710	<a href="mailto:Ceci.mercado@yahoo.com">Ceci.mercado@yahoo.com</a>		Spanish
Moralls, Kristianna	Autism Support Community	818-850-2372	<a href="http://www.autismsupportcommunity.org">www.autismsupportcommunity.org</a> <a href="mailto:info@autismsupportcommunity.org">info@autismsupportcommunity.org</a>	21+ years' experience special education/ regional advocate advocate Person-centered planning Parent of SDP participant Specialize in transition-age youth and adults Los Angeles Area	Spanish & Korean with interpreter

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Moser, Veronica		213-841-9236	<a href="mailto:Msromosr@yahoo.com">Msromosr@yahoo.com</a>		
Myles, Laneishae	<a href="http://laneishae1982.wixsite.com/mysite">laneishae1982.wixsite.com/mysite</a>	562-233-6067	<a href="mailto:Laneishae1982@yahoo.com">Laneishae1982@yahoo.com</a>		
Nelson-Mitchell, Tara	Ideal Program Services	310-701-9665	<a href="mailto:Tmitchell@idealprogramsservices.org">Tmitchell@idealprogramsservices.org</a>		
Newman, Debra		323-304-3776	<a href="mailto:dlbnewman@gmail.com">dlbnewman@gmail.com</a>		
Neurodiversity Inc.	Neurodiversity, Inc		<a href="mailto:neurodiversityco@gmail.com">neurodiversityco@gmail.com</a>		
Nieves, Josefina	NestDan	323-213-3883 323-742-1674	<a href="mailto:Nestdan2017@gmail.com">Nestdan2017@gmail.com</a>		Spanish
Nishitani, Osamu	CHOICESS <a href="http://www.choicess.org">www.choicess.org</a>	714-348-6428	<a href="mailto:onishitani@choicess.org">onishitani@choicess.org</a>		Japanese
Ochoa, Armida	Ochoa's Consulting LLC <a href="http://www.ochoasconsultingllc.business.site">www.ochoasconsultingllc.business.site</a>	323-490-7062	<a href="mailto:info@ochoasconsultingllc.com">info@ochoasconsultingllc.com</a>	Person-centered planning Special education In-Home Support Services Social Security (SSI) CA Children's Services (CCS) Dept. of Rehabilitation MediCal	Spanish
Okunubi, Lara	Ideal Program Services	310-701-8704	<a href="mailto:lokunubi@idealprogramsservices.org">lokunubi@idealprogramsservices.org</a>		
Pauly, Tamra	Person Centered Projects <a href="http://www.personcenteredprojec">www.personcenteredprojec</a>	310-489-9883	<a href="mailto:tamra@personcenteredprojec">tamra@personcenteredprojec</a>	Person-centered projects	

Name	Business Name/website	Phone Number	Email	Other information/specialties	Language(s)
	<a href="http://cts.com">cts.com</a>	484-248-5608	<a href="http://ts.com">ts.com</a>	Serves ages 5 and up Vendor of multiple regional centers	
Peters-Vernier, Janne		310-989-9760	<a href="mailto:jannezac@yahoo.com">jannezac@yahoo.com</a>		
Naomi Hagel	Phoenix Facilitation of California LLC	310-863-7977		<a href="mailto:info@gophoenix.org">info@gophoenix.org</a>	English Spanish
Ramirez, Katie	Ally Comprehensive Services LLC	310-933-5112	<a href="mailto:kramirez@allycs.org">kramirez@allycs.org</a>	All ages served. Strength-based goals Person centered planning.	English Spanish
Reese, Helen		310-892-8726	<a href="mailto:helenwreese@protonmail.com">helenwreese@protonmail.com</a>	Person-Centered Plan and Independent Facilitator for all ages	English Mandarin
Rios, Elvia	Latinx Special Needs Advocacy Network	323-804-3336	<a href="mailto:latinxsnanetwork@gmail.com">latinxsnanetwork@gmail.com</a>	All Ages  Service Areas: Los Angeles County, specifically San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center, Frank Laternman Regional Center, North Los Angeles Regional Center, West Los Angeles Regional Center	Spanish
Rockwell, Christina	Dignified Independent Facilitators, LLS	760-258-1106	<a href="mailto:clientcare@dignifiedif.com">clientcare@dignifiedif.com</a>		

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	<a href="http://www.dignifiedif.com">www.dignifiedif.com</a>				
Rodriguez, Evelyn	Latino Parents Mentors LLC <a href="http://www.lpmentors.com">www.lpmentors.com</a>	562-521-5795	<a href="mailto:evelyn@lpmentors.com">evelyn@lpmentors.com</a>		
Ruiz-Merroth, Maria E., M.Ed, ABA Paralegal	SOS Paralegal, LLC <a href="http://www.sosparalegal.com">http://www.sosparalegal.com</a>  Yo Domino Mi IEP <a href="http://www.yodominomi-iep.com">http://www.yodominomi-iep.com</a>	949-326-6612 949-394-9746	<a href="mailto:info@sosparalegal.com">info@sosparalegal.com</a>	Special education teacher. ABA Paralegal. Advocate. CA Mediator. Department of Rehabilitation. Certified interpreter /Document translator. Person-Centered-Planner and independent facilitator.	Spanish - Native Read, Write, Speak
Sanchez, Kyra LCSW	Person First LA <a href="http://www.personfirstla.com">www.personfirstla.com</a>	323-621-0188	<a href="mailto:kyras@personfirstla.com">kyras@personfirstla.com</a>	Licensed Social Worker (LCSW), experienced case manager, experience working with regional center participants, training from the Guidelight Group	
Scott, Natachia		323-788-1015	<a href="mailto:natachia74@gmail.com">natachia74@gmail.com</a>		
Shoef, Wendy	Autism Society of Los Angeles <a href="http://www.autismla.org">www.autismla.org</a>		<a href="mailto:wendy@autismla.us">wendy@autismla.us</a>  <a href="mailto:pcp@autismla.us">pcp@autismla.us</a>	Specialize in identifying unmet needs, resolving budget issues, creating spending plans	

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Sakuma, Reiko		310-483-5633	<a href="mailto:rksmca@verizon.net">rksmca@verizon.net</a>		Japanese/ English
Ustaris, Susan		323-363-3450	<a href="mailto:susanustaris@yahoo.com">susanustaris@yahoo.com</a>		Tagalog
Walters, Tracey	Self Determination Independent Facilitator <a href="http://www.selfdeterminationindependentfacilitator.com">www.selfdeterminationindependentfacilitator.com</a>	310-970-0499	<a href="mailto:selfdeterminationfacilitator@gmail.com">selfdeterminationfacilitator@gmail.com</a>		
Watts, Monica		626-298-3622	<a href="mailto:Mwatts6@me.com">Mwatts6@me.com</a> <a href="mailto:mwatts@patienthealthadvocacy.org">mwatts@patienthealthadvocacy.org</a>		
Wenger, Claudia	Claudia Cares Consulting, Inc. <a href="http://www.claudiacares.com">www.claudiacares.com</a>	818-345-6313	<a href="mailto:Welcome@ClaudiaCares.com">Welcome@ClaudiaCares.com</a>	Providing support to enter SDP and ongoing services since 2019	Spanish Hebrew
Whitford, Linda	Wings of Wisdom <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Wings-of-Wisdom-Consulting-117619852976834/?view_public_for=117619852976834">https://www.facebook.com/Wings-of-Wisdom-Consulting-117619852976834/?view_public_for=117619852976834</a>	310-850-5407	<a href="mailto:winwisdomof@gmail.com">winwisdomof@gmail.com</a>		