# Emily D. Iland, M.A.

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#### **Education**

- California State University, Northridge. Post-Master's Certificate in Educational Therapy, 2012.
- California State University, Northridge. Master's Degree in Special Education with distinction, focus in Educational Therapy, May, 2007.
- Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. B.A. degree summa cum laude. Double Major: Political Science and Spanish, a year at the University of Madrid.
- Santa Clarita/College of the Canyons Community Leadership Program, 2003.

#### **Employment**

- President, Camino Cinema, 2013-present. Creator of BE SAFE The Movie and BE SAFE Teaching Edition that teach teens and adults with special needs how to interact safely with the police.
- President of Emily Iland, Inc., 2003-present. Independent contractor providing consultation, curriculum development, program development and training for parents, organizations, and government agencies.
- Part time Faculty, 2009-present, California State University, Northridge Department of Special Education.
- Professional Speaker, 2003-Present. Presents conference sessions and full-day trainings on a variety of topics in Spanish and English, in the U.S. and abroad.
- Educational Consultant, 2003-2009. Specializing in autism spectrum disorders, bilingual advocacy services, and family support.

#### **Major Consulting Contracts and Projects**

- **BE SAFE The Movie,** 2013. Author and producer of video modeling DVD that shows teens and adults how to interact safely with the police
- BE SAFE Teaching Edition, 2013. Author and producer of companion curriculum for BE SAFE The Movie, which includes more than 300 pages of differentiated activities, materials, goals and resources to help a wide range of learners master the key safety skills of BE SAFE.
- Experience Autism, 2013. Created unique hands-on experiential learning workshop to help police and first responders understand and respond to individuals with ASD. Originally designed for the Los Angeles Police Department and available via consulting contract to other agencies.
- Mission Possible, 2010-present. Project manager for the Autism Society of Los Angeles, partnering with the Los Angeles Police Department. Created experiential learning activities and materials to teach young people with autism how to interact safely with the police. Project awarded City of Los Angeles 2013 Quality and Productivity Improvement Award.

- Awareness in a Box, 2011. Author of hands-on curriculum for an experiencebased autism awareness and social inclusion program.
- Tierra del Sol Foundation, 2010-present. Develop and present ongoing training for 230 staff working with adults with autism and developmental disabilities across the spectrum in home, community, and academic settings. Provide consultation and recommendations for specific client needs.
- University of Wisconsin, Madison, 2009-present. Co-author of curriculum for Spanish-speaking parents, By Understanding Autism, I Can Better Understand My Child. This project, using the culturally-competent promotora model, raises awareness of child development milestones and provides personalized autism support to an underserved community.
- National Inclusion Project, 2009-2010. Develop curricular material for inclusive service learning in camp and recreation settings, LEAP Forward: Learn. Experience. Achieve. Play. A Service Learning Curriculum to Foster Greater Inclusion.
- **Fiesta Educativa**, 2006-present. Develop and present autism education curriculum for parents of newly-diagnosed children, in English and Spanish.
- Bubel-Aiken Foundation, 2006-2008. Development of *Together We Make a Difference* Inclusive Service Learning (ISL) curricula for elementary, junior high and high school students.
- University of Minnesota Institute on Community Integration, 2001-2005. California State Representative of the Yes I Can Program for Social Inclusion. Provided support and training to junior high and high school staff to implement the model inclusion program.
- Custom Webinars 2007-present include Cultural Competence for Easter Seals National Office, Play Development for Lekotek, Safety Skills for Autism Now

## Experience

- Senate Select Committee Taskforce on Equity and Diversity, 2012-2013. Statewide leader making policy and legislative recommendations promoting equity for underserved communities and cultural competence to work with diverse families in the Regional Center System.
- Senate Select Committee on Autism, 2009-present. Chairman of the North Los Angeles work group on education and employment for adults with autism spectrum disorders. Also addressing issues of diagnosis, insurance, eligibility and access to appropriate services and supports. Los Angeles County delegate to the Community of Practice Autism Advisory Workgroup on Transition and Employment, 2011.
- Subject Matter Expert, State of California POST Autism Awareness Training Video, Spring 2009 (Peace Officer Standards and Training). Selected as 1 of 8 civilians to help create the law enforcement training materials on autism for the state of California, mandated by SB1513.
- California Blue Ribbon Commission on Autism, 2007. Member of the Transition Task Force drafting state legislative recommendations for teens and adults with autism, including SB1513 mandating creation of autism awareness materials for law enforcement organizations.
- Program developer, project manager, and lead trainer of the Autism Society-Los Angeles Police Department Autism Awareness Training, 2007-

present. Providing training for Los Angeles Police Department Officers, to recognize and respond effectively to individuals with autism. More than 3,000 trained to date.

- Board of Directors, Autism Society of America Los Angeles Chapter. President 2007-2013. Leadership position since 2006.
- Founding member and Chairman of C.L.E.A.R., Community and Law Enforcement Aware Response, 2003-present; Project Manager effective 2008. Created a computerized Special Needs Registry to assist the public served by the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department, Santa Clarita Station, recognized in 2011 as a *national model* by the Department of Homeland Security. Train Santa Clarita Valley Sheriffs to recognize and respond to individuals with autism.
- Founding Member, Board of Directors, Santa Clarita Autism Asperger Network (SCAAN). Leader and advocate in local autism support group, 1995present. Provide support for families and encourage collaboration with autism groups, and support organizations and service providers.
- Consultant on an informal basis, 2004-present, to the City of Santa Clarita Parks and Recreation Department regarding the inclusion of children with disabilities in Parks and Rec program.
- Grant writer for non-profit groups 2000-present. Awarded more than \$80,000 for educational projects and social/recreational inclusion initiatives.

#### **Books**

- Drawing A Blank, scholarly and practical information on reading comprehension and autism (Autism Asperger Publishing Company, 2011).
- Autism Spectrum Disorders from A to Z, with Barbara T. Doyle (Future Horizons, 2004).
- Los Trastornos del Espectro de Autismo de la A a la Z (Translator and publisher of the Spanish version of Autism Spectrum Disorders from A to Z (Emily Iland, Inc., 2005).

## **Publications**

- Iland, E. No more Asperger's? What educational therapists need to know about the changes in the DSM-V. *The Educational Therapist Journal* (in press, Spring 2013)
- Iland, E., Weiner, I., & Murawski, W.W. (2012). Obstacles Faced by Latina Mothers of Children with Autism. *Californian Journal of Health Promotion, Special Issue: Health Disparities in Latino Communities (10),* 25-36.
- Magaña, S., Iland, E., Wroblewski, N., Paradiso, R., & Machalicek, W. (2010). By understanding autism I can better understand my child: Manual for Latino families of children with ASD. (University of Wisconsin-Madison, Waisman Center, Cultural Context of Caregiving Lab, 1500 Highland Ave, Madison, WI 53705)
- Contributing author (2004 to the present) to multiple autism-related publications such as *The Advocate* (Autism Society of America), *The Autism Perspective*, and *Autism Asperger Digest*.
- Bilingual Resource Guide, a free online tool that directs Spanish-speaking families to useful internet information about autism. Descriptions of sites in English and Spanish allow those who don't speak Spanish to help people who do.

## <u>Thesis</u>

- Half a Chance is Not Enough- Obstacles Faced by Latina Mothers of Children with Autism, 2007. Largest study to date in the US asking Latina Mothers about the challenges they personally experienced after the diagnosis of their child.
- Presentation of thesis, National Social Science Association Conference, Las Vegas, and Autism Symposium, Universidad del Este, San Juan Puerto Rico, April 2009.

## Awards and Recognition

- Autism Society of America, Spirit of Supporting Autism Award (with Autism Society of Los Angeles) for Mission Possible/ Los Angeles Police Department Training, 2013.
- California State Legislature, Recognition for leadership and contribution to the Senate Select Committee Taskforce on Equity and Diversity for Regional Center Autism Services, 2012.
- California Emergency Services Association, Southern Chapter Diamond Award (Special Needs Registry) September, 2011.
- Department of Homeland Security, Recognition of the SCV Special Needs Registry as a national model, March, 2011.
- Centers for Disease Control Know the Signs. Act Early. Partner Spotlight, 2008.
- Los Angeles Police Commission Recognition Award May, 2008.
- Nathan O. Friedman Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year, California State University Northridge, 2007.
- International Latino Book Awards- Best Health Book 2006 (Autismo A-Z).
- Exceptional Parent Magazine Symbol of Excellence 2007(Autismo A-Z & ASD A-Z).
- Outstanding Literary Work of 2006, Autism Society of America (Autismo A-Z).
- City of Santa Clarita Community Service Award, 2005.
- William S. Hart District School Board Recognition Award, 2002.
- Phi Beta Kappa, 1979.

## **Professional Affiliations**

- Autism Society of America, Autism Society of Los Angeles
- Association of Educational Therapists
- Council for Exceptional Children

## **Community service**

- City of Santa Clarita Human Relations Forum, 2000-present.
- Stakeholder, City of Santa Clarita Emergency Mass Care & Shelter Plan.

## <u>Media</u>

- Live interviews on Spanish-language television for autism awareness.
- Radio interviews in California, Texas, Mexico and Puerto Rico, autism awareness.
- Radio Host for Autism One Radio, 2004-2014, in English and Spanish.
- Subject of numerous newspaper articles profiling projects and contributions to the field of autism, including the Los Angeles Times.
- Websites: <u>www.BeSafeTheMovie.com</u>, <u>www.asdAtoZ.com</u> <u>www.ReadingAutism.com</u> <u>www.emilyiland.com</u> and <u>www.elAutismo.org</u>