

## Zayda Sorrell-Medina

Assistant Professor, California State University, Northridge  
zayda.sorrell-medina@csun.edu

### EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Urban and Environmental Planning and Policy University of California, Irvine (UCI)	2023
Master's Social Work University of Pittsburgh	2012
B.A. Interdisciplinary Studies University of Missouri, Columbia	2010

### SPECIALIZATIONS

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Nonprofits, inclusion and exclusion, immigration, child welfare, urban context, public policy, theory development and testing, measurement, scale development, surveys, mixed methods research

### PUBLICATIONS

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Sorrell-Medina, Z. (forthcoming). National goal trends: Understanding the goals of U.S. immigrant organizations. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*.

Sorrell-Medina, Z (2024). Testing the relationship between local context and immigrant-serving nonprofit strategies. *Nonprofit Policy Forum*. <https://doi.org/10.1515/npf-2023-0063>

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2024) Optimizing immigrant and ethnic participation in qualitative research. In *Sage Research Methods: Diversifying and decolonizing research*. Sage publications.  
<https://doi.org/10.4135/9781529691108>

Sorrell-Medina, Z (2023). The theory of citizenry exclusion: Understanding why immigrant-serving nonprofits emerge. *Journal of Ethnic and Racial Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2023.2259448>

Nicholls, W. & Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2023). *Undocumented immigrant activism: The struggle for rights and recognition*. In Van Liempt, I., Schapendonk, J., Campos-Delgado, A., (Eds.), *Research handbook on irregular migration*. (pp. 106-117). Edward Elgar Publishing Limited. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781800377509.00017>

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2022). A Strategy Typology: Unearthing How U.S.-Immigrant-Serving Nonprofits Contribute to Immigrant Inclusion Outcomes. *Journal of Immigrant & Refugee Studies*, 1–14.  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15562948.2022.2132571>

**WORKS UNDER REVIEW/IN PROGRESS (SELECTED LIST)**

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Sorrell-Medina, Z, Aparacio, M., Godoy, A., Juarez, A. (Under Review). Nonprofit exclusion: The case of foster and adoption agencies.

Sorrell-Medina, Z & Aparacio, M. (Article in Progress). A scoping literature review of immigrant-serving nonprofit organizations.

Stamps, T. & Sorrell-Medina, Z. (Article in Progress). Unwanted children: An examination of how mass media depict foster youth in films

Tessler, T. & Sorrell-Medina, Z. (Article in Progress). Understanding exclusion: The case of AAPI discrimination during Covid-19.

Sorrell-Medina, Z (Book in Progress). Marigold: Uncovering the complexity of at Promise Youth.

**REPORTS**

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Sorrell-Medina, Z., Gonzales, L., Townley, H., Caballero, M., Quijano, M., Collins, S. (2021). *A Report on the state of Immigrant inclusion in Florida*. Welcoming Gainesville & Alachua Co.

Sorrell-Medina, Z., Madueke, K. (2021). *Evaluating the effectiveness of an art-based peace program in contributing to processes of peace in Jos, Nigeria*. Yemaya Productions, LLC.

**RESEARCH GRANTS**

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HIRI nonprofit Research Fellowship (\$5,000)	2023
School of Social Ecology Dissertation Fellowship (\$6,000)	2022
AAUW Dissertation Fellowship (\$20,000)	2021
Center for Global Peace and Conflict Studies Research Award (\$3,500)	2021
Urban Planning & Public Policy Summer Method Award (\$1,000)	2021
Urban Planning & Public Policy Summer Research Funding (\$3,000)	2021
Chancellor's Club Fellowship Award (\$3,000)	2020
Public Impact Fellow (\$1,000)	2020
Blum Center for Poverty Alleviation Award (\$2,900)	2020
Urban Planning & Public Policy Summer Research Funding (\$700)	2020
Urban Planning & Public Policy Summer Research Funding (\$500)	2019
Network for European and U.S. Regional and Urban Studies (\$3,500)	2019
Blum Center for Poverty Alleviation Small Change Better World Grant (\$3,000)	2018

**SELECT AWARDS**

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Division of Teaching Excellence and Innovation (DTEI) Fellowship (\$5,000)	2020
National Urban League Caring Adult Award	2017
United Way Be a Middle School Mentor Appreciation Award	2016
National Urban League Whitney M. Young Award	2015
University of Pittsburgh Rising Star Alumni Award	2014

## CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

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“Marigold: Uncovering the Complexity of at Promise Youth.” Los Angeles, CA. *Rise Up Conference*. October 17, 2024.

“Immigrant, Ethnic, and Religious Exclusion among Child Welfare Entities”. *National Association Social Workers Conference*. Oakland, CA.

“An artistic approach to peacebuilding.” *Conference on Environmental Peacebuilding in Geneva, Switzerland*. Online. February 4, 2022.

“Measuring immigrant-serving nonprofit strategies in US cities.” *Associate of Collegiate Schools of Planning*. Online. October 2021.

“An evaluation of immigrant inclusion in US cities.” Center for Global and Conflict Studies (GPACS). Irvine, California. January 2020.

“US and Dutch Sample: The goals and strategies of immigrant-serving third sector” *Network for European U.S. Regional and Urban Studies*. Gronigen, Netherlands. September 2020

“Measuring the impact of the immigrant nonprofit sector.” *Network for European U.S. Regional and Urban Studies*. Gronigen, Netherlands. September 2019

## INVITED PRESENTATIONS

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Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2024, December). *Evaluating Inclusion: A proposed metric for evaluating inclusion in organizations and beyond*. Online. CSUN. Valley Nonprofit Resources.

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2021, June). *What is inclusion? A framework for policy and practice*. State of Immigrant Inclusion in Florida Expo. [Online](#).

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2021, June). *Is Florida Inclusive? An empirical evaluation*. State of Immigrant Inclusion in Florida Expo. [Online](#).

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2021, June). *What are the goals of the US immigrant-serving nonprofit sector? Areas for future innovation, strategic planning and development*. State of Immigrant Inclusion in Florida Expo. [Online](#).

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2020, February). *Immigrant Inclusion in US Cities*. UCI Urbanization and Social Change Class. Irvine, California.

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2019, May). *Environmental Justice and City Planning*. UCI Sustainability II Class. Irvine, California. May 2019

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2019, May). *From Youth Homelessness to Academia*. UCI Second Annual Foster Youth Leadership Summit. Irvine, California.

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2019, May). *The Role of Nonprofits in Contributing to Immigrant Inclusion Outcomes*. UCI Contentious Cities Workshop. Irvine, California.

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2018, April). *Integrating the Arts to Achieve Sustainability*. UCI Sustainability I Class. Irvine, California.

Sorrell-Medina, Z. (2015, April). *Social Work and Social Policy*. University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work. Pittsburgh, PA.

## TEACHING

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### **Assistant Professor, California State University Northridge 2023-Present**

698, Graduate (Capstone) Project  
635, Social Work Research Methods  
525, Social Welfare Policy and Services

### **Instructor, University of California, Irvine, 2022**

Research design, Summer 2022

### **Teaching Assistant, University of California Irvine, 2017-2022**

Environmental Analysis and Design, Fall 2022  
Quantitative Analysis for Planners, Winter 2021  
Urban Studies, Spring 2021  
Urban and Social Change, Winter 2020  
Environmental Analysis and Design, Fall 2020  
Global Poverty & Inequality, Spring 2020  
Environmental Analysis and Design, Winter 2019  
Urban America, Fall 2019  
Research Design, Summer 2019  
Sustainability II, Spring 2018  
Sustainability I, Winter 2018  
Sustainability I, Fall 2018  
Introduction to Urban Studies, Fall 2017

## MENTORSHIP

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### **Master's Thesis Committee Chair (2023-2024):**

**Adrián Castellano**, From Immigrating to Queerness: The Effect of Parents' Immigrant Catholic Religiosity on LGBTQ+ Adult Kids

**Talya Tessler**, Understanding Exclusion: The Case of The AAPI Population During The COVID-19 Pandemic

**Dilpreet Kaur Sidhu**, From Playgrounds to Prisons: The Role of Over Policing in Minority Youth Incarceration

**Kyle Jacobson**, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder Treatment Efficacy  
**Adrian Lopez-Marquez**, Type 2 Diabetes Health Literacy for Latinx Adults  
**Maria Fabery**, Adult Children of Alcoholics and Resilience  
**Marisa Sandoval**, A Case Study on the Effects of Expressing Writing on Latinx Individuals Coping with Grief  
**Lillian Holmes**, Secondary Trauma Among Nonprofit Employees  
**Hanna Hall**, Supporting Palliative Care Volunteers After the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evaluating The Heart Touch Project's Volunteer Reengagement Program and Recommendations for Improvement  
**Daniel Johnson**, How Gender Roles Espoused in Evangelical Christianity Impact Evangelical Women  
**Melizza Zarazua**, La Chancla: How Mexican Americans perceive their experiences with physical punishment  
**Harper Wayne**, Equitability of Student Bereavement Leave Policies at US Universities  
**Sandy Orellano**, Parental Domestic Violence Effect on Latinx Women's Relationships  
**Dylan Wexlar**, Leaving the Red Pill: The Deradicalization Process of Red Pill Adherents and the Role that Women Play in the Deradicalization Process  
**Rachel Flores**, Effective Emotional Support: Unearthing factors that make emotional support animals effective  
**Bee Curiel**, The Housing Landscape for Transgender, Gender Expansive, and Intersex People in Los Angeles County  
**Vanessa Fierro**, Why do Indigenous youth participate in Indigenous cultural programs?  
**Yair Lopez**, What Are the Factors That Explain Why Latino Gay Men/MSM Use Methamphetamine in Los Angeles?  
**Lara Densing Lanting**, LA County Residents' Awareness of the Safely Surrendered Baby Law  
**Leah Reeve**, What Are Factors That Explain Why Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) or LGBTQIA2S+ Individuals Experience Homelessness in the United States?  
**Yesenia Valdez & Yesenia Puente**, Adverse Childhood Experiences; A scoping literature review of Women in Prison  
**Jocelyn Cortes**, Mentoring as a Tool for Educational Resilience: A Program Evaluation of M.O.S.A.I.C Mentoring Program *Mentoring to Overcome Struggles and Inspire Courage*  
**Eolyne Arnold and Zuleyma Zamora**, Heteronormativity in Fatherhood: The Impact on Child Outcomes  
**Madeleine Sosa**, How did The Covid-19 Lockdown Affect the Development Skills of School-Aged children? A Scoping Literature Review  
**Rosa Barragan and Jennipher Aquino**, Understanding Factors that Influence Caregiver Recognition of ADHD Symptomatology in Children: A Scoping Literature Review  
**Iveta Elaquez**, Does Cannabidiol Treatment Provide an Effective Treatment for Anxiety and Depression in Older Adults in California?  
**Kristina Martinez**, Children of Mothers Who Are Sex Workers: A Scoping Literature Review  
**Teshée Stamps**, How Are Foster Youth Depicted in Fictional Films in the United States?  
**Devlin Diaz**, Gender Affirming Hormone Care, An Intervention for Trans Youth Suicide  
**Zuleima Perez**, Youth Diversion Programs

## UNIVERSITY SERVICE

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### Department

Research Sequence Chair, 2023, 2024

Hiring Committee, 2023

Professionalism Policy Committee, 2024  
Admission's Application Reader, 2024  
Graduate Student Faculty Liaison, 2017, 2018

### College

How to prepare for a conference, Online Workshop, 2024  
Black History Month Program Presenter, The Black House, 2024

### University

CSUNposium Judge, 2024  
Mini-Workshop Video for Graduate Studies: How to prepare for a conference

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

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### Director | *Yemaya Productions, LLC, 2012-Present*

Develop and implement community-based program interventions and workshops in collaboration with researchers, students, artists, and the community at large.

### Research Consultant | *Forward Together Program, 2021*

Developed and implemented metrics to measure the degree to which Florida is inclusive towards immigrants, resulting in a report in collaboration with nonprofit leaders and researchers used for policy advocacy to advance immigrants' rights.

### Co-Director | *From the Margins Peace Program of Yemaya Productions, 2020-2021*

Co-developed an evidence-based peace program intervention implemented in Jos, Nigeria on 14 Christians and Muslims in conflict, increasing mutual understanding by over 50%.

### Social Work Field Instructor | *University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work, 2013-2016*

Supervised and mentored 6 master's social work students congruent with their social work training.

### Refugee Resettlement Volunteer | *Refugee Center, 2008-2009*

Recruited over 20 student volunteers, accompanied four Cuban refugee families, and offered translation services to increase the organization's efficiency and impact on the resettlement outcomes.

## EMPLOYMENT

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### Program Manager | *Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, 2012-2017*

Developed and implemented a city-wide initiative to address academic inequity among African American students in Pittsburgh Public Schools, engaging over 500 mentors and community leaders, resulting in the graduation of 120 at-promise youth.

### Community Organizer | *Oakland Planning Development Corporation, Pittsburgh, PA, 2011-2012*

Engaged hard-to-reach immigrant and ethnic residents to participate in the 2025 community plan through grassroots organizing, resulting in the implementation of a community plan that more holistically represents the city's diverse demographics.

**Program Coordinator** | *Hill House Association, Pittsburgh, 2010-2011*

Collaborated with PhD students and artists to design and implement an art-based group counseling program targeted to African American children of families with drug and alcohol addiction, increasing coping skills and positive response strategies.

**TECHNICAL SKILLS**

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Adobe Illustrator, Excel, Stata, Dedoose, Yuja Enterprise Video Platform, Canvas, Microsoft Office Suite

**FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

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Spanish (advanced)