

ADRIANA ARIZA, PH.D.

APPLIED DEVELOPMENTAL SCIENTIST & EVALUATION EXPERT

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Equity-centered evaluation leader with 10+ years of experience advancing justice through applied developmental science, community-based research, and strategic knowledge management. Proven track record of designing and leading large-scale, data-informed initiatives that drive continuous organizational learning and systems change. Skilled in building cross-functional partnerships, leading high-performing teams, and leveraging insights to inform strategic decision-making. Committed to ensuring that marginalized communities not only have access to high-quality resources—but are meaningfully supported in their power to thrive.

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy 2025

Claremont Graduate University

- Positive Developmental Psychology & Evaluation

Master of Arts 2018

Claremont Graduate University

- Positive Developmental Psychology & Evaluation

Bachelor of Arts 2014

Chapman University

- Psychology

SKILLS

- Visionary team leader
- Foster and maintain strategic partnerships
- Manage, budget, and track multiple fast-paced projects
- Strategic alignment of measurable impact outcomes
- Applied research methodology and statistics
- Identify and secure research grants
- Tracking and reporting systems development (Salesforce, Oracle, and Tableau)
- Public speaking and dissemination of complex data for diverse audiences

RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Evaluation Consultant

2018 - Present

Independent Contractor

- Lead strategic consulting partnerships with national nonprofits, educational institutions, and philanthropic organizations to measure social impact, build evaluation capacity, and inform equity-centered decision making.
- Design mixed-method evaluations, community-based learning agendas, and data infrastructures aligned with organizational values and emergent strategy.
- Partnerships include(d): Boys and Girls Club of America, Child Trends, Liberty Hill Foundation, Anti-Recidivism Coalition and Project Grad LA.

Senior Research Manager

2023 - 2024

OMNI Institute

- Directed interdisciplinary teams in the execution of statewide evaluation and research initiatives.
- Provided strategic counsel to executive clients and led organizational planning to align research efforts with long-term systems-change goals.
- Oversaw complex budgets, timelines, and deliverables, ensuring quality, equity alignment, and impact.
- Hosted participant advisory boards and engagement sessions to ensure lived experience informed program design and evaluation findings.

Evaluation Director

2018 - 2021

Leap & Associates, UCLA

- Led multi-year evaluations supporting policy reform, curriculum development, program design, and measured programmatic impact.
- Co-created culturally responsive frameworks and data systems to inform decision-making and enhance equity across education and justice sectors.
- Facilitated collaboration across departments to integrate learning into strategic planning.