

Wesley George Farrow

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VOCATION:

2016 **Principal, Soltura Solutions LLC**

- Creating space for progressive values to bridge the gap between conservative wisdom and liberal idealism
- Focus on leadership development, impact coaching, organizational self-governance and strategic consulting
- Specialization in cross-sector interests, democratic systems, civic engagement and educational equity

2014-2016 **Executive Director, Coro Southern California**

- Re-established Coro as Los Angeles' premiere nonprofit for public affairs, leadership, and civic innovation
- Expanded board from 17 to 33 with 100% giving, rewrote bylaws and governance, doubled staff size, upgraded financial management systems, created departmental structure, and updated brand and marketing assets
- Maneuvered from operating at deficit in 2014 to a near 50% surplus in 2015
- Increased community visibility and signed exploratory MOUs with UCLA and USC

2013-2014 **West Coast Manager, Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights**

- Co-created and implemented educator-based expansion strategy for human rights education
- Piloted bullying prevention program in conjunction with Harvard Graduate School of Education
- Developed relationships and networks for fundraising, strategic partnerships, and general expansion

2008-2014 **Founder and CEO, Soltura Languages Incorporated**

- Designed immersion technology that improved rate of conversational fluency of user in less than 1 hour
- Formed international community and client partnerships to allow for a socially conscious business model
- Brought new services to language acquisition market; via PR, branding, social media, and direct sales

2011-2012 **Fellow, Coro Program in Public Affairs**

- Authored protocol for strategic charitable giving to increase store traffic at Vons-Safeway
- Contributed to "Transfer of Wealth" econometric study through California Community Foundation
- Initiated partnership strategy for LAPD's first annual Autism Symposium through collaboration with UCLA, LAUSD, and community organizations
- Reported on pension fund investment strategies at Robert F. Kennedy Center Compass conferences
- Served as interim deputy campaign manager for Gary DeLong (R - Long Beach) for US Congress

2006-2011 **Teacher, Dean, and Bridge Coordinator; LAUSD, Locke High and Belvedere Middle School**

- Provided instruction and support to Special Day Class students with mild to moderate disabilities at Locke High School, who outscored the general population district average on subsets of the algebra state assessment
- Empowered special education students to lead Belvedere in becoming the first LAUSD middle school in East Los Angeles to an Annual Performance Index score over 700; primarily through exceeding the district goal for students with disabilities Annual Yearly Progress by over 450% with an increase of 113 points
- Managed \$4 million in programs for 245 students with special needs; 12 self-contained classrooms, 82 mainstream classrooms, 28 direct reporting employees, and 116 unionized educators and administrators
- Ensured District, State, and Federal compliance with Special Education laws and regulations
- Built and maintained positive staff, parental and community support with a focus on children with disabilities

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE:

Powerline – Board Member, Special Advisor to CEO, 2015-Present: Strategic guidance to early-phase start-up building social media feed to improve systemic leadership and self-governance capacities by democratizing constituency communication.

Women and Children Agenda – Director of International Affairs, 2006-Present: Strategic and technical support of microfinance and human rights work in Northern Uganda including school construction, agricultural investment, emergency legal aid, and growth of community savings by factor of 60,000 over 7 years.

Del Rey Neighborhood Council – Treasurer; Board Member, 2012-2014; 2014-2016: Served as financial auditor and liaison to the city of Los Angeles. Responsible for financial reporting and general accounting, along with community organization, communication of local issues to city government, and coordination of neighborhood projects and events.

Teach For America Partnership with Los Angeles Unified Schools – Leadership Fellow, 2012: Worked in the Innovation and Charter Division in collaboration with district staff, Education Pioneers, and UTLA to compose the application, accountability metrics, and support structure for school sites seeking increased autonomy (ESBMM).

United Teachers Los Angeles House of Representatives – East LA Representative, 2009-2011: Co-founded “NewTLA” a political caucus that gained 25% of governing seats in the legislative governing body of USA's 2nd largest teacher’s union within 6 months. Developed web site, social media tactics, traditional media, and recruitment strategies. Collaborated with fellow educators to define mission, vision, and values to guide action and scalable Union reform. Held key influence on reforming legislative process, democratic participation levels, and the election of an underdog UTLA President.

Greater Echo Park Elysian Neighborhood Council – Board Member, Education Committee Chair, 2009-2011: Elected to represent constituents of West Echo Park, with a focus on issues related to education and families. Initiated civic dialogue between educators, residents, and school board regarding LAUSD’s first ever district-charter colocation, facilitated teacher and resident participation in establishing governance of a newly constructed middle school, and cultivated an ongoing safe space to raise and address community concerns.

Play Rugby USA and Watts Boys and Girls Club– Youth Coach, 2007-2011: Launched youth touch rugby programs in East LA and South LA, including solicitation of donations and assistance in coordination of tournaments.

Students of the World - Group Leader, 2003-2005: Traveled to South Africa, Swaziland, Mozambique, Thailand, and Cambodia to document social, political, and economic issues and raise global awareness. Responsible for planning meetings and collaborations with nonprofit and governmental organizations, including US embassies and USAID.

ACADEMIC EDUCATION:

2006-2007 Teaching Credential, Teach for America and California State University Dominguez Hills
2000-2005 Bachelor of Arts, Economics and Psychology, University of Michigan Honors College

ADDITIONAL SKILLS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Fluent English, informal Spanish, and conversational Greek
- Core competency in web design, database management, and software development
- Project management and oversight experience with Microsoft Suite, Google for Business, Google Search Engine Optimization, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Constant Contact, Mailchimp, and Salesforce
- Certification of Receipt of Five Mindfulness Trainings from European Institute of Applied Buddhism
- Former member of Young Elected Officials Network Policy Council
- Board experience with South LA Worksource Center, The Ed Agency, Students of the World, Coro Southern California, and University of Michigan Rugby Football Club
- Currently serving as Vice President of the University of Michigan Rugby Football Club’s 501(c)(3) organization
- 1st ever University of Michigan Rugby Football Club undefeated field captain, led team to national final four
- High School Valedictorian (1st out of 554) with overall score of 34 out of 36 on ACT (equivalent of 2280 SAT)
- 20+ year work history including construction, sales, and restaurant management as well as start-up and policy consulting