

Ivon Gomez Vargas, M.A.Ed.

Dublin, California 94568 • 415-724-0693 • [LinkedIn](#) • ivon_gomez@berkeley.edu

HIGHLIGHTS

- Equity-driven early childhood education leader and edupreneur with ten years of experience serving historically marginalized children and families across various sectors (FCCs, Private, Head Start, TK).
 - A reflective practitioner who utilizes systems thinking and leverages relationships across the entire early childhood education ecosystem to develop high-quality environments that favor all children.
 - Researcher-practitioner with a goal to merge both research and practice in early childhood.
-

SKILLS & CERTIFICATES

- Quantitative & qualitative analysis & reporting (Stata, MaxQDA, Qualtrics, MS Office, Salesforce, Quickbooks)
 - Child Development Program Director Permit
 - Certificate in Inclusive Early Childhood Practices
 - Multilingual (Spanish and English)
-

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

May 2023- 2026

Doctor of Education- EdD, Educational Leadership

Research focus: Leadership enactment in educator recruitment and retention to enhance high-quality in California's mixed delivery Universal Pre-Kindergarten System

Relevant coursework: Data Analysis in Education Research (Quantitative), Governance & Strategic Planning, Educational Equity, Research Methods, Qualitative Research Methods, Research Design and Methodology

San Francisco State University

M.A., Education- Early Childhood Education

San Francisco State University

B.S., Business Administration- Management

EXPERIENCE

21st Century California Leadership Academy (21CSLA)- UTK Initiative

Aug 2023- Present

Berkeley, California

Graduate Student Researcher

- Create, collect, analyze, and report data across state-wide initiatives using MaxQDA.
- Develop and collect self-assessment data on Qualtrics, analyze data, and write reports with findings.
- Research and evaluation support for observation protocols (developing internal program metrics).
- Plan and support Communities of Practice for regional academies across California, focusing on assuring equitable, high-quality early childhood Transitional-Kindergarten classrooms.
- Module development, piloting, and facilitation across California.

Little Jungle Preschool

Jan 2014- Nov 2023

Dublin, California

Owner/Director

- Founded and led two equitable, high-quality educational family-childcare programs for underserved families with children ages 0- 5 in San Francisco and Alameda Counties.
- Fostered an equitable working environment that resembled students' cultural backgrounds by creating opportunities for adequate professional development, collaboration and relationship-building among educators, and reflective practices.
- Implemented a play-based curriculum for mixed-age children, promoting developmentally appropriate, child-centered, family engagement, and culturally responsive practices.
- Assured high-quality environments by incorporating QRIS standards, Learning Stories, and family observations to create a holistic assessment tool that supported each child's individual development.
- Leveraged relationships to connect families & educators with outside resources & strong community support.
- Developed and managed budget, operations, marketing strategies, and legal compliances.
- Secured federal and state funding for the program's sustainability and improvement.

The Unity Council
Oakland, California

Aug 2022- June 2023

School Readiness Coordinator

- Led three Early Head Start and Head Start programs serving historically marginalized students by supervising center directors, monitoring school readiness requirements and data, and ensuring compliance with licensing and Head Start Performance Standards.
- Assured equitable, high-quality programs focused on centering the child while providing round-up resources to families.
- Provided mentorship, coaching, and training to center Directors and teachers that reflected culturally responsive practices cultivating diversity, equity, inclusion, belonging, and collaboration in the community.
- Collected, analyzed, and summarized educational data measuring program(s) quality to identify areas of improvement and create and implement program action plans.
- Examined system-level data, observed cabinet-level meetings, completed observations and policy analyses and engaged with diverse community stakeholders.

Little Acorn Christian Preschool
Mountain View, California

June 2019-June 2020

Co-Director

- Led a Reggio-inspired program serving seventy families with children ages 2-5.
- Managed a budget of over \$1.5MM that aligned with the program's mission and vision for children, families, educators, board members, and the overall community.
- Created professional development opportunities to empower educators in their professional careers while maintaining a collaborative and reflective environment for developmentally appropriate practices.
- Developed and implemented a community engagement strategy to nurture partnerships across the community to enhance the program's quality.

Mission Graduates After School Program
San Francisco, California

Aug 2017- Aug 2018

Kindergarten Afterschool Teacher

- Taught a class of 25 Kindergarten students using various developmentally appropriate and child-centered STEM and SEL curriculums.
- Fostered collaboration and relationships with daytime teachers and families to create a seamless transition and enhance a high-quality environment for children.