

LAUREN IBARRA

Healthcare Design Researcher | Physician-in-Training

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Physician-in-training and healthcare design researcher working at the intersection of medicine, human-centered design, and community-engaged research. Experienced in mixed-methods research, co-design, stakeholder engagement, usability testing, and translating community insights into healthcare interventions and educational tools.

CORE SKILLS

Human-Centered Design • Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR) • Mixed Methods Research • Qualitative Research • Co-Design Facilitation • Semi-Structured Interviews • Focus Group Moderation • Thematic Analysis • Consensus Coding • Usability Testing • Figma • Miro • REDCap • R

EDUCATION

MD Candidate, PRIME-Health Equity University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, San Diego, CA	<i>Expected Jun. 2028</i>
MS, Community Health & Prevention Research Stanford University School of Medicine, Palo Alto, CA	<i>Jun. 2026</i>
BS, Biochemistry & Cell Biology University of California, San Diego, San Diego, CA	<i>Jun. 2021</i>

SELECTED RESEARCH & INNOVATION EXPERIENCE

Founder & Design Lead, ASD MedEd Project UCSD School of Medicine, La Jolla, CA	<i>Aug. 2022 – Present</i>
- Led study design and implementation for a healthcare communication initiative, including IRB development, ecosystem mapping, recruitment, and participant enrollment. - Conduct qualitative stakeholder research to identify barriers and opportunities for neurodivergent-inclusive adult healthcare. - Translate research findings into medical education tools supporting shared decision-making with autistic adults and caregivers.	
Graduate Research Intern, The Family Lab Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA	<i>Jun. 2025 – Jun. 2026</i>
- Adapted the web-SUCCEED self-management intervention for South Asian breast cancer survivors and family caregivers through community-engaged research and co-design. - Led co-design workshops using values mapping, structured brainstorming, and prototype testing to translate participant insights into culturally responsive intervention adaptations. - Facilitated patient-caregiver dyadic sessions to identify needs and curate tailored communication and stress-management tools.	
Design Researcher, Democratizing Design World Design Capital, San Diego, CA	<i>Jun. 2023 – Dec. 2023</i>
- Co-developed a community-facing design toolkit to make design methods more accessible to communities across the San Diego–Tijuana region. - Mapped the regional design ecosystem and conducted stakeholder interviews to identify barriers to community participation in local design initiatives.	
Design Researcher, The Better Lab The Better Lab, San Francisco, CA	<i>Jun. 2020 – Jun. 2022</i>
- Synthesized qualitative data through consensus coding and ideation to inform development of digital adherence technology for tuberculosis patients in Uganda. - Translated patient cultural and physical needs into design iterations and conducted usability testing of a case manager mobile application.	
Founder & Design Lead, RE:dsgn UC San Diego, La Jolla, CA	<i>Oct. 2018 – Jun. 2022</i>
- Developed a human-centered design curriculum and toolkit for educators serving under-resourced schools, focused on building critical thinking and collaborative problem-solving skills. - Built community and educational partnerships and led end-user testing with elementary students to iteratively refine the program around student needs and interests.	

ADDITIONAL LEADERSHIP & COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE

LEND Medium-Term Trainee (2024–2025) • **PUMA Initiative, Mentor** (2023–2024) • **Jacumba Border Mutual Aid, Team Lead** (2023–2024) • **Latino Medical Student Association, Internal VP** (2023–2024) • **UCSD International Health Club, Clinic Director** (2021–2022) • **UCSD Design for America, Studio Director** (2020–2021)

SELECTED AWARDS & PRESENTATIONS

Top Abstract Award, Medical Education Innovation | Rady's Symposium for Innovation in Medical Education, 2024

Sanford Scholar Award, 2023 • **Hispanic Center of Excellence Scholarship**, 2023

Selected Presentations: Child Neurology Society • AADMD • Rady's Symposium • PRIME Conference • Society of Hospital Medicine
Converge