



special needs network

TOGETHER

The Story Los Angeles Needs to Tell



The Largest Untapped Workforces in Los Angeles

Briefing for Media & Communications Leaders

Los Angeles is preparing for the 2026 World Cup, the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and an influx of billions of dollars in infrastructure investment, workforce development, and economic expansion. As media organizations tell the story of Los Angeles's global moment, there is an important question that should be part of that narrative:

Who is being prepared to participate in this economy – and who is being left out?

Neurodivergent individuals, including those on the autism spectrum and with other developmental differences, represent one of the largest untapped workforces in Los Angeles. Their story is not just a health story. It is a workforce story, an economic story, an infrastructure story, and a civil rights story.

Los Angeles, as the media capital of the world, has both the platform and the responsibility to help tell that story.

Story Angles

Special Needs Network is seeking philanthropic partners aligned with the following strategic priorities:

- | Preparing Neurodivergent Workers for the Olympics Economy
- | Who Benefits from Billions in Olympic and Infrastructure Spending?
- | The Untapped Workforce: Neurodiversity and LA's Labor Market
- | From School to Adulthood: What Happens to Students with Autism After High School?
- | Families Navigating California's Disability System

What We Can Provide

Special Needs Network can support media partners by providing:

- | Access to families, self-advocates, and neurodivergent workers
- | Workforce stories, including individuals and employers participating in workforce programs
- | Experts in disability policy, workforce development, and family impact
- | Data and research on autism, employment, and economic impact
- | Filming access, including locations, programs, photos, and video footage

***We don't just have stories.
We have access, data, and community.***

About Special Needs Network

Founded by civil rights attorney, advocate, and media commentator Areva Martin, Special Needs Network works at the intersection of disability, workforce, policy, and family support across Los Angeles.

Areva Martin and Special Needs Network leadership are available for interviews, commentary, and story development.

For media inquiries, interviews,
or story development

<https://rebrand.ly/bailacl>

OR



Leading Change For Neurodiverse Communities!

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