

MYRIAM EDITH BARROS

*Equity-Centered Montessori School Leader | Instructional Coach | Multilingual Education & Culture-Focused
Program Developer*

Washington, D.C. | barros.myriam@gmail.com | +1 949-539-5953

Languages: English, French, Wolof, Crioulo

Global education leader, instructional coach and adult learning facilitator with more than ten years of experience developing educators, leading teams and building culturally responsive learning environments across the United States and West Africa. Experience in coaching teachers and school leaders, designing professional development, leading change across diverse communities, and strengthening system true collaboration, reflection, and data inform decision-making. Brings a strong commitment to educational equity, multilingual inclusion, and leadership development that empower people to reshape learning and opportunity for children and communities.

SELECTED LEADERSHIP IMPACT

- Designed and facilitated professional learning experiences for educators, school teams, and emerging leader across the US and West Africa straightening reflective practice, instructional leadership, and culturally responsive teaching.
- Bridged Montessori philosophy with academic standards through curriculum alignment, coaching, and assessment integration to strengthen schoolwide consistency.
- Led instructional feedback and professional learning cycles grounded in observation, data, and child development—supporting adult practice and student outcomes.
- Coordinated schoolwide assessment systems (i-Ready, mCLASS, DC CAPE), including training, schedules, and analysis to inform instruction and improvement plans.
- Built culturally responsive and multilingual family partnerships across Senegal, The Gambia, and the U.S., strengthening trust and engagement in diverse communities.
- Developed and delivered Montessori professional development for educators and school leaders in West Africa and California, supporting program start-up and fidelity.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Breakthrough Montessori Public Charter School, Washington, D.C.

Assistant Principal and Montessori Coach | July 2025 - Present

- Lead instructional coaching and feedback cycles to strengthen Montessori fidelity, culturally responsive practice, and data-informed planning.
- Bridge Montessori curriculum with state standards through alignment, lesson planning support, and progress documentation systems.
- Coordinate and analyze student assessment data (i-Ready, mCLASS, DC CAPE) to guide instructional priorities and MTSS-informed supports.
- Support day-to-day operations, compliance processes, grant proposal writing and family communication to ensure equitable, consistent implementation.

Guidepost Montessori, Palo Alto, CA

Head of School | March 2024 - June 2025

- Oversaw daily school operations across instruction, staffing, enrollment, and family engagement; ensured licensing and organizational compliance.
- Managed schoolwide systems (Salesforce, SmartCare, Transparent Classroom) for enrollment, billing, communication, and student records.
- Led admissions end-to-end: tours, family interviews, application processing, onboarding, and community events to support enrollment growth.
- Coached and evaluated teaching teams through observation and goal setting; modeled Montessori best practices and consistent classroom management.
- Partnered with regional leadership to implement strategic initiatives and strengthen school culture and community trust.

Sunu Montessori (Independent Consulting), Washington, D.C. / Senegal & West Africa

Founder & Education Consultant | November 2022 - Present

- Design and deliver Montessori-aligned professional development for schools, educators, and families in Senegal and West Africa.
- Provide coaching, implementation support, and culturally adapted resources to strengthen child-centered practice and bilingual learning environments.

Higher Ground Education (Guidepost Montessori Network), Foothill Ranch, CA (Remote/Hybrid)

Teacher Mentor | September 2022 - June 2023

- Mentored new Guides and diploma holders across multiple campuses through observation, feedback, and individualized development plans.
- Modeled Montessori presentations, classroom management, and child-led learning practices; supported assessment procedures (IXL, DIBELS).
- Supported promotional and community-building events (webinars, conferences, trade shows) to strengthen program visibility and recruitment.

Guidepost Montessori, California

Lead Montessori Guide, Children's House (Ages 3-6) | June 2020 - July 2023

- Led a multi-age Children's House over a full three-year cycle; maintained a prepared environment supporting independence, concentration, and academic growth.
- Partnered with assistants and families to build a respectful, consistent classroom culture aligned to Montessori principles.
- Used daily observation and progress tracking to individualize learning and support social-emotional development.

Studio Montessori, San Francisco, CA

Lead Montessori Guide, French Immersion Children's House (Ages 3-6) | June 2018 - March 2020

- Led a French immersion Montessori classroom; supported language development through intentional communication and culturally responsive teaching.
- Promoted cross-cultural awareness and bilingual identity development in a diverse learning community.

International School of Dakar, Dakar, Senegal

Substitute Teacher (IB Program) | December 2017 - May 2018

- Provided instructional continuity across grade levels; implemented lesson plans aligned to the IB curriculum.
- Maintained a positive classroom environment while adapting quickly to varied contexts and student needs.

Moon Flower Montessori School, Banjul, The Gambia

Lead Montessori Guide, Children's House (Ages 3-6) | November 2016 - November 2017

- Established a new Montessori classroom environment, including materials organization, routines, and implementation systems.
- Trained and collaborated with local staff to support Montessori fidelity; led parent education and community engagement.

PRIOR EXPERIENCE

Ecole Montessori Bilingue de Dakar, Dakar, Senegal

Administrative Assistant | October 2014 - May 2016

- Managed invoicing, tuition tracking, and basic financial reporting to support school operations.
- Led school tours and supported enrollment management; maintained communication with families and staff during leadership absences.

Société Générale des Banques du Sénégal, Dakar, Sénégal

Teller Intern | September 2009 - November 2009

- Supported branch customer service and basic banking transactions while developing attention to detail, confidentiality, and professionalism.

CONSULTING PROJECTS

Institut Sangalkam — Dakar, Senegal (2024 - 2026)

- Designed and coordinated a professional development program for early childhood educators; led curriculum planning, logistics, speaker engagement, and participant recruitment.

Olu Montessori — Redwood City, CA (2023)

- Supported start-up of a new Children's House classroom; delivered PD on classroom management, material presentation, and authentic implementation.

Les Colibris Montessori School — Guérigne & Dakar, Senegal (2020 - 2023)

- Provided training and implementation support focused on Montessori principles, classroom management, and program fidelity.

L'Ecole du Dialaw — Ndayane, Senegal (2023)

- Facilitated in-person training and mentoring for teachers on Montessori philosophy, material use, and child-centered instruction.

African Bilingual Academy — Dakar, Senegal (2023)

- Led workshops to strengthen bilingual education through Montessori-aligned practices.

Simentidi Vida — Guinea-Bissau (2021 - 2023)

- Supported the establishment of the first Montessori infant environment (Nido) in Guinea-Bissau; provided long-term PD and operational guidance.

Sunu Montessori — Parent Guidance (Ongoing)

- Advised families on Montessori-aligned home environments through culturally adapted coaching and resources.

EDUCATION

- Master in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESOL), Westcliff University, Irvine, CA (2024 - Present; expected April 2026)
- American Montessori Society (AMS) Training for Montessori Instructor (2024 - Present)
- Accepted to AMI ToT Program (start postponed by choice)
- Certificate in Supervision and Administration of Early Childhood Centers, UCLA Extension (2024)

- AMI Diploma, Montessori Teacher Education (Ages 3-6), RTI Montessori Training Center, Mumbai, India (April 2016)
- Bachelor of Sociology, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal (2008 - 2011)

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & SYSTEMS

- Design & Communications: Canva (flyers, one-pagers, family-facing materials, training decks, internal comms templates); consistent branding and clear visuals for diverse audiences.
- Data & Dashboards: Google Sheets / Excel tracking systems (MTSS trackers, observation tools, progress monitoring dashboards); data visualization to support decision-making and accountability.
- Systems & Tools: Salesforce (data entry, tracking, communication logs, workflow follow-through); Google Workspace (Docs, Slides, Drive, Forms); virtual collaboration tools (Zoom/Meet).
- Operations & Logistics: Classroom transitions and set-ups (room moves, material organization, labeling systems, environment resets); coordination of schedules, coverage, and multi-step timelines across stakeholders.
- Project & Change Management: Planning, implementation, and follow-through for school initiatives; documentation systems, checklists, and communication loops to ensure consistent execution.
- Stakeholder Communication: Clear, culturally responsive communication with staff and families; facilitation and presentation in-person and virtually.