Originally from Colombia, Ms. Ana Soler moved to the US at the age of 14 and experienced the struggles of adjusting to a new culture, language, and way of life. As her family’s “official” interpreter, Ana began to see the barriers that immigrant and refugee families have to face on a daily basis and made a conscious decision to create awareness and advocate for cultural and language issues.

She completed her degree in Social Work at Georgia State University and worked with non-profit organizations such as Parent to Parent of GA and Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta. While working as a Social Worker, Ana developed an interest in health promotion and community development and completed a Master’s Degree in Public Health at Emory University. She enjoys writing grants to conduct needs assessments and developed various injury prevention and obesity prevention programs targeting the Hispanic/Latino community. Through a grant opportunity, Ana discovered the need for training and education of bilingual individuals seeking to become interpreters.

As one of the founding members of the Medical Interpreters Network of Georgia and a member of the original Board of Directors of the Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia, Ana sought ways to expand the field of interpreter education. Working with Gwinnett County Public Schools as the Language Services Coordinator for eleven years gave Ana the opportunity to define the needs for further education of bilingual and bicultural individuals seeking to become interpreters in the school and health fields.

Ana continues to seek ways to improve the lives of the immigrant and refugee population in Georgia, connecting them with resources in the community and helping them to learn to be successful in the United States while maintaining their roots with their home culture.

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