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“Ertll provides a concrete roadmap of events, organizations, and people, a map that he has developed over the past twenty years of active involvement in Los Angeles community life. . . . This will be a book to give to your grandchildren when they ask, ‘What was it like back then?’”

—David E. Hayes-Bautista, PhD, professor of medicine,
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, and director,
Center for the Study of Latino Health and Culture

“Randy Jurado Ertll has spent a lifetime in the activist trenches, and his book shows it. In it, he offers nitty-gritty details and advice for anyone interested in the non-profit world. The reader will be much more knowledgeable and wiser after having read *The Life of an Activist*.”

—Amitabh Pal, managing editor, *The Progressive* magazine

The Life of an Activist is a non-fiction narrative that describes key steps on how to become and evolve into an effective activist and community leader. The book describes social movements and provides useful advice on how to successfully manage non-profits to accomplish positive social change that truly improves people’s lives.

The author is a lifelong activist who was born in the United States but was deported to El Salvador as a baby. He spent his childhood in El Salvador but moved back to the United States and grew up in South Central Los Angeles during the tumultuous and violent decades of the late 1970s and 1980s. He has also lived and worked in Rochester, Minnesota; Madrid, Spain; Washington, D.C.; and Alexandria, Virginia. In each of these cities, he observed and learned a great deal about social movements and activism.

This book is a must read for anyone who wants to improve their own lives and communities through activism. As Gandhi stated, “Be the change you want to see in the world.” *The Life of an Activist: In the Frontlines 24/7* will truly be life-changing and inspirational.

Randy Jurado Ertll is the executive director of El Centro de Acción Social in Pasadena, California. He has worked on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., published numerous opinion columns in newspapers such as the *Los Angeles Times*, *La Opinión*, and the *Houston Chronicle*, and has been interviewed by networks such as NPR, CNN, PBS, Univisión, and Telemundo. He is an alumnus of Occidental College and obtained his master’s degree from Azusa Pacific University.

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The Life of an Activist



The Life of an Activist

In the Frontlines 24/7

Randy Jurado Ertll

Foreword by Terrence J. Roberts