



# Find Love Safely

Personalized matchmaking for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the Los Angeles area

## A SAFER WAY TO DATE

Deeply ingrained in all of us is a desire for connection and relationship. But for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD), it can be especially difficult to meet new people, form friendships, and find people to date. And online dating is not always a safe option for this community, which is especially vulnerable to online scams.

Find Love Safely was founded by Katherine Gylai, a mom and stepmom to eight adult children, four of whom have IDD. When her children expressed interest in dating, she looked for safe options only to find that none exist. She created Find Love Safely to help adults with IDD meet someone who they can be assured is real and looking for the same kind of relationship they are.

Each Find Love Safely member and their parent or appointed agent meet with their Find Love Safely area matchmaker via a virtual call. This helps ensure members are who they say they are and are supported throughout the dating process.

## BUILT-IN SUPPORT

To be eligible for Find Love Safely matchmaking services, prospective members *must* designate a parent or appointed agent to support them along the way. Examples of an appointed agent include supportive decision-maker, conservator, and power of attorney. This designated support person is actively involved in each step of the Find Love Safely process.

## HOW IT WORKS

### 1. Complete the intake form

Prospective members (with their parent/appointed agent's support) fill out the intake form located on their location's landing page.

### 2. Schedule a virtual call

After submitting the intake form, the member and parent/appointed agent sign the services agreement, pay the annual membership fee, and schedule a virtual call with their area's matchmaker.

### 3. Receive matches

After the virtual call, our matchmakers search their database for a potential match. Matches are emailed to members' parent/appointed agent only, not the member. This person is responsible for scheduling, coordinating, and chaperoning dates if needed.



## AT A GLANCE

- **Introductory** annual membership fee for the Los Angeles area is \$349
- Fee includes unlimited matches
- Parent or appointed agent support and participation required

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## MARY TOUSIGNANT

California Matchmaker

Mary Tousignant, OT is a PEERS-certified social skills trainer with a master's degree in occupational therapy. As a mother of a son on the autism spectrum, she understands firsthand the importance and the struggle around building meaningful connections. Passionate about helping others develop social confidence, Mary is dedicated to empowering individuals to foster genuine relationships.