



## Family Resource Centers: A Key to Supported Families and Thriving Communities

### A GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

May 11, 2021 | 3-4:30 pm ET/12-1:30 pm PT

#### *Panelist Bios*

### MODERATOR



**Ginger Young**  
**Founder and Executive Director**  
**Book Harvest**  
**@bookharvestnc**

In 2011, Ginger Young founded Book Harvest. In the past decade, children and families in central North Carolina have harvested more than 1,500,000 books to take home and keep for their very own, building home libraries; and hundreds of parents have received literacy coaching and advocacy support. Ginger serves on the National Advisory Board of the international social enterprise First Book. She is a member of the Board of Directors of The Hill Learning Center, an organization committed to transforming students with learning differences into confident, independent learners. Ginger graduated from Harvard College in 1984 and received her MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government in 1990.

### LEAD PRESENTER



**Andrew Russo**  
**Co-Founder and Director**  
**National Family Support Network**  
**@NFSN\_US**

Andrew Russo co-founded the National Family Support Network in 2011 and served as its co-chair until 2015 when he was hired as its Director and relocated to Washington, DC. He has worked and volunteered in the nonprofit social service sector at the direct service, management, and network levels for more than 25 years in Boston, New York, Chicago, the San Francisco Bay Area, and Taiwan.

In those roles, Andrew co-authored landmark documents in the Family Support field including the San Francisco Family Support Standards, the San Francisco Family Support Network Policy Platform on Family Economic Success, and the nationally-adopted Standards of Quality for Family Strengthening & Support.

Andrew earned his B.A. in East Asian Languages and Cultures from Columbia University and his M.A. in Pastoral Counseling from Loyola University Chicago.

## CO-PRESENTERS



**Cory Gorton**  
**Program Manager**  
**Community Partnership Family Resource Center**  
**Teller County, Colorado**  
**@cpteller**

Cory Gorton, Program Manager, has worked at Community Partnership Family Resource Center for 5 years and oversees all CP Programs. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Human Development and Family Studies and a minor in Anthropology from Colorado State University. Cory has over 10 years of experience in Early Childhood Education ranging from teaching to Center Directing and Program Management. Cory has participated in many early childhood groups throughout the state to include the Early Childhood Colorado Program, Preschool Policy Advisory Council, and the local Early Childhood Councils. As a Teller County native and a parent in the community raising her own children, she is dedicated to the work CP does for families and caregivers.



**Mark Kling**  
**Executive Director**  
**Family Resource Center Association, Colorado**  
**@COFamilyCenters**

Mark Kling is Executive Director of the Family Resource Center Association (FRCA), an association of 32 Family Resource Centers across Colorado. Family Resource Centers use a community-based approach to promote the well-being of low-income families, assisting them to become more self-reliant. Family Resource Centers utilize family support and strengthening practices, frequently collaborating with other organizations to improve service delivery and provide services to multiple generations within families. Mark previously practiced law for over 20 years, conducting business in over 20 countries. He has also volunteered with other organizations to assist low income, homeless and developmentally disabled individuals and families.



**Angela Pool**  
**Participant**  
**Community Partnership Family Resource Center**  
**Teller County, Colorado**

Angela Pool worked as a nurse for 25 years before becoming disabled and unable to work. Angie first learned about Community Partnership Family Resource Center after attending a community event. She enrolled in the Parent As Teachers program immediately and started attending weekly playgroups. As a Grandmother co-parenting her grandchildren with her two daughters, Angie has been faced with many obstacles but always puts the “babies” first. She has been an active member of the Parent Advisory Committee since 2018 and has recently attended training to become a Circle of Parents facilitator. Angie has also completed the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Training. She is one of CP’s most devoted participants and community advocates!