

Join the Movement: Activating Your Parent Village

A GLR Learning Tuesdays | Learning Loss Recovery Challenge Series Webinar

April 12, 2022 | 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm ET

PRESENTER BIOS

INTRODUCTIONS



Hattie Miles-Polka
Consultant, CGLR

Hattie Miles-Polka is a consultant with the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading. She is a Lecturer in Spanish at the University of Kansas, where she teaches Spanish language courses at all levels, does curriculum development and course design, as well as student mentoring. She received her M.A. in Hispanic Literatures from the University of Kansas and has taught classes there for seven years. Hattie also worked as a Lecturer at the Universidad de Santiago de Compostela in Spain, as well as paralegal in the domestic unit at Legal Aid of Western Missouri.

MODERATOR



John Gomperts
Executive Fellow, CGLR

John Gomperts is a long-time leader in non-profits and government organizations devoted to civic engagement and to creating greater opportunity for children and youth. From 2012-2020, John served as President & CEO of America's Promise Alliance. Prior to that, John served as the Director of AmeriCorps in the Obama Administration. Earlier in his career, John worked in the US Senate (Sens. Wofford, Kerry, Daschle), practiced law and served as a judicial clerk. John earned his JD from Georgetown University Law Center and his AB in History from University of California, Berkeley. John has served on a wide range of boards including FoodCorps (Chair), Points of Light, Presidio Institute, News Literacy Project, and others.

SPEAKERS



Yolie Flores
National Campaign Director, Building a Parent Nation
TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health,
University of Chicago

Yolie Flores is Campaign Director for Parent Nation, leading strategic efforts to activate parents and allies in building a parent nation. Prior to joining the TMW Center, Yolie supported a network of Campaign for Grade Level Reading communities in their efforts to ensure early school success for more children by elevating parent success. Previously, Yolie served on the

Los Angeles Board of Education, was CEO of the L.A. County Children's Planning Council, and Director of Child Care Policy and Planning for the City of LA. Yolie's 30-year career advancing the well-being of children and families has earned her the distinction of, twice, being named Social Worker of the Year.



Dana Suskind, MD
Co-Director, TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health

Dr. Dana Suskind is Co-Director of the TMW Center for Early Learning + Public Health at the University of Chicago. A Professor of Surgery and Pediatrics and Director of the Pediatric Cochlear Implant Program. Her clinical work focuses on pediatric cochlear implantation and her research focuses on optimizing children's foundational brain development and preventing early cognitive disparities and their lifelong impact. She is the author of the book, *Thirty Million*

Words: Building a Child's Brain and of a forthcoming book, *Parent Nation*, which empowers parents to use developmental neuroscience to build a society that works for families, not against them.



Sarita Sashington
Senior Strategic Relationships Manager & Senior
Trainer, Be Strong Families

Sarita Sashington is the Be Strong Families Sr. Strategic Relationships Manager and a parent engagement expert that believes in nurturing the spirit of family, creating safe spaces for transformational conversations, and the power of cultural humility. Sarita also manages a robust Café Community of Practice which supports over 3000 people trained on the BSF Café model. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Columbia Southern University. Sarita is also the author

of "The Sunken Place—Overcoming Midlife Crisis in Marriage" (Available on Amazon) and the Founder of Daddy's Favorite Ministry where she encourages "Transforming Relationships through Grace."



Kendra Smiley
Statewide Family Engagement Center Director,
National Center for Families Learning

As the National Center for Families Learning Arizona Statewide Family Engagement Director, Kendra Smiley works to create a high impact statewide ecosystem of programs and services that improves academic achievement for disadvantaged families. She earned her Master of Arts in Elementary Education from the University of Phoenix and brings 18 years of first-hand experience working with children and families to her current position. Her experience includes working in the

nonprofit sector for over 12 years managing several evidence-based early language and literacy programs, as well as teaching preschool for six years. Kendra has also been teaching online for Arizona State University in the Mary Lou Fulton College for the past six years, which provides her the opportunity to teach the following courses: Culture and Schooling, Social Embeddedness, and Innovation in Education Endeavors. In her free time, she enjoys exercising and spending time with her daughter.



Rosa Guzman Snyder
Community Development Director, National Center for Families Learning

Rosa serves as the Director of Community Development at the National Center for Families Learning. At NCFL, Rosa initiates and develops community support at NCFL's major project sites across the country. Her background includes fostering equitable and inclusive practices in community spaces. In 2013, Rosa founded the Community Language Cooperative (Denver). Rosa is a lead advocate in the language justice movement, working to dismantle oppressive practices around

linguistic services. Rosa holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Texas at Arlington and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Nonprofit Administration from Colorado State University-Pueblo.