

# GLR Learning Tuesdays Webinar

## Scaling Virtual Home Visiting: Lessons and Insights

September 22, 2020

Moderator, Presenter, Commentator Bios

### MODERATOR

**Constance Gully**

**President & CEO, Parents as Teachers National Center**



**Constance Gully** is the **President/CEO** of Parents as Teachers (PAT), a leading parent education and early childhood professional development organization serving professionals that works annually with 200,000+ families in all 50 states, 115 tribal communities, and seven countries. In response to COVID-19, PAT leverages extensive virtual service delivery experience to lead the Rapid Response Virtual Home Visiting collaborative (RR-VHV) along with the Institute for Family Support Professionals and the National Alliance of Home Visiting Models. RR-VHV provides best practice principles and strategies to support family support professionals in

maintaining meaningful connections with families during this time of increased anxiety & need.

### CO-PRESENTERS

**Safiyah Jackson, Early Childhood Systems Director, North Carolina Partnership for Children**



Safiyah believes the well-being of children is a primary indicator of the well-being of a society. For 15 years, she has worked to improve the lives of children, their teachers, and families. Safiyah is an accomplished non-profit leader and child advocate who has worked as an early learning educator, school psychologist, and professional trainer. She currently serves as Early Childhood Systems Director at North Carolina Partnership for Children. In this role, Safiyah promotes system change strategies that address quality, access, and equity; ensuring partnerships, policy, and programming are responsive to the

needs of families with young children. Safiyah holds an MBA from Florida A&M University and M.Ed. degrees in both Early Childhood and School Psychology from National Louis University.

**Roddey Jones**

**Senior Training Specialist, National SafeCare Training and Research Center**



Roddey Jones is a Senior Training Specialist in the National SafeCare Training and Research Center (NSTRC), which is housed in the Mark Chaffin Center for Healthy Development in the School of Public Health at Georgia State University. He conducts workshops and provides on-going coaching and consultation to home visitors and agencies implementing SafeCare. He currently serves on the advisory committee of the Rapid Response Virtual Home Visiting Collaborative as a representative of the National Alliance of Home Visiting Models.

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## **Malia Ramler**

### **Program Officer, Education, Heising-Simons Foundation**



Malia Ramler is an Education Program Officer at the Heising-Simons Foundation, which works toward a future where race, income, and home language no longer predict educational opportunity or outcome. Ms. Ramler's work has focused on creating conditions that promote wellbeing and healthy development for young children and families farthest from opportunity. At Heising-Simons, she is privileged to work with grantees advancing family engagement, home-visiting, and quality early learning centered on the needs of dual-language learners.

## **COMMENTATORS**

## **Portia Kennel**

### **Senior Advisor, Buffett Early Childhood Fund**



Portia Kennel is a veteran leader in the early childhood field; before joining the foundation in 2015, she worked as the Senior Vice President for Program Innovation at the Ounce of Prevention Fund in Chicago as well as Founding Executive Director of the coast-to-coast Educare Learning Network. In her current role, Portia is spearheading pioneering work to redefine "authentic family engagement" in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Ms. Kennel has more than 25 years of experience developing, implementing and scaling effective, research-based early childhood education, home visiting and family support program models for children and their families, including serving as a Head Start Director. Kennel holds a master's degree in social work from the University of Illinois and is a ZERO TO THREE Fellow.

## **Dr. Joshua Sparrow**

### **Executive Director, Brazelton Touchpoints Center, Boston Children's Hospital**



Dr. Sparrow is executive director of the Brazelton Touchpoints Center (BTC) in the Division of Developmental Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital, where he also holds an appointment in the Department of Psychiatry, and is associate professor part-time at Harvard Medical School. BTC provides professional, leadership, and organizational development, as well as research and evaluation services and innovative tools and webinars for parents, pediatricians, early childhood educators, home visitors, child welfare workers, infant and parent mental health clinicians, and children's libraries and museums staff. BTC is home to the Touchpoints Approach and Parenting Curriculum, the Brazelton Institute (the Newborn Behavioral Observation), and Family Connections.