



Assume Collaboration: Philanthropic Opportunities for Aggregating Impact

A CGLR Funder to Funder Conversation

September 21, 2021 | 12:30-2 pm ET/9:30-11 am PT

PANELIST BIOS

Co-Presenters



Brenda Blasingame
Program Officer, Pritzker Children's Initiative
J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation

Brenda Blasingame joined the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation in 2020 as a Program Officer on the Pritzker Children's Initiative team. The initiative is a national effort focused exclusively on expanding high quality supports and services to families during the foundational period of the first 1000 days, which is prenatal to 3 years of age of their child's life. Her work is focused on strategy development in the following areas: child well-being and child welfare prevention, work with and in the Latino/x and Native American communities, lived experience and parent/community leadership and justice equity diversity and inclusion efforts. She also holds a portfolio of grants supporting and working with five states (NE, NV, WI, SC and TX) as well as a group of community innovation grantees and national grantee partners.

Since 2000 Ms. Blasingame's work has been focused on early childhood development and education issues with a strong emphasis on issues of equity, diversity and inclusion. Most recently, Ms. Blasingame served as the Executive Director for HealthConnect One where she was responsible for leading this national organization's work on peer to peer support during the first 1000 days encompassing pregnancy, birth and early parenting. This work focused on developing strategies to achieve birth equity, community level systems change and advocacy for maternal, infant and early childhood health and wellness in communities that are marginalized as a result of social oppression. Prior to joining the staff at HealthConnect One she worked over the past 20 years on early childhood development in California as the founding Executive Director First Five Contra Costa; in Washington as a founding staff member of Thrive Washington and nationally as the Senior Director of Programs and Partnerships with Save the Children in its United States division overseeing educational (prenatal through elementary school) and psychosocial programming.



Rebecca Cisek, Ed.D.
Vice President, Organizational Learning and Effectiveness
Bainum Family Foundation
@BainumFdn | @RebeccaCisek

Dr. Rebecca Cisek completed her Bachelor of Science at West Virginia University and her Master of Education at the University of Virginia. She worked as a clinician/educator, culminating in the Director of Sports Medicine position at the University of San Francisco (USF). Rebecca completed her

Doctor of Education in Organization and Leadership at USF, and then worked for Target Corporation in HR, learning and development. Currently, she serves as the Vice President, Organizational Learning and Effectiveness for the Bainum Family Foundation.



Celine Coggins, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Grantmakers for Education
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Celine has been an educator for more than two decades, with a track record as an innovator, leader and connector. Celine began her career as a middle school teacher in Worcester, MA and went on to serve in a

number of education policy leadership roles, including assistant to the Massachusetts Commissioner of Education.

Celine's work has always been deeply connected to teachers and disadvantaged schools. In 2007, she founded Teach Plus, a nationwide network of top-performing teachers, where she spent the next decade as CEO. Under Celine's leadership, Teach Plus grew to over 30,000 participating teachers and offered groundbreaking programs in leadership development and advocacy. Celine was recognized by President Obama at the White House for her organization's impact on public education.

A nationally-recognized expert on teacher leadership, education policy standards and accountability, and union politics, Celine has addressed audiences at the Philanthropy Roundtable, the Askwith Forum at the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and on NBC's Education Nation. She appears regularly in the media and has been interviewed by *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Atlantic*, among many others. She is the author of three books, including her most recent, *How to Be Heard: Ten Lessons Teachers Need to Advocate for Their Students and Profession*.

Celine earned her Ph.D. in education policy analysis at Stanford University and holds an appointment as a lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

As a young person, Celine's life and educational trajectory were profoundly altered by an anonymous donor. That experience made fighting for quality educational opportunities for disadvantaged students her life's work. It also taught her the power of philanthropy, which started her on the journey to this role.



Katharine Correll
Principal, Philanthropic Partnerships
LENA
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Katharine Correll is the Principal, Philanthropic Partnerships at LENA, where she manages LENA’s philanthropic strategy from all sides—including partnership and project development, fundraising, and formation of evaluation metrics. Katharine’s prior experience ranges from university to non-profit settings in education and healthcare, overseeing programs, engaging communities, and facilitating leadership development.



Anu Malipatil
Vice President, Education
Overdeck Family Foundation

Anu Malipatil is vice president, education at the Overdeck Family Foundation. Prior to joining the foundation, Anu was a Regents Research Fund Fellow at the New York State Education Department, where she architected the RFP for the \$70 million Race to the Top statewide effort to build P-12 math and ELA curriculum, training, and aligned professional development resources. She also managed the development of EngageNY.org and the first open source P-5 math curriculum in K-12 education, which has been adopted by over 30 percent of classrooms in the country.



Sarah McBroom
Equity Officer
Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation
@wrfound

Sarah McBroom is an Equity Officer at the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation (WRF) where she oversees the implementation of the Foundation’s strategies within its major initiatives: Excel by Eight, ForwARd Arkansas, and Grow AR Own. Sarah is committed to building shared prosperity and an economy where all Arkansans can thrive. Her passion is at the intersection of economic development and justice. Her career has taken her from community development in rural Arkansas to the state’s economic development agency to a statewide foundation focused on the pursuit equity in Arkansas. Her formal education is in public service and business via a joint MPS/MBA from the University of

Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service and Walton College of Business. She received her BA from the University of North Carolina. When she is not relentlessly pursuing equity in Arkansas, you can find her and her husband raising two young kids and enjoying the outdoors in the Natural State.



Natalie Tackitt
North Carolina HealthySteps Coordinator
ZERO TO THREE
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Natalie Tackitt works with the Policy and Finance team and the Training and Technical Assistance team for the HealthySteps National Office at ZERO TO THREE. She leads HealthySteps efforts throughout North Carolina with specific focus on a collaborative effort to create systems change in Guilford County working in close coordination with other evidence-based programs and strategic community partners.