

Relationships Matter: Strengthening Vulnerable Youth Participant Biographies

Teresa (Teri) Behrens, Ph.D. is the founder and Editor-in-Chief of *The Foundation Review*, published by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership at Grand Valley State University in Grand Rapids, MI. *The Foundation Review* is the first peer-reviewed journal of philanthropy, written by and for foundation staff and boards and those who work with them implementing programs. She is also a Senior Research Associate with the Community Research Institute at the Johnson Center and an adjunct faculty member of the School for Public and Nonprofit Administration.

Teri joined the Johnson Center in January 2009. Immediately prior to this, Teri served as the Director of Evaluation for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, providing leadership for the Foundation's overall evaluation program. She gained national recognition for her work in furthering the use of systems thinking in evaluation. From 1995 – 2001, Teri consulted in program planning and evaluation for organizations such as the National Science Foundation, Washtenaw County Continuum of Care, and many small nonprofits. From 1990 – 1995, Teri was a program officer for the Michigan Strategic Fund for the Michigan Department of Commerce where she oversaw large economic development grants. In her early career, she worked at a shelter for homeless women and children in Cleveland, Ohio.

She currently serves on the Board of Directors for Doulas Care (in Ann Arbor, MI) and The Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development. Teri holds a doctorate in Psychology from North Carolina State University. She also holds a BA in Psychology and English (summa cum laude) from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Stacey Bouchet, Ph.D. is a strategic consultant who helps individuals, groups, and organizations with strategic planning, thinking, execution, and management. With a degree in psychology and a doctorate in human services policy, Stacey is an expert at identifying and fostering individual and organizational strengths, potential, and areas for growth.

Her work includes significant research, awareness building, training, practice and project management on issues faced by vulnerable populations, including, but not limited to: Healthy Relationships and Healthy Marriage; Children with Incarcerated Parents; Adult Incarceration and Reentry; Disconnected Youth; Responsible Fatherhood; Faith And Families; Early Childhood Development; Transitions From Youth To Adulthood/Emerging Adults; Family Economic Success; Successful Parenting; Strategic Grantmaking; Single Parent Economic Self Sufficiency; Child Welfare; Public Policy Analysis; and System And Service Reform

Stacey was an Assistant Professor of Sociology at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland with a specialization in Sociology of the Family. Stacey now provides strategic program development, advising, management, writing, editing, formal presentations, training and facilitation to individuals, non-profits, government entities and philanthropic and mission-driven organizations, including the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

Anisha Chablani is the Deputy Director of Roca. Anisha began her career at Roca as a youth worker in 2000, and began running programming in 2002. As the Deputy Director, Anisha's overall responsibility is for program development, implementation and continuous improvement, especially leading the performance based management and evaluation systems. Anisha has over 12 years of direct service experience working with very high risk young adults and has over 5 years of program and organizational management experience.

Tammi Fleming is the Director of the Plain Talk/Hablando Claro National Replication Center at Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), a non-profit organization which seeks to improve service access and outcomes for vulnerable, at risk, and hard-to-reach populations. She directs all trainings and

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Technical Assistance related to Plain Talk Replication Activities. Prior to her current position, she worked in a similar capacity for Public/Private Ventures for three years, and developed and implemented the Kingsley House Health Care for All program, a community outreach strategy with a goal of improving access to quality health services for low and moderate income families in New Orleans.

Raised in New Orleans, Louisiana, Tammi now lives with her husband and four children in Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania. Tammi's leadership and work has been recognized locally and nationally with awards and citations from; Gambits 40 Under 40, YWCA's Woman of the Year, NOAPPP, La. DHH, Kingsley House, and St. Thomas Irish Channel Consortium and recently recognized as a Next Generation Leader by the Annie E. Casey Foundation. She has also served on a panel with President Bush as she presented Health Care for All as a best practice for enrolling families into the Medicaid and SCHIPS programs.

As an undergraduate she studied Psychology at Southern University at New Orleans. Tammi received her Master of Public Health from Tulane University. Currently, Tammi is enrolled in Walden University's Public Health Doctoral program.

Ben Griffith is a 29 year old broadcasting major who got tired of making advertisements and wound up in Nashville working with youth at Rocketown, from there he ended up running around the Projects doing a documentary on gangs and gun violence. For the past three years he's been actively developing the Oasis center street outreach and Outreach Center programs where he's been able to meet and work with over 300 homeless young people a year.

Diane M. Hall, Ph.D. is currently a Behavioral Scientist with the Division of Violence Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), where she works on prevention development and evaluation in the areas of teen dating violence, intimate partner violence, and youth violence. Dr. Hall's work includes a focus on primary prevention, as well as incorporating mixed method approaches. In addition, she is interested in applying a social-ecological perspective and examination of the context in which violence occurs. Dr. Hall is a member of several national committees focusing on violence prevention, including the National Advisory Committee for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Start Strong teen dating violence prevention initiative and the Violence against Women committee of the Society for the Psychology of Women (American Psychological Association Division 35). She was a member of the planning committee for the 2008 APA Summit on Violence and Abuse in Relationships and has provided technical assistance to the U.S. Department of Defense Sexual Assault Advisory Committee. Dr. Hall joined CDC in January 2007. Previously she served as a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, where she trained school and mental health counselors. Dr. Hall was trained as a school, community, and child-clinical psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania.

Emma Harris has worked with youth for the past 18 years. She has been involved with the Boys & Girls Club of the Northern Cheyenne Nation and 4-H programs. Through all of the trials and tribulations, there is always such hope in the youth for change. Being a part of this hope is what inspires her to give of herself on a daily basis.

Courtney Harrison is Public Strategies Inc.'s (PSI) Director of Policy and Program Development. Ms. Harrison manages PSI's Denver office and is responsible for oversight of much of PSI's national work related to family strengthening. Ms. Harrison managed a large technical assistance contract with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission to design programs for families across the socio-economic spectrum. She is an expert in identifying promising practices and developing interventions based on research and evaluation findings. She provides oversight to the National Healthy Marriage Resource Center and the Hispanic Healthy Marriage Initiative. She has also been part of two national research and demonstration teams: Building Strong Families (BSF) and Supporting Healthy Marriage

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(SHM). Ms. Harrison received a Bachelor of Science in Public Affairs and a Master of Public Affairs, Policy Analysis and Comparative & International Affairs from Indiana University.

Jean Henningsen arrived at the Annie E. Casey Foundation in 2006 as a Program Assistant, offering support to a varied set of portfolios. Jean works with staff in the Office of the Executive Vice President, focusing her efforts on Healthy Relationships and Healthy Marriage, and Faith and Families. Prior to joining AECF, Jean worked with Rebuilding Together Baltimore and before that, with Jewish Family and Vocational Service of Middlesex County in Edison, New Jersey. Jean earned her Bachelors of Social Work at Rutgers University in New Jersey and holds a Masters of Social Work from the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Jeanette Hercik, Ph.D. is a recognized expert in welfare policy, self-sufficiency programs, at-risk children and youth, employment and workforce issues, homelessness, and family strengthening. Methodologically, Dr. Hercik is a skilled researcher, trainer, TA provider, and performance measurement authority. Currently a Vice President at ICF, Dr. Hercik is an accomplished administrator, project manager, teacher, researcher, evaluator, author, and consultant who has worked extensively with federal, state and local government agencies, universities, private and nonprofit entities, and community organizations to strategically plan, manage, and evaluate effective economic and community development and human service projects and programs. Dr. Hercik has extensive experience in the issues of positive youth development and early childhood education. Currently, Dr. Hercik serves as the Corporate Officer in charge of the YouthBuild Capacity Building Technical Assistance providing both the overall strategic oversight for the technical assistance, as well as providing subject matter expertise as it relates to youth development, at-risk populations, and workforce development. Previously, Dr. Hercik served as the principal investigator for Early Intervention Redesign, Eckerd Family Foundation, overseeing a program assessment of the existing “High Five” early intervention program supported by Eckerd Youth Alternatives and the development of a new experiential curriculum designed for at-risk 8-12 year olds. Dr. Hercik’s vast experience includes serving as project director for the Child Care Administration Project, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, a multi-year endeavor to develop a core knowledge handbook for State child care administrators and providing peer technical assistance, as well as founding and directing the Michigan Child Care Clearinghouse, State of Michigan, which assisted employers in developing child and elder care services for their employees. One of Dr. Hercik’s particular strengths is translating research findings into usable, understandable elements through training and technical assistance delivery. Recently, Dr. Hercik published the Urban Partnerships Toolkit, designed to operationalize replication of promising practices in urban centers. Dr. Hercik has an M.P.A. from Columbia University and a Ph.D. from Michigan State University with a concentration in Political Science/public policy and developmental psychology.

Tom Jenkins brings over 35 years of experience in senior level management in the public, non-profit and for-profit sectors serving the needs of children, youth and families. This wealth and breadth of knowledge and experience across all three sectors, brings a balanced perspective on the issues and unique challenges that face the Nurse-Family Partnership program. Most recently, he was President and Chief Operating Officer for Cornell Companies, a private, for-profit company providing adult corrections and juvenile justice treatment services nationwide. As Director of Child Welfare Services for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, he worked with the state legislature to amend the Pennsylvania Child Protective Services Law (CPSL) to increase safeguards for delinquent, abused and neglected children.

As a visionary senior executive, Tom has driven large scale cultural change, post acquisition assimilation, and program development that built organizational effectiveness and propelled growth. Tom is using this expertise to lead Nurse-Family Partnership in implementing their aggressive 10 year growth and development plan, with the goal of improving the life of every low-income, first-time family in the United

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States. He is a proven leader, facilitator, collaborator, team builder, public speaker and change agent. In addition to his professional accomplishments and impressive credentials, Tom brings a passion for the Nurse-Family Partnership program and an awareness of its value on the lives of children, families and society as a whole.

Maiko King works with disadvantaged young ladies in the juvenile justice system through Crittenton Services for Children and Families in southern California. Having worked in residential care for six years, she has served in a variety of capacities. Currently, as a Unit Supervisor, she manages a unit of 17 adolescent girls, many of whom are parenting. In this role, she tries to impart a sense of pride for oneself and ones community with the hopes her girls will become bright, compassionate, and self-aware individuals.

Angie Miot-Nudel likes to be noted in her work for her ability to weave common sense pragmatism, humor and years of experience working with youth and families. Her fifteen years of clinical administrative experience extends to working internationally in Israel, and on both the East and West Coast in Treatment Foster Care as an Assistant Director, and as the Program Director of Adoptions and Independent Living for Adolescents. She is currently the Clinical Supervisor at the Door - A Center for Alternatives, and oversees the Counseling Center, Membership, Foster Care and Crisis.

Angie is a professional trainer in both the parenting Journey and the researched based Nurturing parenting program. She hopes to bring her enthusiasm, commitment and motivation for change for our youth.

Joel Miranda was born and raised in the Boston area and currently works as a Case Manager at YouthBuild/Just A Start and has worked in the youth development field in different capacities for almost ten years. Joel came to YouthBuild as a student many years ago and has since developed a passion for helping young people reach their full potential and live meaningful and productive lives. His experience as a student and later as a staff member at a YouthBuild program afforded him the privilege of understanding first-hand some of the struggles his students face and allows him to help fellow staff communicate effectively with youth. His interest in helping young people develop healthy relationship skills comes out of a concern about the impact that the relationships young people grow up witnessing have on their personal relationships and subsequently other interactions (i.e. social and professional).

Last year YouthBuild/Just a Start was able to pilot the Love Smarts curriculum and witnessed an increased awareness in youth around relationships and the emotional and social competence necessary to enter and maintain healthy relationships. He currently serve as a consultant to YouthBuild USA's Developing Healthy Relationships Initiative (DHRI), an initiative sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, where he co-facilitates trainings for staff around the Love Smarts curriculum and provides technical assistance related to the effective delivery of the curriculum to young people in a YouthBuild setting.

Martha Moorehouse, Ph.D. is the Director of the Children and Youth Policy Division in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Division focuses on social service interventions, policies, and research concerning children, youth, and their families. Issues include early childhood; youth development and risky behaviors; child welfare and domestic violence; children and welfare reform; methods for evaluating what works; and strategies for improving data on children and youth. She chairs the Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs which includes 12 federal departments and agencies and is producing a federal website on youth. She is involved with the Interagency Forum and Child and Family Statistics and with partnerships within and outside of government on early childhood and other issues. She was formerly associated with the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, initially as a Society for Research in

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Child Development fellow. At ACYF, she provided federal direction for a number of large-scale multi-site studies of Head Start demonstrations and other social programs. She earned her doctorate in developmental psychology at Cornell University and was a member of the psychology faculty at the University of California, Santa Cruz. She has published on the topics of family processes, children's development, indicators of children's well-being, work-family linkages, and issues in social policy and research. She has worked with children and youth in a variety of community settings including schools, mental health clinics, and early childhood programs.

Mary Myrick is the Founder and President of Public Strategies Inc. As a visionary leader in public-private partnerships, Ms. Myrick developed PSI from a public relations and event planning firm into a leader in project management, strategic planning and training and technical assistance. She provides principled leadership, vision building, strategic planning and business development for PSI and its team of more than 100 professionals. Ms. Myrick manages and continues to add to the firm's varied and diverse partnerships and directs PSI's portfolio of national, state and community healthy marriage projects. Ms. Myrick also leads Public Strategies' effort of providing training and technical assistance to other agencies and organizations conducting marriage related projects, including the Administration for Children and Families' National Healthy Marriage Resource Center, MDRC (Supporting Healthy Marriage) and Mathematica Policy Research (Building Strong Families). Ms. Myrick frequently speaks at the request of the Administration for Children and Families and other organizations about the formation of marriage programs and services. Ms. Myrick attended Oklahoma State University and is an Accredited Public Relations Professional (APR).

Ruth Nunez is currently the Director of Residential Programs, overseeing Larkin Street's residential programs including The LOFT, the Lark-Inn for Youth, Avenues to Independence, G House, and Diamond Youth Shelter, in addition to the flagship Drop-In Center. Her responsibilities include overseeing daily operations, staff supervision and development, facility maintenance, and budget monitoring, as well as the development and implementation of program services. Ruth previously served two years as Director of Education and Employment Services and has been with Larkin Street for nine years, rising from counselor to program manager to director, and serving at almost all of Larkin's programs. Ruth has volunteered her time to numerous boards, including the Mayor's Office on Disability, Local Homeless Coordinating Board, and Dolores Street Community Services, as well as traveling to South America annually to address disability issues among youth.

Patricia Paluzzi serves as the President and CEO of Healthy Teen Network. Healthy Teen Network is the only national organization focused on both primary prevention of teen pregnancy and supporting pregnant and parenting teens. Their focus includes all aspects of youth development including the importance of relationships. Ms. Paluzzi's professional background is steeped in intimate partner violence-including clinically, running a nationwide education program and through her dissertation research. All of this background lends to the work of Healthy Teen Network.

Patrick Patterson, MSW, MPH is Public Strategies' manager for the *National Healthy Marriage Resource Center* (NHMRC), a clearinghouse that focuses on healthy marriage and relationships in the U.S. Prior to joining the NHMRC, Mr. Patterson served as the Healthy Marriage Specialist for the Administration for Children & Families (ACF), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Region III office in Philadelphia, where he was responsible for oversight and providing training and technical assistance to healthy marriage, fatherhood, and faith-based grantees and programs in the six state region. Prior to federal service, Patrick served as Program Manager for the Sisters of Charity Foundation \$8 million statewide Fatherhood Initiative in South Carolina.

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For more than 10 years, Patrick has effectively trained and provided technical assistance nationally to start-up and veteran responsible fatherhood and healthy marriage programs on topics including recruitment, retention, effective program design, hiring and securing staff/volunteers, and effective program implementation. In addition, Patrick has provided leadership and training to federal grantees on effectively developing safeguards and protocols to ensure compliance with federal faith based guidelines and regulations. Patrick earned his Bachelor of Social Work degree from Benedict College and Masters Degrees in Social Work and Public Health from the University of South Carolina.

Roberta Phillip's understanding of the need for impassioned child-advocates and effective youth services was crystallized after three years teaching Science to high school students. After working hands-on with students as a classroom educator at Key West High School in Florida, Roberta decided to pursue a law degree in the hopes of affecting policy and programs effectively geared toward youth development. While in law school at Lewis & Clark Law in Portland, Oregon, Roberta volunteered with Sisters In Action for Power as an after-school tutor and mentor. She conceptualized and developed a mentor program between Rosemary Anderson Alternative High School (POIC) in Portland, and Lewis & Clark Law School students. The program is in its fourth year and Roberta continues to serve within it as a mentor. For her work in establishing the mentor program, the Black Law Student Association and the Law School honored Roberta by creating a scholarship in her name. The Roberta Phillip Scholarship will benefit graduating POIC students who will attend college during the upcoming semester.

During law school, Roberta worked in the Multnomah County District Attorney's office in Portland, and following her graduation, as a clerk for a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge. She also has experience working with immigrants on legal issues and clerking in the Oregon Supreme Court. Prior to teaching, Roberta's experience as an AmeriCorps volunteer in Knoxville, Tennessee helped to solidify her belief in the need for life-long service and commitment to issues of social justice, especially those issues affecting youth. This belief continues to fuel her work today.

Roberta currently exercises her passion for youth issues by serving on the board of the Pangaea Project, a 10-month leadership program geared toward providing youth with a global perspective on social justice issues, with the hope of creating effective community leaders. She is also a board member of the Oregon Minority Lawyers Association, a group that provides support to attorneys and law students of color.

Michael Piraino is an attorney and has been active in domestic and international child advocacy since 1977, primarily in the areas of child poverty, maltreatment, and foster care. He holds law degrees from both Cornell Law School and Oxford University, and while practicing law, provided pro bono guardian ad litem representation to foster children. Mr. Piraino has also taught law school classes and was an associate research scientist at the National Center for Children in Poverty at Columbia University. A frequent speaker and presenter at domestic and international symposia on children, Mr. Piraino also serves on several national and local committees, work groups and boards related to accountability and ethics for both nonprofit organizations and government agencies. He joined the National CASA Association as its chief executive officer in 1994.

Anthony M. Powell serves as the National Director of Field Operations and Development with Opportunities Industrialization Centers of America, Incorporated (OICA), where he is responsible for orchestrating the strategy to develop, grow, and sustain OIC Affiliates and ensures that these organizations operate according to the terms of affiliation. Mr. Powell initially started with the agency as the Healthy Marriage Education Project Director/Project Officer for the agency's Healthy Marriage Initiative. The overall purpose of OICA's Healthy Marriage Education Project is to provide unmarried high school students and pregnant mothers/expectant fathers with the necessary tools to help them gain greater access to services that will enable them to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to form and

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sustain healthy relationships. This innovative promising practice model joins a large body of community-based organizations that provide youth with skills to form and sustain healthy relationships throughout Philadelphia high schools (public, private and charter), faith organizations, and minority communities.

Mr. Powell has spent his career working to address the needs of low to moderate-income families, especially those living in or near poverty through jobs with the Salvation Army of Southeastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Division's Philadelphia Citadel Corps serving as the Director of Children and Youth Programs, in addition to United Communities Southeast Philadelphia, Incorporated where he served as the Director of Children and Youth Services/Center Director of Southwark House Community Center. He served in several leadership roles at the North Carolina Rural Economic Development Center, Incorporated, a private statewide non-profit organization dedicated to the development of innovative strategies to improve the lives of rural North Carolinians. Moreover, Mr. Powell continued to augment his work with youth through an additional position as Resident Manager with Carolina Family Services, a non profit organization offering immediate services to youth and adults with homeless and mental health issues. Mr. Powell has served as a program director, manager, and youth and family counselor in various roles throughout his profession in both, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Wilmington, Delaware. Mr. Powell has worked for over 20 years with coalitions of community and religious groups seeking to address the needs of low to moderate-income families, especially those living in or near poverty.

Mr. Powell holds a Master's Degree in Human Services from Lincoln University with a concentration in Leadership and Organizational Development. Mr. Powell continues his educational studies at Temple University in pursuit of a second Master's Degree in Education with a concentration in Training and Organizational Development.

Michelle Quinn-Davidson, M.P.A., brings an extensive background in nonprofit management to both public and private work. She holds a Masters of Public Administration and in public and nonprofit management and policy from New York University, and a Bachelor of Science degree in communications from Emerson College.

She has worked professionally at the Big Sister Association of Boston, the Leonard N. Stern School of Business, the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University, and Youth on Board. For the past seven years, she has served in the YouthBuild Academy for Transformation at YouthBuild USA, currently as Director. One of the key projects she manages is the "YouthBuild USA Developing Healthy Relationships Initiative" sponsored by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to build the capacity of YouthBuild programs to deliver healthy relationship skills to program youth age 16-24 that will provide them with the resources they need to form and sustain healthy intimate and co-parenting relationships while leveraging the existing components of the YouthBuild program that increase job opportunities, education, economic success and community investment.

She has worked with more than 300 YouthBuild programs and thousands of youth practitioners. Internationally, she has led teams of youth and staff at the 1st International Youthbuilding Congress in London, England and the 2nd Youth Employment Summit in Veracruz, Mexico. As a trainer and facilitator, Michelle specializes in youth leadership, team-building, and building counseling skills for young people.

Sandy Rioux has served as the Executive Director, El Paso Center for Children since 1978. Prior to this he was the Mental Health & Substance Abuse Planner for the Southeast New Mexico Regional Mental Health Association and also previously served as the Executive Director for the Lewiston, Maine Model Cities Agency. Sandy earned his Master's in Public Administration (MPA) from the University of Texas, El Paso (UTEP) 1985.

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Carla Roach, Ph.D. serves as the Senior Director for the Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development. Her work focuses on engaging new partners – whether foundations, national organizations, or community-based agencies –in unleashing the potential of youth, adults, communities and organizations to achieve a just and equitable society. She brings multiple perspectives to this role based on a decade of experience in nonprofit and academic settings. As Project Director for the Ford Foundation’s Youth Leadership for Development Initiative (YLDI), she managed a learning network that explored civic activism as a strategy for youth development. During her tenure with the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities at Stanford University, she led a qualitative study of the organizational and policy contexts surrounding local community schools. Carla holds a Ph.D. in Education from Stanford University and her areas of specialization include youth development, community building, community schools, and cross-sector collaboration. She is energized by opportunities to interact with colleagues who share her view that research and practice are complementary strategies for social change.

Sharon Sassler, Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Policy Analysis and Management at Cornell University. She received her Ph.D. from Brown University in 1995. A social demographer, her research examines factors shaping the activities of young adults and their life course transitions into school and work, relationships, and parenthood, and how these have changed over the past century. Several current projects examine the tempo of relationship progression and its association with relationship quality, the processes underlying entrance into cohabiting unions and how these differ by social class, and the impact of family experiences while young on subsequent transitions into cohabiting or marital unions. She is a co-principal investigator of an NIH-sponsored grant, “Marriage and Cohabitation among Single Mothers: Consequences for Two Generations.”

Deborah Shore is the Founder and Executive Director of Sasha Bruce Youthwork, a multi-service agency working with disconnected, homeless and runaway youth and families since 1974. The agency has a network of 16 programs which include shelter, transitional living, street outreach, home based family strengthening support, job training and numerous positive youth development services aimed at meeting the urgent and emerging needs of youth. SBY aims to strengthen families, help youth develop life skills and move toward becoming self sufficient and contributing members of the world. SBY youth include those who are in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems as well as youth not in any public system. As ED of Sasha Bruce, Deborah has been involved in all of the program planning and development as well as numerous advocacy efforts both locally and nationally. Recent awards include the Bender Prize for Excellence in Non-profit Management and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Network for Runaway and Youth Services.

Esta Soler, one of the world’s foremost experts on violence against women and children, is a pioneer who founded the Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPF) nearly 30 years ago and made it one of the world’s leading violence prevention agencies. With offices in San Francisco, Boston and Washington, D.C., and partners around the world, the FVPF develops innovative strategies to prevent domestic, dating and sexual violence, stalking and child abuse.

Under Soler’s direction, the FVPF was a driving force behind passage of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 – the nation’s first comprehensive federal response to the violence that plagues our families and communities. The FVPF helped shape the law’s reauthorization in 2000 and again in 2005, expanding it to include critical prevention initiatives. Soler has led the FVPF as it developed trailblazing public education campaigns that have reached millions of people, and innovative policies, advocacy, prevention, education and training programs that help lawmakers, health care providers, judges,

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employers and others stop violence and help victims. FVPF programs have been replicated in all 50 states and around the world.

A trustee for the Blue Shield of California Foundation, Soler's many awards include a Kellogg Foundation National Leadership Fellowship, an honorary doctorate from Simmons College, and the 2007 Humanitarian Award from Peace Over Violence. Her work resulted in the FVPF winning awards from the Sara Lee Foundation and the State Justice Institute, among others. Soler is co-author of *Ending Domestic Violence: Changing Public Perceptions/Halting the Epidemic*.

Liz Squibb has 15 years of experience working on behalf of children, families, and communities. Her work at the Initiative includes leading regular technical assistance sessions for Associate Directors, facilitating trainings on the management information system for Individual Development Accounts and on financial literacy as well as workshops for potential co-investors. She project manages large grantee conferences and other Initiative events as well as providing oversight of funding provided to a national advocacy organization focused on children's issues. She also serves as steering committee member for a national collaborative that seeks to ensure that all children and families of color receive fair treatment, support, and achieve good outcomes from the child welfare system. Her primary work at the Initiative is managing the youth engagement portfolio where she is in charge of managing youth engagement technical assistance and training for communities and sites involved with the Jim Casey Initiative.

Ana Thomas coordinates the Innovation Center's communications work, using a combination of high-tech and high-touch strategies to actualize the organization's tagline in a real way: connecting people and ideas to create change. Her work is heavily writing based (so much so that within the first two months on the job she earned the nickname Office Scribe) and often includes drafting letters, concept papers, blog entries, press releases, project proposals, and autobiographies awkwardly written in the third person. She is especially interested in the intersection of education, youth engagement, and public policy. A cum laude graduate of Georgetown University, Ana earned her A.B. in Government with minors in Spanish and English in 2008.

Carole Thompson has been at the Annie E. Casey Foundation since 1997, leading the Foundation's work on Faith and Families, and Healthy Relationships and Healthy Marriage. She has extensive experience in corporate and public sector philanthropy. She began her corporate career at Champion International where she managed the corporation's national philanthropic activities. Carole also spent six years with the CIGNA Foundation in Philadelphia, serving as the Director of Civic Affairs before accepting a position as Special Assistant to the Superintendent and Chief Development Officer for the School District of Philadelphia. When she moved near Baltimore to be closer to family, Carole successfully took on the challenge of developing and directing the Office of Development and Grants in the Baltimore City Public School System. She earned her BA of Business Administration from Howard University.

Michele Walters has served as the Team Lead for the Healthy Marriage Discretionary grant program in the Division of State & Territory TANF Management in the Office of Family Assistance (OFA) since April 2007. In her current position, Ms. Walters oversees Priority Area (PA) One grantees as well as the National Healthy Marriage Resource Center. Prior to working with OFA, Ms. Walters worked with the Compassion Capital Fund in the Office of Community Services where she served as a Program Specialist for the Communities Empowering Youth, Demonstration, and Targeted-Capacity Building programs.

Previous to her joining the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in 2005, she worked for 1 ½ years with the Alabama Supreme Court as the Executive Director of the Appellate Mediation Program where she assisted in implementing the first Appellate Court Mediation program for the state. From 2000-2003, Ms. Walters worked with the Alabama Administrative Office of Courts (AOC) as the

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Assistant Program Manager of the Judicial Volunteer Program (JVP), where she oversaw 12 community-based programs across the state. During her tenure with the Alabama AOC, she was able to work on two grants with ACF through the Office of Child Support Enforcement for the Access/Visitation Program and Children's Bureau for the Court Improvement Project.

Ms. Walters has a diverse educational background with a Masters degree in Sociology and undergraduate degrees in Political Science and Criminology. As part of her Masters thesis, she undertook a qualitative study of a sexual assault case as it was processed through the court system. Ms. Walters has been a recipient of the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship where she was able to study for one year at Bangor University in northern Wales, where she undertook the Diploma Social Work program. In 2009, Ms. Walters graduated from the ACF Leadership Development Program, a highly competitive program, where five positions were made available across ACF for recipients to undertake coursework and assignments related to leadership development.

Dorinda Welle is a Program Officer in Sexuality and Reproductive Health and Rights at the Ford Foundation, where she has developed initiatives to support sexuality education in schools and social research on sexuality and gender. Prior to joining the Ford Foundation, Dr. Welle conducted NIH-funded social research on youth development in the context of the AIDS epidemic in the US and China, and has taught in anthropology, education, public health, and medicine. Her research has informed policies and programs to increase access to alternatives to incarceration for women, mental health and social services for homeless women and families, LGBTQ youth, and young people living with HIV/AIDS. Over the past decade, Dorinda has served on the HIV/AIDS Behavioral Research, Community Health, and Small Business Innovation study sections for NIH.

Wendy Wheeler is the president and a founder of the Innovation Center for Community and Youth Development, and in this capacity, seeks out, nurtures, and brings to scale exceptional strategies to support young people, strengthen communities, and promote social justice. An expert in training and organizational, youth, community, and leadership development, Wendy consults for organizations, universities, and philanthropic institutions to increase youth engagement in communities and adult partnerships with youth. Prior to founding the Innovation Center, she held leadership posts at the YMCA, YWCA, Girl Scouts of the USA, and was a Senior Vice President at National 4-H Council. She serves on advisory boards for the Center for Information and Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE) at Tufts University, the Center for Advancement of Informal Science Education (CAISE), and the Encyclopedia of Youth Activism. Wendy also is the Howland Endowed Chair in Youth Leadership at the University of Minnesota.

She has written numerous articles for both practitioners and academics, but her true love is creating practical training materials for youth and adults who want to create change

Renée Wilson-Simmons is Senior Associate for Adolescent Health & Development at the Annie E. Casey Foundation, a philanthropic organization whose primary mission is to foster public policies, human-service reforms, and community supports that more effectively meet the needs of vulnerable children and families. She manages the foundation's investment strategy for adolescent health, with a focus on taking to larger scale evidence-based interventions that not only improve systems and frontline practice but also outcomes for young people.