



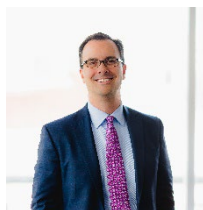
American
Heart
Association.

American Heart Association.



The Voices for Healthy Kids Summit 2024

ATTENDEES



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Allen is a lawyer who helps nonprofit organizations to maximize their advocacy power.



Allyson Frazier, *she/her/hers*
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Allyson has worked to improve public policy for over 25 years trying to build better, more equitable communities every child, including her own three that keep her on her toes.



Amanda Quiroz-Guajardo, *she/her/ella*
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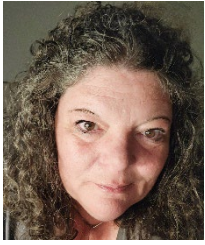
Passionate developmental specialist dedicated to nurturing potential and fostering growth in children, presenting at the forefront of developmental research.



Amilcar Guzmán, *he/him/his*
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Amilcar Guzman, Ph.D. is a Program Officer at the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation. In this role, he is responsible for supporting national and state partners as they seek to implement effective Prenatal-to-Three (PN-3) systems that will improve the lives of those who are the furthest away from opportunity. Prior to his time at the Pritzker Family Foundation, Amilcar served in a variety of education policy and research roles in the Washington D.C. area.



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Amy Jo is a lifelong West Virginian, organizer, and the WV Campaign Director for MomsRising.

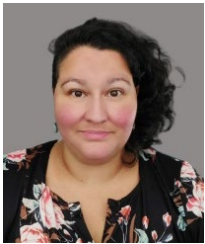


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My name is Ana-Alicia Carr and I am currently the Director of Policy and Coalitions with the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, working to ensure food is healthy, affordable, accessible, sustainable and fair for all.



Andrea Guarnero, *she/her/ella*
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Angeline Kitchens, *she/her/hers*
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Angeline "Angie" Kitchens serves as the Executive Assistant to the VP Executive Director of Voices for Healthy Kids.



Anne Discher, *she/her/hers*
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Anne Discher is executive director of Common Good Iowa, where she works toward building a just, inclusive Iowa, where children and families are healthy and secure, workers thrive, and clean air and water contribute to a healthy future for all.



Anupama Joshi, *she/her/hers*
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Anupama Joshi is Vice President of Programs at CSPI, where she leads program strategy on national, state, and local policy advocacy; legislative campaigns; and regulatory affairs to support equitable access to healthy, affordable, and sustainable food.



April Wallace, *she/her/hers*
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Arthur Argomaniz, *he/him/his*
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Arthur serves as project manager for the national Parent Leader Network, an initiative of the Center for the Study of Social Policy.



Ben Schmauss, *he/him/his*
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Benjamin Schmauss leads the early care and education portfolio and consultation efforts for VFHK.



Branden Reis, *he/him/his*
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Brenda Blasingame, *she/her/hers*
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Ms. Blasingame professional life has focused on systems change efforts working on the issues that most impact the lives of children, families and communities marginalized by racial injustices and social inequities.



Brenda Bandy, *she/her/hers*
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Brenda Bandy advocates for policies and programs that remove obstacles and help families in Kansas to thrive during the first 1,000 days - from pregnancy to the child's second birthday.



Cameron Clark, *he/him/his*
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Program Officer at the Bezos Family Foundation managing early childhood policy and advocacy work.



Carla Lopez-Valdes, *she/her/hers*
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Dr. Carla Lopez-Valdes currently serves as the Director of Government and Community Relations at Para Los Ninos (For The Kids), an organization that works through a holistic lens to ensure children and families can fully thrive.



Cassie Edner, *she/her/hers*
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Cassie Edner works at Virginia Poverty Law Center as the Public Benefits attorney.



Charli Cooksey, *she/her/hers*
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Clarissa Ramirez, *she/her/ella*
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Clarissa Ramirez is the Policy Manager for California Latinas for Reproductive Justice and works in conjunction with the rest of the organization to educate, advocate, & engage with our communities, policy makers, and stakeholders to advance reproductive justice for all



Cordel Bostic, *he/him/his*
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Cordel works at the West Virginia Food and Farm Coalition as the Communication and Legislative Policy Coordinator and is dedicated to promoting food access and supporting local farmers, with efforts focused on developing and advocating for policies that enhance food security and foster a thriving agricultural community.



Cristina Gonzalez, *she/her/hers*
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Dr. Cristina Gonzalez has over 10 years of experience working in communities, community-based organizations, and in schools.



Dan O'Brien, *he/him/his*
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Dan leads Children First's paid leave work and is co-chair of the statewide Pennsylvania Family Care Coalition which leads the effort to bring a paid family and medical leave program to PA.



Danielle Patterson,
National Policy Consultant
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My passion is helping under-resourced communities pass meaningful public health policies.



David Velazquez, *he/him/his*
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Inaugural Parent and Family Engagement Fellow for the Pritzker Family Foundation.



Dawn Montecalvo, *she/her/hers*
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Dawn is the CEO of the Guadalupe Center in Immokalee, Florida since 2016 and serves on the advisory board of the Children's Movement of Florida's Future Project and serves as the co-chair of the Florida's Early Learning Roadmap's PR/Awareness committee.



Dev Wakeley, *he/him/his*
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Dev Wakeley is Alabama Arise's worker policy advocate and covers issues affecting the well-being of Alabama's working people.



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Diane Girouard has covered early childhood education policy in states for Child Care Aware of America for over four years.



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Emily is the Sr. Policy Analyst at Voices for Virginia's Children and leads health equity and economic security campaigns.



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As a National Senior Director of Advocacy with Voices for Healthy Kids at the American Heart Association, I lead a dedicated team driving equity-centered policy movements nationwide to improve children's lives.



Esteban Wood, *he/him/his*
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Wood's analysis and advocacy have been featured in The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, POLITICO, NPR, Forbes, USA Today, CNN, Axios, ABC News with Linsey Davis, The Daily Beast, Tampa Bay Times, Miami Herald, El País, Univision, Telemundo, Diario de las Américas, among several others.



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Proud Puertorrican daughter that works fostering relationships to thrust ahead economic prosperity for families in Puerto Rico.



Garin Strobl, *she/her/hers*
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Garin is a Staff Attorney at the Public Health Law Center and partners with Tribal, federal, and state government officials, as well as researchers and community groups, to develop laws and policies that advance health equity and active living.



Gerry Cobb, *she/her/hers*
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Gerry Cobb has worked at the JB and MK Pritzker Family Foundation for nearly 7 years and leads their prenatal to age three national initiative.



Holly Morgan, *she/her/hers*
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As executive director of the West Virginia Farmers Market Association, Holly Morgan is dedicated to enhancing farmers markets and supporting sustainable agriculture initiatives across the state.



Jamie Bussel, *she/her/hers*
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Jamie Bussel, a Senior Program Officer and the Childhood Obesity Lead at the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, works alongside others to build a Culture of Health that provides every family and every child in America a fair and just opportunity to live the best, healthiest life possible.



Javier Martínez, *he/him/his*
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Social impact lawyer, Non-Profit Executive, Speaker of the NM House of Representatives.



Jeannina "Nina" Perez, *she/her/ella*
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Jessica Woltjen, *she/her/hers*
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Jessica has over a decade of experience working on early childhood issues at child policy nonprofits.



Joshua Harris, *he/him/his*
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Kameron Dawson has worked at A Better Balance for 5 years, and works on policy advocacy, direct services, and community education at the federal, state, and local level on issues ranging from pregnancy accommodations to paid family and medical leave.



Katie Bishop Kendrick, *she/her/hers*
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Kristy Ritz is the Executive Director of the West Virginia Association for Young Children.



Lance Whitney, *he/him/his*
Advocacy Director
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Laura Coleman, *she/her/hers*
Advocacy Media Relations Manager
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Laura Coleman is the Advocacy Media Relations Manager for Voices for Healthy Kids whom helps shift the focus from the personal to the social across different advocacy campaigns throughout the nation while guiding and supporting grantees on how to strategically cultivate and manage relationships with media representatives in order to advance public policy initiatives.



Laurie McKeown, *she/her/hers*
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I have led an organization promoting child wellbeing, thereby preventing child maltreatment, for 37 years.



Leah Cox, *she/her/hers*
Operations Manager
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I am excited to join the Voices for Healthy Kids team as the new Operations Manager, working on logistics behind the scenes from Tucson Arizona.



Leticia Casillas Sanchez, *she/her/hers*
Director Early Childhood
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Logan Welde, *he/him/his*
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Logan Welde has worked at Clean Air Council for 12 years where he has focused mostly on policy work, specifically preemption.



Lori Fresina, *she/her/hers*
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Lifelong advocate with the good fortune of working with other awesome advocates in pursuit of social justice.



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I have been a part of the AHA team for 2 years and manage the VFHK and NCIT social media accounts.



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Maura Devine, *she/her/hers*
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Maura Devine joined the Voices for Healthy Kids team in early 2024 and leads strategic grassroots initiatives, provides coaching and technical assistance to aligned policy change campaigns at the tribal, state and local levels, and manages the online advocate networks for Voices and NCIT.

Maxwell Brown, *she/her/hers*
SENIOR DIRECTOR OF PROGRAMS
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Mayra E. Alvarez, *she/her/ella*
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Michele Fernandez is the Development Director at Hispanic Unity of Florida.



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Nichelle has been with PCA for 6 years working collaboratively to create opportunities that support children and families, prioritizing investment in people as leaders and community-driven solutions as essential to achieving transformational and lasting change.



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At Voices I lead our Paid Family Medical Leave work but more broadly I'm a health justice advocate, strategist, equity weaver, mama, wifey, and love to cook.



Sara Jann Heinze, *she/her/hers*
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Sara Jann Heinze has worked at Maternity Care Coalition for 8 years and leads the policy & advocacy team.



Sarah Mann, *she/her/hers*
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Sarah is a Sr. Policy Analyst on the Voices for Healthy Kids team where she monitors and analyzes state legislation, supports policy development, and manages legal technical assistance.



Seth DiStefano, *he/him/his*
Policy Outreach Director
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Shanequa Smith, *she/them*
Restorative Practitioner
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Dr. Smith is a restorative practitioner who's work is rooted in joy, education, and connecting individuals to their desires opportunities.



Shanna Phillips, *she/her/hers*
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My name is Shanna Phillips. I have been a therapist at Keep Your Faith LLC for 2 1/2 years. I also work in a middle school as a counselor.



Shannon Melluzzo, *she/her/hers*
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Shannon has worked at the American Heart Association for 23 years and is the Senior Grants Administrator for Voices for Healthy Kids



Shelby Pierce, *she/her/hers*
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Shelby Pierce, owner of Pierce Porter Facilitation, is a Technology of Participation (ToP) Facilitator and Trainer who helps groups and organizations create meaningful and productive plans for the future.



Shelly Masur, *she/her/hers*
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Shelly Masur has been with the Low Income Investment Fund for 2 years and oversees its state policy advocacy across multiple states, research on child care supply and facilities, and work with state and local governments.



Spencer Moss, *she/her/hers*
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Spencer is the current Executive Director and has been with the West Virginia Food & Farm Coalition since 2015, she has dedicated her efforts to supporting individuals who aspire to nourish their communities and sustain farming as a viable livelihood.



Sunny Lane, *she/her/hers*
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Suzan Gage, *she/her/hers*
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Curious, questioning, and always learning.



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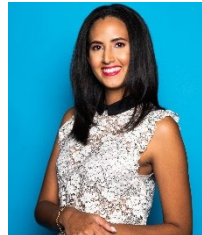
Varnessa McCray, *she/her/hers*
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Varnessa McCray started working with The Children's Movement of Florida in December 2023 as the Director of Community Engagement and leads the work around The Future Project.



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Viviana Alvarado Pacheco has been with The Women's Fund for 5 years, leading all research and policy initiatives.