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# Honoring Doyens in Our Field

by Roger Neugebauer and Bonnie Neugebauer  
and Pam Boulton

## An Ongoing Commitment

As *Exchange* magazine celebrates 40 years of service to early childhood professionals in all the glory of their diversity and commitment, we continue our recognition of Doyens — the founders, leaders and mentors who shaped our profession and created our history. They have dedicated their lives to making a difference for young children and their families and have led with vision, passion and determination. They continue to provide inspiration and guidance, and they speak fearlessly to the mission of our work and hold us accountable. We honor them for their lifetime of personal and professional



Roger Neugebauer is founding publisher of *Exchange* magazine and co-founder of the World Forum Foundation.



Bonnie Neugebauer is founding editor of *Exchange* magazine and co-founder of the World Forum Foundation. You're invited to visit Bonnie's Global Café: [WorldForumFoundation.org/cafe](http://WorldForumFoundation.org/cafe)



Pam Boulton, Ed.D., serves as the coordinator for the Exchange Leadership Initiative for *Exchange* magazine and is an instructor for the Center for Early Childhood Professional Development and Leadership in the

UW-Milwaukee School of Continuing Education. She focuses on leadership development in the early childhood field.

achievements on behalf of early care and education.

*Exchange* magazine launched the Exchange Leadership Initiative in November 2014 to heighten the visibility of leaders and leadership in our field — and to express our gratitude. Searches focused first on Emerging Leaders and Master Leaders; professionals can continue to apply to become vetted as members of ELI ([ChildCareExchange.com/leadership](http://ChildCareExchange.com/leadership)). To date 258 leaders — Emerging and Master Leaders and Doyens — have been recognized. The next group of ELI members will be celebrated in July 2018 *Exchange*. In coordination with our Exchange Strategic Partners and other national organizations who take responsibility for nominating Doyens, the recognition of Doyens will continue with the November 2018 issue of *Exchange*.

*Exchange* chooses to honor the leaders in our profession because leadership must be recognized by those who understand what we do. We all need our effort and our work to be acknowledged, especially in this field where our status is often dismissed or diminished by those

who misunderstand or underestimate the importance of the first years of each human life. There are unsung heroes, leaders in environments and circles of influence, large and small — in classrooms and homes, in organizations and on committees — whose leadership has not been acknowledged. We invite you to work with us to raise the visibility of leadership. Each of us can play a role. Express your respect and gratitude to those around you; let your leaders know that you see and appreciate them!

### Phil Acord

Chattanooga, Tennessee  
President/CEO, Chambliss Center for Children



Phil Acord is the President/CEO of Chambliss Center for Children in Chattanooga, Tennessee, a position he accepted in 1976. Acord is a strong believer in advocacy and has been involved

with and had the privilege of serving as president of four state and two regional associations. In 2010, Acord received the Outstanding Southern Early Childhood Association Member Award and in 2012 the

Tennessee Conference on Social Welfare Lifetime Achievement Award. He has also served on many local and state boards. On the national level he has served on the membership and nominating committee for the National Association for the Education of Young Children and presently is a commissioner with the Child Welfare League of America. Recently Acord was appointed by the governor to serve on the Tennessee Commission for Children and Youth. Due to Acord's collaboration efforts, he has expanded the reach of Chambliss Center for Children to include six off-site centers and twelve school-based programs. These programs care for over 700 children daily and employ over 300 full and part-time staff. His collaboration efforts resulted in being featured on the cover of *Exchange* magazine and a role in the HBO documentary *Paycheck to Paycheck: The Life and Times of Katrina Gilbert*. In 2017, SECA named an award in honor of Acord's outstanding service to children and families.

#### **Carol Brunson Day**

Silver Spring, Maryland  
*Consultant - Early Childhood Education*



Carol Brunson Day has spent her career as an advocate for quality early childhood services for young children and families, having served as the CEO of the Council for Profes-

sional Recognition for 20 years (1985-2005) and CEO of the National Black Child Development Institute from 2006-2011. Acknowledged across the US and internationally for her expertise in child development, early childhood teacher education, diversity and multicultural education, and cultural influences on development, Day has a long history of interest and expertise on African-American culture and heritage. She has served on numerous national boards and is past president (2013-2017) of the governing board of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

#### **Marian Wright Edelman**

Washington, D.C.  
*President, Children's Defense Fund*



Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president of the Children's Defense Fund, has been an advocate for disadvantaged children throughout her entire professional life. Under Edelman's leadership,

CDF has helped lead the charge to ensure every child has access to high quality early childhood education and care. For more than 40 years, CDF has worked to enact policies that help millions of children and families receive needed child care, Head Start and home visiting. But as CDF shows in its recent State of America's Children 2017 report, there is much still to be done. Today nearly four million children under five live in poverty during the earliest years of greatest brain development, and many lack access to quality early childhood opportunities that can help build a foundation for future success in school and life. Edelman and the Children's Defense Fund continue to fight on behalf of these children, in support of CDF's Leave No Child Behind mission to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

#### **Carolyn Pope Edwards**

Lincoln, Nebraska  
*Willa Cather Professor (emerita) of Psychology and of Child Youth and Family Studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln*  
 University of Nebraska



Carolyn Pope Edwards has devoted her life to understanding how young children learn and develop and how schools and other learning environments can best be structured to

assist them. Her work promotes the growth of the child's social and moral as well as cognitive development. She is best known for advocating the Reggio model based on the philosophy of Loris Malaguzzi; her book *The Hundred Languages of Children: The Reggio Emilia Approach*

to *Early Childhood Education*, written with George Foreman and Lella Gandini, became an influential worldwide best-seller now in its third edition with translations into Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Greek, Italian, Japanese and Arabic. In 2010, she was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the North American Reggio Emilia Alliance. Edwards's research and writing has shaped many fields. She co-authored with Beatrice Whiting *Children of Different Worlds: The Formation of Social Behavior*, *Ngecha: A Kenyan Village in a Time of Rapid Social Change*, and other books and articles focused on understanding child rearing and child development in diverse cultures. With Maria Rosario T. de Guzman and Jill Brown she is publishing *Parenting From Afar: The Reconfiguration of the Family Across Distance*. With Courtney Boise she wrote *Learning the Language of Nature: Young Children as Mathematical Thinkers*. She also authored *Promoting Social and Moral Development in Young Children*. She has published ten other books and approximately one hundred scientific articles and book chapters. Edwards is Willa Cather Professor (emerita) of psychology and of child youth and family studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she won the Outstanding Research and Creative Activities Award, the university's highest research honor. She has mentored approximately 40 doctoral and masters students. She took her bachelor's (Anthropology 1969) and doctorate (Human Development 1974) at Harvard University and has also held teaching positions at Vassar College, the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and the University of Kentucky. She has been honorary visiting professor at Nanjing Normal University and Nanjing Second Normal University China; invited senior fellow at the Centre for Advanced Study in Oslo, Norway, and visiting professor at the National Research Council in Rome, Italy. She has given more than 40 keynotes and major lectures. She has won dozens of awards, honors, prizes and distinguished fellowships. Through all of her research, publishing, lecturing, and teaching, however, she remained singularly focused on promoting the well-being of young children. When she arrived recently at an orphanage in China where the teachers had been allowed to abandon warehousing and implement her Reggio-based approach, the children had absolutely blossomed. She was met by a standing ovation by teachers and students who shed many tears of joy and gratitude: the best honor of all.

**Stacie Goffin**

Washington, D.C.

Principal, Goffin Strategy Group LLC



Stacie Goffin is the principal of the Goffin Strategy Group. Established in 2004, the Goffin Strategy Group develops early childhood education's ability to offer effective programs and services

to young children through leadership, capacity, and systems development. Goffin works with local and state non-profits, philanthropy, governments, and national organizations. A widely published author, Goffin's conceptual leadership focuses on advancing early childhood education as a professional field of practice.

Prior to forming the Goffin Strategy Group, Goffin led the five-year effort to reinvent the National Association for the Education of Young Children's early childhood program accreditation system. This effort resulted in a newly designed delivery system, updated accreditation criteria, and first-ever national program standards for early childhood education programs serving children from birth through kindergarten. A former senior program officer at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, professor in higher education, and preschool educator, Goffin served as founding chair of multiple organizations, including the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative, Kansas City's Metropolitan Council on Early Learning, and the West Virginia Network for Young Children.

Goffin has authored several seminal publications, including *Ready or Not: Leadership Choices in Early Care and Education*; *Early Childhood Education for a New Era: Leading for Our Profession*; and *Professionalizing Early Childhood Education as a Field of Practice: A Guide to the Next Era*. Both her writing and presentations have earned her a well-respected reputation as a change agent.

**Ed Greene**

Monmouth Junction, New Jersey

Vice President Strategic Partnerships and Community Outreach, Hispanic Information and Telecommunications Network



Prior to his work at HITN, Greene worked as director of educational outreach for a U.S. Department of Education Ready to Learn Trans-media project. He has been an instructional leadership coach for

principals and PreK-2 teachers in Detroit Public Schools for Teachscape. Greene was a senior adviser and consultant to Cito USA and its Piramide Approach to Early Learning and director of global outreach for Sesame Workshop. Over his 40 year career, Greene has worked directly with infants, toddlers, preschool children, adolescents and families, as well as in a variety of roles and capacities in the philanthropic private and public sectors and in higher education. He is a former member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and the HighScope Educational Research Foundation and currently serves on boards of the McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership and the Coalition for Quality Children's Media. Greene completed a bachelor's in music education at DePauw University; a master's in child and human development at Pacific Oaks college, and a doctorate in early childhood and elementary education at Indiana State University.

**Sandra Gutierrez**

Los Angeles, California

Founder and National Director, Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors



Sandra Gutierrez is the founder and national director of Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors. Gutierrez led the development of AP, the nation's first evidence-based comprehensive training program for

Latino parents with children 0 to 5. She brings over 40 years of experience with legal children's advocacy and community service organizations.

Her multi-faceted career has included founding the first service organization to assist Central American refugees, developing health education programs for the United Farm Workers of America, and leading campaigns to promote the benefits of preschool to the Latino community. In addition, for seven years she served as a founding member and state commissioner for First 5 California, where she established the advisory committee on equity. In March 2014, Gutierrez was named by the White House as a César E. Chávez Champion of Change and in February 2015 she received the James Irvine Foundation Leadership Award.

**Ellen Hall**

Boulder, Colorado

Founder and Executive Director and Author, Boulder Journey School



Ellen Hall is the founder and executive director of Boulder Journey School, an innovative school for young children in Boulder, Colorado. She is executive director of the Boulder Journey School

Teacher Education Program, a partnership with the Colorado Department of Education and the University of Colorado Denver. The program offers candidates a teaching license in early childhood education and a master's degree in education and human development. Her book *Seen and Heard: Children's Rights in Early Childhood Education* (2011 Teachers College Press), written with J. Rudkin, is profoundly influencing educators' views of children's participation in their communities. She is currently writing and editing a book on social supportive learning an applied philosophy of preschool learning, and community building that Hall and her staff have been researching and developing for 30 years. Ellen is co-founder and vice president of Videatives, a web-based educational resource company. She is co-leader of the working group on children's rights and a member of the International Advisory Group of the World Forum Foundation. Among her many volunteer positions, Hall is board president for Dimensions Educational Research Foundation and a founding board member and board chair of Hawkids Centers of Learning in Boulder.

**Jacqueline Jones**

New York, New York

*President and CEO, Foundation for Child Development*

Jacqueline Jones has been a teacher, researcher and policymaker. Currently she is the president and CEO of the Foundation for Child Development. During the first term of the Obama administra-

tion, Jones served as senior advisor on early learning to Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and as the country's first deputy assistant secretary for policy and early learning in the Department of Education. Prior to federal service, she was the assistant commissioner for the division of early childhood education in the New Jersey state Department of Education, with responsibility for New Jersey's Abbott Preschool Program. For over 15 years, Jones served as a senior research scientist at the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, where she and her colleagues explored appropriate assessment of young children. Jones has been a visiting associate professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Education and early in her career was a faculty member at Lehman College. She is a member of the National Academy of Medicine's board on children, youth and families and served as a member of the National Academy of Science's consensus committees that produced *Early Childhood Assessment: Why, What and How?* and *Transforming the Workforce for Children Birth Through Age 8: A Unifying Foundation*. Jones attended Hunter College and earned both a master's degree and doctorate from Northwestern University.

**Sharon Lynn Kagan**

New York, New York

*Virginia and Leonard Marx Professor of Early Childhood and Family Policy Co-Director, National Center for Children and Families, adjunct professor at Yale University's Child Study Center, Teachers College Columbia University*



Sharon Lynn Kagan is the Virginia and Leonard Marx Professor of Early Childhood and Family Policy and co-director of the National Center for Children and Families at Teachers College,

Columbia University and Professor Adjunct at

Yale University's Child Study Center. As the author of over 250 articles and 15 books, Kagan is recognized nationally and internationally for her scholarship related to the care and education of young children. Applying research to public policy issues related to early childhood systems; program design standards quality and evaluation; leadership and professional preparation; and standards and accountability, Kagan has worked with major international organizations (UNICEF, UNESCO, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank and OECD) and with policy leaders in over 100 countries and all 50 states. Kagan is a recipient of national and international honorary doctoral degrees and scores of research awards, is a past president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children and Family Support America, and currently serves on over 25 boards and consults with governments in Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Middle East, Latin America and Asia. Recognized as a fellow of the American Educational Research Association (2010), elected to membership in the National Academy of Education (2012) and a Fulbright scholar, Kagan is the only woman in the history of American education to receive its three most prestigious awards: the 2004 Distinguished Service Award from the Council of Chief State School Officers, the 2005 James Bryant Conant Award for lifetime service to education from the Education Commission of the States and the Harold W. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education.

**Anne Mitchell**

Climax, New York

*President, Early Childhood Policy Research*

Anne Mitchell was born in Massachusetts and lived in South Carolina, Washington, Oregon, Indiana, Florida and Missouri, where she finished high school. Graduating with a degree in astronomy

from Wellesley College in 1972, she began her early childhood career during the first wave of the women's movement. Passionate about social justice and feminism, she joined VISTA to work with families (mostly mothers) moving into a new low-income housing development to create a child care center which exists to this day. Gwen Morgan's summer leadership seminar on social policy and young children at Wheelock College changed her life. Clearly without

dramatically increased public support, delivering quality early childhood education is next to impossible. Public policy and advocacy became her passion. Mitchell was fortunate to move to New York City (for love) and work at Bank Street, expanding the Child Development Associate to include family child care and home visitors, developing Bank Street's graduate program in Early Childhood Leadership. She co-directed the first national study of public schools and providers of programs for children under six. In the 1990s, Mitchell established Early Childhood Policy Research and co-founded the Alliance for Early Childhood Finance. Her passion is early childhood policy and finance. She co-authored the 1997 and 2001 editions of *Financing Child Care in the United States: Catalog of Current Strategies* and the first report on QRIS: *Stair Steps to Quality: A Guide for State and Communities Developing Quality Rating Systems for Early Care and Education* (2005) and *Finance and QRIS* (2017). She is especially proud to be a past president of NAEYC and to have served 18 years on the Greenville (NY) Board of Education.

**Cheryl Polk**

Ypsilanti, Michigan

*President, HighScope Educational Research Foundation*

Cheryl Polk is a psychologist who brings to the role of president at HighScope her outstanding contributions to the creation of initiatives and public policies on

behalf of young children and their families. She has a long record of success in translating research knowledge about the first five years of life into programs that address the continuum of young children's needs from high quality childcare to mental health consultation and treatment, with specific focus on those who are most underserved. In her prior position as executive director of the Lisa and John Pritzker Family Fund, Polk parlayed her dual expertise in early childhood development and philanthropy to guide the creation of groundbreaking intervention programs for children exposed to community and interpersonal trauma. Polk was president of the board of directors of Zero to Three: National Center for Infants, Toddlers and Families and was a board member of that organization for more than 15 years. She is one of the founding members of the California First 5 Children and Family Commission, an initiative

designed to increase access and raise the quality of services for young children, and served as commissioner chair of the budget committee and chair of the San Francisco Commission. In these roles she helped transform the landscape of services for young children in San Francisco. Polk's profound understanding of the African-American experience has translated to a commitment to children of all cultural backgrounds. As a member of the San Francisco Early Head Start board, she helped increase access to care for minority children from under-represented immigrant families. As the executive director of the Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, she led the creation of an initiative to raise the standard of services for young Palestinian and Bedouin children, by training early childhood providers to help promote father involvement and enhance the mother-child relationship. She holds a doctorate in psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology Berkeley. Polk has received many citations, recognitions and awards, including an appointed committee member of the Institute of Medicine and National Research Council's Task Force on "Transforming the workforce for children birth through age 8: A unifying foundation," the prestigious National Leadership Fellowship from the Kellogg Foundation, Salzburg Fellow for Early Childhood Development, San Francisco Outstanding Advocate for Children and the Shining Star Award for Leadership and Dedication to the children of San Francisco.

#### Linda K. Smith

Washington, D.C.

Director, Early Childhood Initiative,  
Bipartisan Policy Center



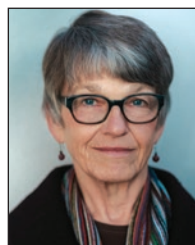
Linda K. Smith is the director of the Early Childhood Policy at the Bipartisan Policy Center, a Washington, D.C. based think tank that promotes bipartisanship and actively works to find consensus and com-

mon ground on key challenges facing the nation. Smith is the former deputy assistant secretary of Early Childhood Development for the administration for children and families at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. In this role she lead policy efforts and coordination of agency priorities for children

from birth to five years old, including the Head Start Early Head Start Child Care, and served as the liaison to other federal agencies including the Department of Education, Department of Defense, and Department of Agriculture. Smith's previous positions included serving as executive director for the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (now Child Care Aware of America), supporting community-based agencies concerned with the care of children in their earliest years. Before joining NACCRRRA, Smith served as a professional staffer on the senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee under the chairmanship of the late Senator Edward M. Kennedy. Prior to this work she was the director of the Office of Family Policy for the Secretary of Defense, where she was one of the primary architects of the military's child care program. Additionally, Smith held positions with both the United States Army and United States Air Force. She began her career in early childhood education on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation in her native state of Montana. She is a graduate of the University of Montana.

#### Anne Stonehouse

Melbourne, Australia  
Self-employed



Anne Stonehouse's career began in the early 1970s at Cornell University, working with Henry Ricciuti in infant day care. *A Good Beginning for Babies*, co-authored with

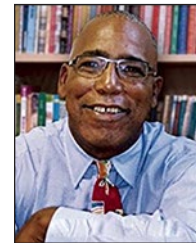
Ricciuti, was published by NAEYC in 1974. In 1978, Stonehouse went to Australia and taught in several tertiary institutions. She also worked in community-based early years organisations. She began working as an independent consultant in 2002. She collaborated with the late Jim Greenman to write *Prime Times*. She has written and contributed to books and other resources and developed many videos on a variety of topics in early childhood education and care for over 46 years. Stonehouse was a member of the consortium that wrote the national Early Years Learning Framework for Australia. Her most sustained interest is the nature of excellence in pedagogy, particularly with under three-year-olds, and how the images we hold of very young children impact practice. Stonehouse initiated and chaired the committee

that developed the first code of ethics for what is now Early Childhood Australia. In recognition of her contribution to children and children's services, she was appointed a member of the General Division of the Order of Australia in 1999.

#### Maurice Sykes

Washington, D.C.

Senior Associate, M Russell & Associates  
Executive Director, Early Childhood Leadership Institute



Maurice Sykes, is the author of *Doing the Right Thing for Children: Eight Qualities of Leadership*, and a former executive director at the University of the District of Columbia's National Center for Urban

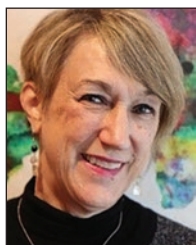
Education, where he was the recipient of the Marjorie Holloman Parker Distinguished Educator Award. He was recently inducted into the D.C. Hall of Fame for his numerous contributions to the field of early childhood education.

Sykes served in the District of Columbia Public School System as deputy superintendent for the Center for Systemic Educational Change, as well as director of the school system's early childhood programs. He also advised the U.S. Department of Education on educational policy and programs related to urban school improvement. He served as the director of the Tufts University Educational Day Care Center and lecturer in the Elliot-Pearson Department of Child Study and Human Development. He was selected as a national policy fellow by the Institute for Educational Leadership, and subsequently coordinated its D.C. Education Policy Fellowship program. Sykes was profiled as an early childhood champion in a national study released by the National Association of State Boards of Education and is a former governing board member of the National Association for the Education of Young Children.

Sykes has served as a teacher, teacher trainer, and a curriculum developer. He has spent his career advancing high-quality early childhood programs and services and has traveled nationwide inspiring and challenging schools and communities to do the right thing for children.

**Kathy Thornburg**

Columbia, Missouri  
Senior TA Specialist, AEM Corporation



Kathy Thornburg is a professor emerita at the University of Missouri and now works at AEM Corporation as a senior technical assistance specialist, working with programs through the National Center on Early

Childhood Development Teaching and Learning. She also directs the Institute for Professional Development at the University of Missouri. The institute provides training on the emerging language and literacy curriculum and the Devereux Center for Resilient Children workshops. She has served on numerous state, regional and national boards, councils and commissions, including serving as president of the National Association for the Education of Young Children from 2000-2002. She is currently serving on the Buffett Early Childhood Institute Board. Thornburg has published over 100 research articles, book chapters and books, including a book on Early Head Start families, *Keepin' On: The Everyday Struggles of Young Families in Poverty*. Her research and public policy efforts relate to early childhood programs teacher training, school readiness and parenting education.

**Valora Washington**

Washington, D.C.  
CEO, Council for Professional Recognition



Valora Washington is CEO of the Council for Professional Recognition and a certified association executive. She works tirelessly with others to transform the child development associate credential and

enhance its field-leading content for the nearly 200,000 CDA candidates served. She served as CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee; vice president Kellogg Foundation; a faculty/administrator Antioch College, Howard University and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. Washington co-created Michigan's Children, the Early Childhood Funders Collaborative and the CAYL Institute. She co-chaired

the Massachusetts Governor's school readiness commission; board chair for Voices for America's Children; secretary of NAEYC; chair Black Caucus- SRCD; and a board member the Boston Children's Museum and Wheelock College. Washington is the co-author of 5 books: *The New Early Childhood Professional*, *Guiding Principles for the New Early Childhood Professional*, *Children of 2010*, *Children of 2020*, and *Ready or Not: Leadership Choices in Early Care and Education*. She contributed to the policy reform that extended the child care voucher certification period to a year for 52,000 children of Massachusetts; helped improve child welfare systems in 13 states via Families for Kids (legislation enacted by President Clinton). She has received honorary degrees from Wheelock College, Urban College, Bennett College and Meadville Lombard Theological School.

**Marcy Whitebook**

Berkeley, California  
Founder and Co-Director, Center for the Study of Child Care Employment



Whitebook began her career as an infant/toddler teacher, which taught her the importance of improving child care jobs as key to ensuring children's right to high quality early care and education. Joining with

teachers who shared her understanding of the link between child and adult well-being, they founded the Child Care Employee Project in 1977. In 1989, CCEP conducted the national child care staffing study, which first brought public attention to the low wages and high turnover of child care teachers and their impact on child outcomes. CCEP later became the Center for the Child Care Workforce, which also spearheaded the national Worthy Wage Campaign. Whitebook founded and serves as the co-directors of the Center for the Study of Child Care Employment at the University of California at Berkeley. Her recent works — *The Early Childhood Workforce Index* and *Worthy Work STILL Unlivable Wages: The Early Care and Education Workforce 25 Years after the National Child Care Staffing Study* — document the current status of the workforce and analyze how workforce policies serve to support and/or undermine effective teaching, contribute to inequitable services for children and families, and often pose risks to the personal and familial well-being of the workforce itself.

**Elanna Yalow**

Portland, Oregon  
Chief Academic Officer, KinderCare Education



Elanna Yalow has over 30 years of experience working in early childhood education. She is currently the chief academic officer of KinderCare Education, the nation's leading private provider of high

quality ECE serving 170,000 children from infants through school age. Yalow is responsible for the development and adoption of KCE's educational programs, quality and accreditation initiatives and public policy efforts on behalf of children and families. Yalow has published and presented extensively on issues related to education and children's health. She has testified on Capitol Hill on the importance of quality ECE and has been active at the federal state and local levels on policy issues related to young children. In addition to her long-standing advocacy work for children in the United States, Yalow has extensive experience in support of global ECE programs in Singapore, Malaysia and the UK. She currently serves on the board of directors for Guardian Early Learning Group, which serves 10,000 children in 100 early learning centers throughout Australia. Yalow holds a doctorate in educational psychology and an master's in business administration from Stanford University.