



BUILDING ALEXANDRIA'S EARLY CARE & EDUCATION SYSTEM

KATE GARVEY, CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

Kate Garvey is the Director of the Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS) for the City of Alexandria. DCHS is a comprehensive, unified department, charged with addressing the critical needs of the residents in the City. Prior arriving in Alexandria, Ms. Garvey served as the Chief of Children, Youth and Family Services of the Montgomery County, Maryland Department of Health and Human Services for more than 10 years. While there she focused on services and integrated approaches to support children and families and advancing opportunities and economic security for youth and adults. Before Montgomery County, Ms. Garvey served as the Executive Deputy Director for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services (DHS). Her responsibilities included service integration approaches and organizational development initiatives. Prior to her role at DHS, Ms. Garvey worked for a non-profit educational organization where she was responsible for early childhood and family support services, including Head Start, child care partnerships and community development activities. Ms. Garvey has served on multiple boards, including serving as the President of the Maryland Association of Social Services Directors, as a member of the Governor's State Joint Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care (Maryland) and non-profit boards focused on social justice and economic security issues. Ms. Garvey has a Master's degree in Social Work in Community Organizing and Planning and a BA in English Literature from the University of Pittsburgh.

MICHELLE SMITH-HOWARD, ALEXANDRIA CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Michelle Smith-Howard serves as the Coordinator of Citywide Early Childhood Programs with the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS). In this position she works to design effective linkages between early childhood needs and community resources. Michelle began her career as an early childhood special education teacher for students with moderate to severe delays in the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). She then transitioned to Early Stages, the DCPS diagnostic center for young children, where she served as an Evaluation Coordinator. As the Director of Early Learning Programs with the DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative (DCPNI), Michelle created a strategic plan for the organization's early childhood initiatives. She led the establishment of the early learning network and developed and launched DCPNI's key early learning initiative, the Take and Play program. Prior to joining ACPS, Michelle served as the Director of Early Childhood Development and Intervention with Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington. In this position, she managed the child development center, pre-K enhancement program, evaluation center, early intervention therapy services, and dedicated services coordination. Michelle earned her Bachelor's degree from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. She completed her Master's degree in Early Childhood Special Education and her Educational Specialist's degree in educational leadership and administration at The George Washington University.

TAMMY MANN, Ph.D., THE CAMPAGNA CENTER

Tammy Mann has been involved in work at the national, state and local levels for the past 25 years focused on addressing the needs of children and families, especially young children living in economic and socially challenged environments. Recently, she was appointed to serve as the President of the Governing Board of the National Association for the Education of Young Children for a 3-year term. For the past five years Tammy has served as President and CEO of The Campagna Center, a nonprofit that provides cradle to career programs to over 2,000 children, teens and adults across the city of Alexandria. She serves on the Board of Directors for the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, the Foundation for Child Development, Buffet Early Childhood Institute and was appointed to serve as a Commissioner on Alexandria's Children Youth and Families Collaborative Commission. Tammy has addressed national and international audiences and authored books and articles on a wide variety of issues in the field of early childhood education and development. She is a former Public Policy Fellow with the American Psychological Association and has had adjunct affiliations with Howard University and George Mason University. Tammy earned her Bachelor's degree from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia and completed her Masters and Doctorate in Clinical Psychology, with an Interdisciplinary Specialization in Infant Studies, at Michigan State University.

CYNTHIA SKINNER, ALEXANDRIA'S EARLY CARE & EDUCATION WORK GROUP

Cynthia Skinner is currently the Project Manager for the Alexandria Early Care and Education Work Group and the Project Director for the Alexandria Quality Collaborative, a shared professional development pilot project for publically funded Alexandria preschool programs. She also served as the co-chair of the design team for the city's Children & Youth Master Plan as a member of the Children, Youth & Families Collaborative Commission from 2011 through 2014. Cynthia has 20 years of experience working in education, where she has worked in education research and evaluation, policy and in the classroom. Prior to her early care and education work in Alexandria, she served as Senior Research Associate for a small education research firm leading several district-level evaluations and other projects, and as the Managing Director of Research & Evaluation at Teach for America. She completed her Master's degree in educational leadership at The George Washington University. Cynthia is also an active Alexandria City Public Schools parent, with three children attending the city's public schools.