

Early Childhood Funders Meeting

Thursday, May 30, 2024 10:00 am - 1:30 noon

IN PERSON and ZOOM MEETING

10:00 – 10:20 am Meet, greet, breakfast bites → 10:20-1:30 Meeting

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!

Sobrato Philanthropies, 350 Twin Dolphin Drive, Redwood City

If you are unable to attend in person, zoom info is below

AGENDA

Welcome/Introductions/making connections	ECF Leadership Team/All	10:20–10:45
POLICY, PROGRAM and JOINT FUNDING IDEAS		
Federal and State Policy updates	Laurie Furstenfeld, Child Care Law Center	10:45–11:15
ECF projects/funding updates • Racial Equity • Members' profile • Huddles • ECF funding	 ECF Leadership Team/in progress report 	11:15–11:25
 Funding partner requests ECE Budget Coalition 	ECF Leadership Team/All	11:25–11:35
BREAK		11:35–11:45
 A CONVERSATION: The Intersectionality of Bilingual Work Overview: Profile of Multilingual children and families Best Practices – making learning relevant for children, families and the workforce What does the policy landscape look like? Family engagement is integral and critical to success Role of funders 	 Soodie Ansari, Coordinator, Early Learning Dual Language Support, San Mateo County Office of Education Gloria Corral, President and CEO, Parent Institute for Quality Education JunHee Doh, Associate Director of Birth to Third Grade Policy, Educational Equity, Catalyst California 	11:45–12:50
LUNCH	Continued dialogue with the presenters	12:50–1:25
 Next meeting and topic Next date: October 2, 2024 Topic: TK issues/impact on 0–3-year-olds Location: Mimi and Peter Haas Fund, SF Time: 9:30 – 12:30 		1:25–1:30

For an ECF membership list, Racial Equity Framework, or other ECF materials please go to: <u>www.earlychildhoodfunders.org</u>. Phone: 510.918.6381 *ECF is a fiscally sponsored project of Community Initiatives.*

Bios

Soodie Ansari is the Early Learning Dual Language Support Coordinator at San Mateo County Office of Education (SMCOE). She has over twenty years of experience in leading SMCOE's Early Childhood Dual Language Learning Institute (ECDLLI) from an idea to a successful dual capacity building model that aims to introduce, expand, and challenge early learning professionals' thinking about DLL/ML and family engagement practices and program-wide policies. Through the Institute's professional development and peer support offerings, Soodie and her team support educators with growing their skill sets in fostering culturally and linguistically relevant early learning opportunities and environments in their settings.

Soodie continues to passionately advocate for equitable DLL/ML and family engagement practices and program-wide policies at statewide and local Committees. Her work experience spans from Child Care Resource & Referral agencies and a Neighborhood House in Vancouver, British Columbia, to Program Director at the Perinatal Council in East Oakland and an adjunct instructor at the San Mateo County Community College District and Channel Islands CSU, to a proud fellow in the inaugural nationwide early learning ELAN (Equity Leaders Action Network) from 2015-2018. Soodie holds a Master's Degree in Child Development from UC Davis. She is bilingual and bicultural, originally from Iran. Spending time in her veggie and sunflower garden always brings her joy!

Gloria Corral serves as the President and CEO of the Parent Institute for Quality Education (PIQE), bringing over 25 years of dedicated experience in K-12 and higher education to her role. Her extensive background includes positions at the U.S. Department of Education, the House of Representatives, and the Senate, where she focused on education policy for Dual Language Learners and system integration. Throughout her career, Corral has collaborated with various stakeholders, including state departments of education, non-profits, advocacy organizations, and large school districts, to develop and implement impactful programs. Prior to her current role, she held the position of Assistant Executive Director at First 5 San Diego, where she spearheaded initiatives to enhance early learning quality in San Diego County and championed advocacy efforts for children aged 0-5 and their families.

With a strong commitment to educational equity, Corral continues to advocate for family engagement and empowerment. She earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California San Diego and a master's degree in public policy from the University of California Berkeley. Outside of her professional endeavors, Corral is the proud parent of two energetic boys, Diego Emilio and Gael Antonio, whose experiences further fuel her dedication to ensuring equitable access to high-quality educational opportunities for all children.

JunHee Doh serves as the Associate Director of Birth to Third Grade Policy on the Educational Equity team at Catalyst California. She leads policy advocacy, research, and coalition-building to advance racial equity and language/linguistic justice for children and families of color from historically underserved communities in California. Her work is grounded in community-based policymaking and strengthening multiracial solidarity for collective liberation. She envisions aligned and articulated systems where children and families are met with dignity and have equitable access to culturally and linguistically affirming early learning and care and services that support the whole child and family.

JunHee comes from a background of policy research and partnership building in non-profits and international organizations. Before joining Catalyst California, JunHee served as Junior Research Consultant at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Seoul Policy Center. She received her Bachelor's in Economics and Public Policy Studies from the University of Chicago, with a practicum focused on urban schools in the South Side of Chicago. She completed her Master's with the Highest Honors in International Cooperation (development studies) from the Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University. She is a mother to an energetic and curious toddler who has been teaching her what it means to live with freedom and joy.