

The City Council's Task Force  
on  
Early Child Development and Early Learning  
The Office of the Young Child  
and  
Pasadena As An Early Learning City by 2025

**1. Efran Aguilar**

- **Director of Strategy and Development for the UCLA Center for Healthier Children, Families & Communities (CHCFC), whose mission is to promote children's lifelong health, development, and well-being in the context of their families and communities.**
- A Pasadena Resident who has worked in the field for more than 25 years,
- emphasizing the democratization of data and inclusion of local residents in developing (a) community-based planning efforts; (b) actionable research; and (c) place-based funding decisions as core strategies to achieve health equity
- Professional experience that includes a broad range of issues including social justice, homelessness, education, public health, and child development
- Provides technical assistance on population measures and their community contexts through the development of a whole-child equity measurement systems.
- Works with Center projects including Transforming Early Childhood Community Systems (TECCS), Reimagining Children's Rights (RCR) , All Children Thrive (ACT)

**2. Geoff Albert**

- **Director of Community Engagement - Pacific Oaks College, Center for Community & Social Impact (CCSI)**
- **Director, Collaborate PASADENA; Director, Pasadena: City of Learning**
- Board Roles: Boys & Girls Club of Pasadena; First District PTA; Pasadena Council of Parents and Teachers
- *Growing Together PASadena* (HUB Sites: Assisted and Co-facilitated during the absence of a Coordinator in the Office of the Young Child; Provided physical meeting space before the pandemic, provided virtual space during the pandemic)
- First District PTA Task Force on Equity and Access
- PUSD's Equity and Access Committee
- Parent and Community Engagement Advisory Team
- PUSD Superintendent's Task Force For School Closures and Consolidation
- COVID Response:
  - Facilitated meal deliveries to PUSD families
  - Hosted 96 parent and community meetings serving over 10k participants
  - Provided simultaneous English and Spanish workshops, townhalls & information sessions for PUSD caregivers, serving 2500 participants

**3. Toni Boucher**

- **Chair, Child Care/Early Childhood Directors' Alliance, San Gabriel Valley**
- Executive Director of Altadena Children's Center, 1982-2021
- City of Pasadena, Member, Pasadena Council for the Young Child
- City of Pasadena/PUSD, Agency Member, Partnership for Children Youth and Families
- City of Pasadena/PUSD Agency Member, Collaborate PASadena
- Board of Directors, Pasadena Education Foundation
- Options for Learning (formerly Child Care Information Service, Board of Directors)
- Chair, All Saints Church, Children, Youth, and Families Committee

**4. Lila A. Guirguis**

- **Executive Director, Karsh Family Social Service Center, Los Angeles,**
- **City of Pasadena, Human Services Commission, Mayor Appointee, 2021**
- **Former Coordinator, Office of the Young Child, City of Pasadena, 2016-2018**
- Founding Director Magnolia Community Initiative, 2008-2016
- Extensive professional experience working with public and non-profit organizations, community-based initiatives, and community groups to work together to achieve common goals towards population health and the well-being of children and families and communities
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Training, Southern California Leadership Training 2021
- Implicit Bias Awareness Training, Southern California Grant Makers 2021
- Southern California Leadership Fellow – Southern California Leadership Network 2021-2022
- Los Angeles County Commission for Women, Health Subcommittee Member 2019- Current
- Board Member – Maternal Mental Health Now 2018-2020

**5. Ree A. Harris-Hudson**

- **Director of Early Education Programs, Pasadena Unified School District, 2010 – Present**
- Los Angeles County Child Care Planning Committee Member
- Member, Pasadena Directors' Alliance, Child Care Centers
- Professional Growth Advisor for Child Development Training Consortium
- West Ed Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC)
- West Ed Desired Results, Trainer of Trainers
- Los Angeles Unified School District, Child Development Program
- Program Supervisor, Early Education and Extended Learning Programs, Glendale Unified School District, 2002 -2010
- Multi-Site Supervisor, Child Development Programs, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, 1997-2002

**6. Peggy Nguyen**

- **Currently, 6<sup>th</sup> year teacher of Dance and Choreography to Early Childhood Students Through Grade 6**
- First Generation Vietnamese-American Raised in Los Angeles by Refugee Parents
- Pasadena Resident for 10 years with husband who is Illustrator/Graphic Designer
- Mother of 2 boys: A student at Jackson Elementary Dual Immersion STEM Magnet and a Preschooler at Lake Avenue Preschool
- B.A. in World Arts and Cultures Dance; Master's in Education with a Multi-Subject for Kindergarten, Grades 3 and 4
- 14 years' experience as a teacher in Los Angeles Unified: (8 years teaching multi-subject for Kindergarten and Grades 3 and 4)

**7. Dr. Dianne Philibosian**

- **CSU Northridge: Former Director of the Institute for Community Health and Wellbeing, Associate Dean of the College of Health & Human Development & Professor in Child Development & Elementary Education**
- Nationally-known expert in the care and education of children: State of California's Child Development Policy Advisory Committee; County of Los Angeles Child Care Planning Committee; Pasadena Partnership for School Age Children; Mayor's Advisory Board for Child Care for the City of Los Angeles
- Member and Chair, Board of Regents, University of the Pacific
- Member and Supervisorial Appointee, Child Care Planning Committee of the Los Angeles County Child Care Advisory Board
- Board Member of the Pasadena Center Operating Company

- Former Board Member of the Caltech Children’s Center, the Mother’s Club Learning Center, the Nations Learning Institute, the Child Care Information Service, the Arroyo Seco Foundation, LA Family Housing, the Alliance of Businesses for Child Care Development
- Consultant with California’s First 5 and Families Commissions from multiple counties throughout California and with organizations and architects in designing child care centers

**8. Marie Kanne Poulsen, Ph.D.**

- **Professor of Pediatrics, University of Southern California, Keck School of Medicine**
- **Chief Psychologist, Division of General Pediatrics, Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles**
- Governor’s Appointment: Chair, State Interagency Coordinating Council on Early Intervention
- Steering Committee, California Center for Infant-Family and Early Childhood Mental Health
- Member, State Department of Developmental Disabilities Task Force
- Member, State Systemic Improvement Plan (Part C) Task Force
- Member, California Department of Education Including Impact State Leadership Team
- Member, California Department of Social Services Early Childhood Advisory Committee

**9. Ernesto Saldana**

- **Associate Director of the Advancement Project: Oversees the organization’s first effort in leadership and advocacy in community mobilization and advocacy for parents with children ages 0-8 and also supporting the team’s education policy advocacy.**
- Proud son of Mexican Bracero farm worker parents, born and raised in Santa Ana
- Specializes in Equity Issues and Social Justice Programs for Educational Equity
- Formerly served as Vice President of Partnerships and Local Engagement for Early Edge California, formerly known as Preschool California, where he led the state field campaign to establish a new grade in California, called transitional kindergarten.
- Also served as the Executive Director for Public Allies Los Angeles where he worked to develop the next generation of nonprofit leaders through a social justice framework.
- Led the national communications strategies for the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (MALEO) Educational Fund, the leading organization that trains the nation’s top Latino leaders.
- Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science from Cal State University, Fullerton; Juris Doctorate from Whittier College School of Law
- Member of LA County Child Care Planning Committee
- Resident of Pasadena and Parent of Young Child

**10. Tony Santilena**

- **Chair/Member of Human Services Commission of City of Pasadena and Leader in the Development and Implementation of the City of Pasadena Early Child Development Policy (2012-2018)**
- Pasadena Youth Council, City of Pasadena, Developed and Coordinated (1990-2019)
- City of Pasadena/PUSD Agency, Chair/Member, Partnership for Children, Youth and Families
- Co-President, School Board, St. Andrew Catholic School Old Town Pasadena
- School Intervention Specialist, Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), Prevention Programs for School Districts in the Center for Health Education, 1990-2011
- Coordinator of the Community Outreach Office, Pasadena Unified School District
- Adult Ally to the California Youth Council

**11. Blanca Siebels**

- **Parent Support Leadership Trainer – Family Resource Navigator of the State Family Resource Network**
- Pasadena Resident, Parent, and Community Leader and Advocate for Special Education Programs, Elementary and Secondary, Pasadena Unified School District
- Chair, Pasadena Unified School District Community Advisory Committee, Special Education
- Parent Representative and Participant: The University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities (USC and Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles, USC Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities)

**12. Melani Smith**

- **Co-Executive Director, Lake Avenue Preschool/Kindergarten**
- Child Care/Early Childhood Directors’ Alliance, San Gabriel Valley
- Member, National Association for Education of the Young Child (NAEYC)
- Early Childhood Education Advanced Core Program, UCLA, 2019
- Child Development Program Director Permit
- Childhood Trauma Certification
- Master’s in Education: Curriculum and Instruction, University of Phoenix, 2008
- B.A. Liberal Studies + Multiple Subject Credential, 2003
- Master’s In Education: Curriculum and Instruction, University of Phoenix, 2008

**13. Susan C. Wood**

- **Executive Director of the Children’s Center at Caltech**
- Child Development Instructor, Pasadena City College
- Child Development Instructor, UCLA Extension
- Master’s Degree in Child Development with a specialization in college teaching from Pacific Oaks College, Pasadena
- Associate of Science Degree in Early Childhood Development from Pasadena City College
- California State Child Development Permit Advisor and Trainer, and Program Director Permit
- The Design Institute Training for Child Care Facilities Development
- Heads-up Reading Facilitator (Early Steps for Reading Success)
- Infant CPR and First Aid
- NuParent Facilitator
- CAEYC (California Association for the Education of Young Children): Prekindergarten Learning & Development Guidelines Facilitator Trainer

**14. Dr. Vera Vignes, Chair**

- **Chair, Ad Hoc Committee of the Human Services Commission: Authored the City of Pasadena’s Early Child Development Policy, Adopted by the City Council, March 23, 2015**
- Chair, The Pasadena Council for the Young Child: Becoming An Early Learning City by 2025
- City of Pasadena, Chair and Commissioner, Human Services Commission, 2013-2018
- Co-President, St. Andrew Catholic School, Old Town Pasadena
- Superintendent of Schools, Pasadena Unified School District, 1992-2000
- Associate Superintendent of Schools, Pasadena Unified School District, 1986-1992
- As Superintendent, Implemented One of the Initial 3 & 4-year old Early Childhood Programs in the State of California (1991-2000), in Partnership with Multiple Foundations and Non-Profit Agencies
- Board Member, Patron Saints Foundation
- Member, Board of Trustees, La Salle College Preparatory, Pasadena,
- Western Regional Director, *America’s Choice*, 2002-2012
- Superintendent/Fellow of the Annenberg Institute for School Reform
- Mentor, Harvard Urban Superintendents Program

**Ex-Officio: City of Pasadena Staff**

- **Director of Libraries and Information Services**
  - **Carla Hegwood, Coordinatoor, Office of the Young Child**