

Opening Plenary: Building Trauma-Informed Schools & Communities

How could we introduce the topic of trauma-informed school communities without hearing from the students? After a video featuring the students who are part of a legal battle to bring trauma-informed services to Compton School District, Anne Hudson-Price from Public Counsel will be joining Echo's Co-Executive Director, Louise Godbold, to talk about the lawsuit. Also joining us will be Cathy Daley, the principal of Sally Ride Elementary School in South Los Angeles, the pilot site for Echo's Whole School Initiative, and Katia Tovar, a parent representative who will talk about the parents' role in the initiative.

Louise Godbold *Co-Executive Director*. Louise joined Echo five years ago as the Director of Grant Development after an extensive career as a non-profit consultant. During her 20 years of experience, she has worked for funders (the California Endowment and Los Angeles County Health & Human Services), for UC Berkeley as a technical assistance provider to California county administrations, as well as with many clients requiring strategic planning and evaluation consultation. In addition to her duties as the Co-Executive Director, Louise oversees fundraising, strategic development and program evaluation.

Catherine D. Daley, a National Board Certified Teacher, is currently the Principal at Sally Ride Elementary School: A SMArT Academy in the Los Angeles Unified School District. She is an instructional consultant/presenter at the district and national level on the impact that culture plays in classroom instruction and student success through the Bridging Cultures Project. As a member of the team who wrote the plan that delineates the vision for Sally Ride ES, she has worked closely with Echo Parenting & Education to create opportunities for the entire school community—parents, children, and staff—to develop an environment of nonviolent communication and to empower every student to achieve his/her goals.

Annie Hudson-Price is a Staff Attorney in Public Counsel's Opportunity Under Law project. She works with low-income and marginalized communities, primarily in cases concerning education equity. She has appeared as counsel in multiple education class action suits, including ongoing litigation against the Compton Unified School District for failure to accommodate students who are impacted by exposure to trauma (*Peter P. v. CUSD*). Prior to joining Opportunity Under Law, Annie was an Equal Justice Works fellow with Public Counsel, assisting justice-involved individuals whose criminal and civil legal challenges stemmed from manifestations of trauma. She is a graduate of Yale College and Harvard Law School.

Katia Toscano is the proud parent of Fernanda Mora, a first grade student at Sally Ride Elementary School. Katia has been attending the Echo Parenting & Education parenting classes for the last two years, and as a result has embraced the practice of empathy and is spreading the word about how trauma affects the parent/child relationship. She is a known leader in the parent community and advocates passionately for the voices of parents and children to be heard. Katia identifies herself as a trauma survivor and has used writing poetry as part of her healing journey.