

Parents & Caregiver Voices: Why and How Did We Co-design an Advisory Cabinet?

Presenter Bios and Contact Information



Daithi Wolfe | dwolfe@kidsforward.org

Senior Policy Analyst, Kids Forward

David “Daithi (DAH-hee)” works to improve nutrition and increase physical activity in child care settings (kind of like Farm to Table for preschoolers) and also to elevate the voices of impacted communities to better inform child care policies and spending. Daithi co-chairs Healthy Early, an award-winning state-wide coalition that promotes healthy eating, gardening, active play, and outdoor learning. One of our mottos is “Growing Happy, Healthy Kids!.” He was also recently chair of the WI Agriculture Secretary’s Farm to School Advisory Council. Before becoming an ECE advocate, Daithi was a public elementary school teacher for 16 years in Madison. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan in his native Ann Arbor, with a B.A. in American Culture. He enjoys fighting for social justice, playing music, and running as avocations.



Erin Arango-Escalante | erin@allchildren-thrive.com

Founder & Principal, All Children Thrive

After 20 years leading local, state, and national cross-sector work focused on creating and implementing policies and programs for early care and education, special education, and multilingual education, Erin Arango-Escalante started All Children Thrive. Erin’s dream is for *all* communities to offer children and their families the services and supports they need to be connected, safe, and healthy; economically secure; and equipped for lifelong learning and success. At the core of All Children Thrive, and in her work as a 2022 Ascend Fellow at The Aspen Institute, Erin collaborates with families, educators and practitioners, advocates, community and philanthropic leaders, and policymakers to elevate individuals with lived expertise in decision-making roles to co-design whole family and equity-based solutions, ensuring policies and programs meet the needs of *all* children and families.

Previously, Erin was an appointee overseeing early care and education policies, systems, funding, and supports in Wisconsin where she was responsible for leading all aspects of the child care system as well as related programs and initiatives - Parent/Caregiver Equity Advisory Cabinet, Head Start State Collaboration Office, Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council, Preschool Development Grants, federal COVID relief funding, and more.

Erin is married, has two children, lives on a hobby farm, and is involved in the Latinx and Veteran communities in Wisconsin. In centering her dream for communities to offer families the supports they need to be connected, safe, and healthy, Erin and her family provide the community access to their animals and land with a focus on multigenerational nature-based programming for children and families.



Nailah Adama | nailahdianiadama@gmail.com

Cabinet Member, Parent Caregiver Advisory Cabinet

Nailah has worked for the School District of Beloit for 20 years, with the last 15 years as a teacher at Merrill Elementary. She has served on the Parent Leadership Team, Parent Teacher Organization, Building Leadership Team, SAIL Team, Minority Excellence Organization co-leader, as well as several other initiative committees throughout the years. Nailah has further served the district by providing 7 Habits® workshops, co-facilitating SEED workshops, and offering professional development on mindfulness and yoga to her colleagues.

In addition to advocating for Beloit parents and citizens through grassroots efforts, Nailah served seven years on the Community Development Authority Board. She is currently a City of Beloit Police and Fire Commissioner and a parent advisor on the Department of Children and Families Parent/Caregiver Equity Advisor Cabinet (PCEAC).

Nailah's commitment to equity work is rooted in a commitment to her eight children and all of her school babies to do everything she can to move us closer to a world where equity in policy and action is the default.

- Resource
 - [City of Beloit Child Care Supply Action Plan](#)