

## CW 20/21 | Advisory Committee Biographies

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### 1. **Bronx Works-- Eileen Torres, Executive Director** ([etorres@bronxworks.org](mailto:etorres@bronxworks.org))

Eileen Torres has been the Executive Director of BronxWorks since May 2014. As the leader of the agency, she serves as the ultimate advocate for the 45,000 residents of the Bronx that receive services from BronxWorks as well as the more than 800 employees across the organization. Eileen has been with BronxWorks since 1995, starting in administrative roles, serving as Admin Counsel and General Counsel, and stepping in as interim Executive Director/COO in 2013. Her education and background as an attorney have been invaluable in guiding BronxWorks in the highest standards of nonprofit governance and as an implementing partner for many New York City government programs.

For full biography please go to: <http://www.bronxworks.org/leadership>

### 2. **Coalition for Asian American Children and Families: Vanessa Leung, Co-Executive Director** ([vleung@cacf.org](mailto:vleung@cacf.org))

Vanessa Leung joined CACF as Co-Executive Director in April 2017. She has served the education community through her career, advocating on behalf of Asian Pacific American students and English Language Learners in New York City public schools. She was appointed by Mayor Bill de Blasio to the Panel for Educational Policy and has been Chair of the PEP since January 2014. She currently also sits on the Advisory Panel for the Brooke Astor Fund for New York City Education. While Deputy Director for CACF, she was responsible for the development of a pan-Asian children's advocacy agenda to improve policies, funding, and services for the Asian Pacific American community. As Education Policy and Program Coordinator of CACF, she authored Hidden in Plain View, a report detailing Asian and Pacific American students' needs, and worked alongside other advocates on the creation of Chancellor's Regulation A-663, mandating comprehensive interpretation and translation services, as well as the Dignity in All Schools Act which reduces bias-based harassment in schools.

For full biography please go to: <http://cacf.org/home/who-we-are/staff/vanessa-leung/>

### 3. **Coalition for Asian American Children and Families: Anita Gundanna, Co-Executive Director** ([agundanna@cacf.org](mailto:agundanna@cacf.org))

Anita Gundanna joined CACF as Co-Executive Director in April 2017. She has worked throughout her career to prevent and address violence against women and children, and to promote healthy families, primarily in minority and immigrant communities of New York City. Prior to her return to the Coalition for Asian American Children and Families (CACF), Anita worked as a consultant with a number of small and growing community-based non-profit organizations mostly serving Asian American and immigrant communities. Anita also worked at CACF from 2001 – 2004 in child welfare policy advocacy for New York City's Asian American and immigrant communities. Anita holds a B.S. in Psychology and an Elementary School Teaching Certification from Duke University, and an M.S. in Social Work from Columbia University. She lives with her family in South Orange, NJ.

For full biography please go to: <http://cacf.org/home/who-we-are/staff/anita-gundanna/>

### 4. **Children's Aid Society: Phoebe Boyer, President and Chief Executive Officer** ([pboyer@childrensaidsociety.org](mailto:pboyer@childrensaidsociety.org))

In July 2014, the Children's Aid Board of Trustees selected Phoebe Boyer to be the organization's 11th president and chief executive officer. Phoebe came to Children's Aid from the Robertson Foundation, a

\$1 billion foundation created by Julian Robertson and his family that takes a targeted approach to supporting critical national issues, including education reform. She spent more than a decade at the foundation, most recently as its executive director. During her tenure there, she developed and executed the foundation's national K-12 education reform strategy. She also served for more than 12 years (1999-2012) as the executive director of the Tiger Foundation, founded by Julian Robertson as well, with a mission to break the cycle of poverty in New York City. During her tenure at the Tiger Foundation, the organization provided more than \$112 million in funding to New York City nonprofits in the areas of education, youth development, job training, and social services. Phoebe also raised more than \$200 million to support the foundation's work.

For full biography please go to: <https://www.childrensaidnyc.org/about/phoebe-boyer>

5. **Child Center NY:** Traci Donnelly, Chief Executive Officer ([tracidonnelly@childcenterny.org](mailto:tracidonnelly@childcenterny.org))

Traci Donnelly joined The Child Center of NY as Chief Operating Officer in July 2013 and became CEO and Executive Director in February 2014. In her previous position as Senior Vice President and New York State Regional Director of Phoenix House, Traci presided over \$60 million worth of New York State bonding projects and residential and outpatient treatment programs. In this role, Traci was also responsible for improving efficiency and developing strategic plans. Earlier in her career, Traci worked as a director of mental health services and a special education teacher. She received her bachelor's in psychology and criminal justice and her master's in education from Dowling College in Oakdale, New York.

For full biography please go to: <http://childcenterny.org/executive-leadership/>

6. **Coalition for Hispanic Family Services:** Denise Rosario, Executive Director ([drosario@hispanicfamilyservicesny.org](mailto:drosario@hispanicfamilyservicesny.org))

Denise Rosario is the founding executive director of the Coalition for Hispanic Family Services, a community-based organization serving over 3000 Latino children and families in North Brooklyn and Queens since 1990. Ms. Rosario has been a visionary and a risk taker in creating programs for Latino families developing services that include foster care, mental health, HIV/AIDS support and prevention, fathering and parent development, as well as after school and youth development. She has over 30 years' experience in mental health services to children and families of color in urban communities. She has served as a consultant to non-profit organizations in the development of needs assessments, supervision, training, cultural competence and program development.

For full biography please go to: <https://www.hispanicfamilyservicesny.org/about-us/bio-denise-rosario/>

7. **COFCCA: Jim Purcell, CEO** ([jpurcell@cofcca.org](mailto:jpurcell@cofcca.org))

Jim has enjoyed a long distinguished career with the Division for Youth and the Department of Social Services, which are predecessor state agencies to the NYS Office of Children and Family Services. His work focused in the areas of policy and funding. His intimate knowledge of regulatory guidelines has helped member organizations and the field of child welfare throughout the country.

8. **Edwin Gould Services for Children and Family: Sharron Madden, Executive Director** ([smadden@egscf.org](mailto:smadden@egscf.org))

Sharron Madden joined Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families on September 15, 2014. She comes with a wide range of experience, which covers the span of over 30 years post master's work. Prior to joining the team at EGSCF she was a member of the Executive Staff at Jewish Board Family and Children's Services where her scope of responsibilities was to manage a budget of over 13 million dollars

with programming responsibility for the Divisions of Prevention, Domestic Violence and Clinical Consultation. Ms. Madden was a member of the JBFCs team for three and half years.

For full biography please go to: <https://www.egscf.org/about/executives/>

**9. Good Shepherd Services: Sister Paulette LoMonaco, Executive Director**

([plomonaco@goodshepherds.org](mailto:plomonaco@goodshepherds.org))

Sr. Paulette is the Executive Director of Good Shepherd Services—a leading non-profit that goes where New York City youth and families face the greatest challenges and provides the essential supports that help them achieve their fullest potential. In her 35 years as Executive Director, Paulette has made an impact on countless children, youth, and families, as well as on child welfare, education, and family support systems and policy. Under Paulette’s dynamic leadership, Good Shepherd Services has evolved from a small provider of out-of-home care to one of NYC’s largest, most respected multi-service agencies. Today, the agency works with 30,000 participants through over 80 programs in Brooklyn, the Bronx and Manhattan. All of Good Shepherd’s programs are united by a common goal—to create opportunities that help participants succeed at school, at home, and in their community.

For full biography please go to: <http://sco.org/about-us/leadership/sco-board-of-directors/sr-paulette-lomonaco-rgs/>

**10. Graham Windham: Jess Dannhauser, President & CEO** ([dannhauserj@graham-windham.org](mailto:dannhauserj@graham-windham.org))

Jess Dannhauser is the President and CEO of Graham Windham, a mission-driven organization focused on building the foundation for success in life with NYC children and youth, in close partnership with families and communities. Graham Windham serves approximately 4,500 children and their families each year. Graham, including the affiliated Greenburgh Graham UFSD, is focused on achieving its vision where each of its children has a safe loving permanent family and a living-wage career, no matter the challenges of their early life. The Graham team is employing evidence-informed practices and curricula, integrating its programs to create a holistic and continuous community of care, and innovating to provide opportunity to thrive for kids and families. Mr. Dannhauser earned his MSW at University of California, Berkeley and his BA at Duke University. He is married to the Rev. Adrian Dannhauser. Adrian and Jess are the proud parents of their lovely daughter, Callaway.

**11. Heartshare St Vincent’s Services: Dawn Saffayeh, Executive Director**

([dawn.saffayeh@heartshare.org](mailto:dawn.saffayeh@heartshare.org))

Dawn Saffayeh is the Executive Director of HeartShare St. Vincent’s Services (HSVS). St. Vincent’s Services affiliated with HeartShare Human Services in 2014. Dawn was responsible for creating a new, unified culture at HSVS focused on outcomes toward the goal of ensuring every intervention adds value to the lives of clients. HSVS serves over 6,000 children, youth and adults each year through child welfare, mental health, chemical dependence, housing and community programs. Prior to her role as Executive Director, Dawn served as the Deputy Commissioner of Policy, Planning and Measurement at the NYC Administration for Children’s Services. In this position, she oversaw data analysis, strategic planning and nonprofit agency performance. She was responsible for the design and implementation of several reinvestment initiatives in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems. Prior to her ACS post, Dawn was a senior budget analyst at the City Office of Management and Budget. Dawn holds a Master’s Degree of Public Administration from New York University and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Fairfield University.

12. **JCCA: Honorable Ronald Richter, CEO and Executive Director** ([richterr@jccany.org](mailto:richterr@jccany.org))

Ronald E. Richter has been working with New York's vulnerable children, young people and families for more than two decades. Before joining JCCA, he was a New York State Family Court Judge for four years. He served as Commissioner of the New York City Administration for Children's Services from 2011 to 2013. Prior to being appointed Commissioner, he served as ACS Deputy Commissioner and as New York City's Family Services Coordinator during Mayor Bloomberg's Administration. He was also an attorney at the Legal Aid Society. Mr. Richter graduated from Tufts University and received a Master of Science and a law degree from Boston University. In 2016, he was appointed to the NYC Children's Cabinet Advisory Board by Mayor de Blasio.

For full biography please go to: <https://www.jccany.org/who-we-are/staff/#Richter>

13. **NYF: Bill Baccaglini, President and CEO** ([bill.baccaglini@nyfoundling.org](mailto:bill.baccaglini@nyfoundling.org))

As President and CEO, Bill has overseen the expansion of The Foundling, reduced the charity's operating deficit by \$7.5 million, implemented policies and procedures that have resulted in the organization securing national accreditation and expanded the charity's foster boarding and prevention programs. He has led the push towards Evidenced-Based Practices in The Foundling's programs, increasing the effectiveness of service delivery for the people we serve, and enhancing The Foundling's role as an industry leader.

For full biography please go to: <https://www.nyfoundling.org/staff/baccaglini/>

14. **OHEL: David Mandel, CEO** ([dm@ohelfamily.org](mailto:dm@ohelfamily.org))

David Mandel is the Chief Executive Officer of OHEL Children's Home and Family Services. OHEL is a trusted haven of safety and support, providing services that help build lives and strengthen families, homes and communities to face social, developmental and emotional challenges. OHEL provides comprehensive mental health services in New York, New Jersey and ETTA OHEL in Los Angeles. OHEL offers training and consultation on a broad range of issues to communities throughout the United States and overseas including response to abuse, trauma and grief. Prior to joining OHEL, David held senior leadership positions in several organizations. He is Chairman of the Touro College School of Social Work Professional Advisory Board. He is a lecturer and a frequent contributor to newspapers, magazines and radio programs on a broad range of mental health and social issues with more than 250 articles published on mental health, addictions, adolescent conflict and sexual abuse. David is co-editor with Dr. David Pelcovitz of Breaking the Silence: Sexual Abuse in the Jewish Community. KTAV Publishing January 2011.

15. **Harlem Dowling: Karen Dixon, Executive Director** ([kdixon@harlemdowling.org](mailto:kdixon@harlemdowling.org))

Karen Dixon is the Executive Director of Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children and Family Services. **Harlem Dowling-West Side Center for Children and Family Services** founded in 1836 as the Colored Orphan's Asylum, provides Family Preservation, Family Support Services for children with development disabilities, HIV/AIDS prevention education and risk reduction counseling, After School programming, and Emergency Food Pantry services. Since her appointment as Executive Director in 2012, Ms. Dixon's management and leadership has expanded programming and increased networking throughout the Harlem community. Advocating for children and families for adequate child care services, after school programming, and health and mental health services, are among her daily activities. In 2016, Harlem Dowling-West Side Center and The Children's Village, Inc. completed the Home for Harlem Dowling building project with 60 units of affordable housing including 12 studio units earmarked for children leaving the foster care system.