Building Blocks of Early Childhood

Georgia Grantmakers Alliance · 2018 Annual Meeting · September 7, 2018 · Cox Enterprises · Atlanta, GA

Steering Committee

Suzanna Stribling (Chair)
The Wilbur & Hilda Glenn Family Foundation

Speer Burdette (Treasurer)
Callaway Foundation

Mark Crosswell
R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Foundation

Kathryn Dennis
Community Foundation for Central Georgia

Robbo Hatcher
Georgia Pine Level Foundation

Pat Lummus
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation

Allen Mast
SunTrust

Atiba Mbiwan
The Zeist Foundation

Betsy Verner
J. Bulow Campbell Foundation

Sonia Vick
Williams Family Foundation of Georgia

Yvonne Whitaker
NCR Foundation

Annual Meeting Planning Committee

Lynn Pattillo (Chair)
Pittuloch Foundation

Mindy Binderman
GEARS

Marie Foster
The Zeist Foundation

Andrea Young Kellum
Healthcare Georgia Foundation

Lizzy Smith
Woodruff and Whitehead Foundations

Marty Sonenshine
Anverse

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Sartain Lanier Family Foundation

Suzanna Stribling
The Wilbur & Hilda Glenn Family Foundation

Communications and Engagement Committee

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Williams Family Foundation of Georgia

Betsy Verner
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Policy Committee

Bobbi Cleveland (Chair)
The Tull Charitable Foundation

Bonnie Hardage
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The Sapelo Foundation

Clare Ritchie
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Cox Foundations

Maria Azuri
Foundation Center

Karen Beavor
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Janine Lee
Southeastern Council of Foundations

Stephen Sherman
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The Zeist Foundation

Suzanna Stribling
The Wilbur & Hilda Glenn Family Foundation

Georgia Grantmakers Alliance
In partnership with the Southeastern Council of Foundations
Many Thanks

- Speer Burdette, Callaway Foundations (2014)
- Kathryn Dennis, Community Foundation of Central Georgia (2012)
- Lesley Grady, Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta (2010)
- Betsy Verner, J. Bulow Campbell Foundation (2012)
GGA 2019 Steering Committee
New Members
Shell Knox Berry, President & CEO
Community Foundation of the CRSA

Shell has served as President and CEO of the Community Foundation of the Central Savannah River Area in Augusta since 2015. She holds an MBA from The Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and a B.A. from Wake Forest University.
Lisa Medellin joined Healthcare Georgia Foundation in 2005. Lisa provides thought leadership to the Foundation on identifying new strategic funding partnerships, programs/initiatives and directs the allocation of the Foundation’s annual distribution of $3.8 million in grants. Previously she served in senior management positions with Emory University-Rollins School of Public Health, the American Cancer Society, and Planned Parenthood of the Southeast.

She is currently on the board of Wellstar-Atlanta Medical Center and the Georgia School Based Health Alliance. Lisa has a long history of volunteering for various organizations including the Southeastern Council of Foundations, the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, DeKalb County CASA, United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta -Women’s Legacy Council and the Junior League of Atlanta.
Lizzy Smith, Grants Program Director
Woodruff & Whitehead Foundations

Lizzy joined the Woodruff Foundations’ staff as Grants Officer in 2005 and became Grants Program Director in 2011. She previously worked for the fundraising consulting firm of Coxe Curry & Associates for more than seven years, and also served as Director of Special Events for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in Raleigh, NC. Lizzy is a former trustee of the Southeastern Council of Foundations and a past chair of the Foundation Center-Atlanta Advisory Board. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a B.A. degree in economics.
Tené Traylor joined the Kendeda Fund as a Fund Advisor in March 2016 and oversees the Atlanta program. Prior to joining the Fund, Tené was a senior program officer at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta. For ten years, she led their community development and neighborhood transformation grant making, including the Neighborhood Fund.

A proud Atlanta native, Tené has spent her career in the nonprofit and philanthropic sector, spending nearly six years at United Way for Greater Atlanta, before moving to The Zeist Foundation, Inc. Tené holds a Master of Public Administration degree with a concentration in public policy and nonprofit administration from the University of Georgia, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Georgia State University.
Paul White, President & CEO
Communities of Coastal Georgia Foundation

Paul C. White has served as President & CEO since November 2016. White comes to the Foundation following almost two decades of successful private sector marketing and investment management experience in Oklahoma. He previously served as the founding executive director of the Community Foundation of Central Georgia and as a senior consultant with a national firm providing training and development services for community foundations across the country. He graduated from The University of Georgia and attended the LBJ Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas. Early in his career, White worked on the legislative staff of Georgia’s former United States Senator Sam Nunn and for the U. S. Department of the Treasury. He and his wife, Monica, have two adult children.
GGA 2019 Steering Committee Officers
Pat Lummus (Chair), Executive Director
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation

Pat Lummus is the Executive Director of the Sartain Lanier Family Foundation (SLFF). Before taking this current role, she was the Associate Director of SLFF for ten years. SLFF’s main focus is enhancing available options for K-12 education in the metro Atlanta area, while continuing to support organizations to which Sartain Lanier was loyal in his lifetime.

Pat began her career at the fundraising consulting firm currently named Alexander Haas. Her clients included Camp Twin Lakes, Georgia Tech, and Hillside. After she began working as an independent consultant, she worked over the years with Cool Girls, First Presbyterian Church, Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, and The Study Hall.

Pat is a graduate of Vanderbilt University. She serves on the Atlanta Advisory Board for the Foundation Center, the Advisory Council for Odyssey, and other positions of service within the Atlanta community.
Mark Crosswell (Treasurer), Director, Social Impact
Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta

Mark heads up Social Impact Strategy at the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, an innovative initiative designed to drive measurable change through social impact investing.

In addition, Mark is serving leadership roles in several nonprofits in the areas of youth development and sports programs, K12 education initiatives, environmental sustainability, social enterprise and nonprofit alliances. Mark is a member of 2014-15 Hull Fellows Program of SECF; member of Community Foundation of Greater Atlanta's committees on Education Funders Collaborative, Strategic Restructuring, and Advisory Committee for the National Center for Family Philanthropy; member of class of 2015 Institute of GA Environmental Leaders; NW University-Kellogg Business School's nonprofit management certificate program, 2014-15; board member, OneHundredMiles; trustee and treasurer of a private charitable foundation.
Sonia Vick has been the Program Officer at the Williams Family Foundation of Georgia since 2007. She is responsible for program management, grants management, office management and community outreach. Prior to joining the Foundation, she worked in the non-profit sector for 14 years as director of the Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival, the major fundraiser for the Thomasville Center for the Arts.

An active community leader, Sonia has served on a number of philanthropic boards and committees including, Thomasville YMCA, Thomasville-Thomas County Humane Society, Thomasville Junior Service League, Brookwood School, Tall Timbers Research Station & Land Conservancy, South Georgia Fellowship of Christian Athletes and Give Kids the World. She currently serves on the Plantation Wildlife Arts Festival Advisory Board, and is a dedicated volunteer to many other philanthropic organizations in the Thomasville community.

Sonia graduated high school from Girls Preparatory School in Chattanooga, TN and holds a BBA from Mercer University, Macon, GA. She is married and has three children, and lives in Thomasville, GA.
GGA 2019 Steering Committee
Continuing Members
Robbo Hatcher, Trustee
Georgia Pine Level Foundation

Robbo attended the University of Essex, Colchester, England and received his B.A. degree (Econ/MIS) from the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia. He is President/CEO of H2 Capital, Inc., Macon and Chairman of NanoMist Systems, LLC, Macon.

Robbo is a member of the Wesleyan College Board of Trustees and the Middle Georgia State College Foundation Board of Trustees. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Georgia Lottery Corporation, the Georgia Chamber of Commerce, the Georgia Public Policy Foundation and others.

He currently chairs Mercer University's Eugene W. Stetson School of Business and Economics Board of Visitors; and is a past chair of the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, Stratford Academy, the Macon Economic Development Commission, the Museum of Arts & Sciences, Renaissance Housing Partnership, and Leadership Macon. He is a graduate of Leadership Macon and Leadership Georgia. He and his wife, Betsy, and their two children reside in Macon, Georgia.
Atiba Mbiwan, Associate Director
The Zeist Foundation

Atiba is married to Tiffany Friesen and they have three adult children, Jacob, Keisha, and Keenan, and two grandsons, Quatez and DeSean.

He attended Brown University and graduated with a B.A. degree in Economics and Urban Studies, including a semester at the University of Lagos, Nigeria. He is also an alumnus of the Education Policy Fellowship Program managed by the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education.

Atiba serves on the Board of Directors of the Grant Park Conservancy, Community Farmers Markets and the East Coast Greenway Alliance. He dedicates much of his civic time to the BRAG Dream Team, a statewide youth cycling program in Georgia.
Suzanna Stribling, Executive Director
Wilbur & Hilda Glenn Family Foundation

Suzanna Stribling has been executive director of The Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation since 2010. The Foundation holds approximately $125 million in assets and makes grants in the areas of education, health and human services.

From 2004-2010, she worked at the Southeastern Council of Foundations, a regional association of 300+ foundations from 11 states. In the 90’s, she was the founding director of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits.

Suzanna holds a masters degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and a B.A. from Berry College. She has served on numerous boards, including the National Council of Nonprofit Associations and the Georgia Society of Association Executives.
Yvonne Whitaker, Foundation Lead
NCR Foundation

Yvonne Whitaker joined NCR to lead the Foundation in April 2012. Yvonne is responsible for leading the strategic direction of the Foundation and makes funding recommendations to the trustees. She furthers the mission of the Foundation by ensuring the bylaws are adhered to while working directly with grant seekers and the Foundation Board. She serves as a volunteer and board member for many organizations and has lived the Foundation’s mission.

Yvonne holds a M.Ed from Wright State University. She resides in Chamblee, GA with her husband Mark. Daughter Casey is professional comedian currently associated with Second City Chicago’s National Touring Company. Daughter Jordan recently graduated from Georgia State Law and is working as an associate at Boyd, Collar, Nolan & Tuggle in Atlanta.
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Opening Keynote

Dr. Geoffrey Nagle, President and CEO, Erikson Institute
Don’t Worry, I Got This

Video presentation here
Industry Leaders

Amy Jacobs, Commissioner, Department of Early Care and Learning
Mindy Binderman, Executive Director, GEEARS

Moderator: Dr. Steve Dolinger, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education
What is Early Childhood Education?

Data Source: All Open Facilities Table 08/01/2018 Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care & Learning

- 337,024
- 67,507
- 4,681
Why is Early Childhood Education Important?

About 85 percent of the human brain develops in the first three years of life.

Children who enter kindergarten ready to succeed are more likely to read on grade level by third grade, graduate from high school, go on to college, and be productive members of the workforce.

For every dollar invested in high-quality early learning programs, at least $4 is saved in future costs related to social services, remedial education, public safety and juvenile justice.
Georgia’s Story

Enhancing children’s early education experience to promote their academic, social-emotional, and physical development in partnership with families, communities, the early care and education industry, and stakeholders.

• One of only three states with an agency dedicated to early childhood education

• Total Budget of $820,532,970
  • Georgia’s Pre-K
  • Child Care Subsidies
  • Quality Rated
  • Nutrition
  • Licensing & Regulation
  • Research
  • Head Start Collaboration
Bright Spots: Georgia’s Pre-K
Bright Spots: Quality Rated & Infant-Toddler Language & Literacy Supports
Bright Spots: Workforce & Family Supports
Keep the conversation going.

Every child in Georgia will have access to high-quality early care and education regardless of family income or location.

Amy M. Jacobs
amy.jacobs@decal.ga.gov
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Industry Innovators

**Dr. Terri McFadden**, General Pediatrician and Associate Professor, Department of Pediatrics, Emory University School of Medicine

**Monica Warren**, Director of Early Learning, Read Right from the Start, Crisp County Public Schools

**Kim Holland**, Director, Early Learning and School Readiness, Gwinnett County Public Schools

**Moderator: Blythe Robinson**, President and CEO, Sheltering Arms
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The Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation
Callaway Foundation, Inc.
Fuller E. Callaway Foundation
Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta
Community Foundation of Central Georgia, Inc.

Couchman Noble Foundation
Cox Enterprises
The James M. Cox Foundation
The Wilbur and Hilda Glenn Family Foundation
The Kendeda Fund

Jesse Parker Williams Foundation
The Pittilloch Foundation
The Saqelo Foundation
Sartain Lanier Family Foundation, Inc.
SunTrust

Tull Charitable Foundation
Williams Family Foundation of Georgia

Georgia Grantmakers Alliance
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Brain Games by GEEARS

Dr. Stan Sonu, Emory School of Medicine at Grady
The Brain Architecture Game: Every Brain Tells a Story

Mindy Binderman
Executive Director
GEEARS

Vett Vandiver
Director of Communications
GEEARS
A Collaboration

Bringing together expertise on the science of early brain development, communication for social good, and game theory.

Center on the Developing Child  
HARVARD UNIVERSITY

NATIONAL SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL ON THE DEVELOPING CHILD

WWW.GEEARS.ORG
The Science of Early Brain Development
Key Concepts in the Science of Brain Architecture

1) Experiences build brain architecture
2) “Serve & return” shapes brain circuitry
3) Toxic stress derails healthy development

A strong foundation in the early years improves the odds for positive outcomes and a weak foundation increases the odds of later difficulties.
Goal of the Game

Build a “Brain” that is:
TALL (= functionality) and
STRONG (= can withstand life stresses)
Choose Your Roles

Each team should pick one person to be in charge of:

1) Rule Book
2) Materials
3) Life Journal
4) Life Experience Cards
Getting Started: Build Your Base and Get Your Social Supports
Getting Started: Build Your Base and Get Your Social Supports
Playing the Game: Ages 1-4
Pause at the end of Age 4!
20-25 mins

3 people in each group take a single card from each year, one year at a time.

Mark on your life journal the type of experience each card is.

Use all of the materials you get each year before moving on.
The Brain Architecture Game: Ages 6-7

Topple or Thrive
The Brain Architecture Game: Ages 6-7
Test Your Resilience

Remember the new rules: *no more straws!*

- Positive = 1 pipe cleaner
- Tolerable = same as before
- Toxic = 1 weight
  (hang on the highest point of your structure)
When You Finish...

• Take a photo of your brain!
  🙂 facebook.com/brainarchitecturegame

• Tally the total number of positive, tolerable, and toxic experiences you had. What kinds of experiences were positive vs. toxic?

• As a group, read the story of your brain as it was recorded.

• How did your experiences affect the outcome?

• How did the number of Social Supports you received at the beginning affect the outcome?
1) How did the life experiences of your “child” shape your brain’s development?

2) How important were early social supports?

3) Can you have a brain that withstands life stresses later in life after experiencing toxic stress early in life? What made that possible?

4) What are the social supports in your community that are available for supporting children’s healthy brain development?

5) How does this relate to your work as funders?
Building Blocks of Early Childhood

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Change the First Years and You Change Everything

Video presentation here
Philanthropy Visionaries

Russ Hardin, President, Joseph B. Whitehead Foundation
Laurene Sperling, President, The Sperling Family Charitable Foundation

Introduction: Lisa Klein, Ph.D., Executive Director, Alliance for Early Success
Special Thanks

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[Logos of various organizations]
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Robbo Hatcher Georgia Pine Level Foundation
Pat Lummus Sartain Lanier Family Foundation
Allen Mast SunTrust
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Janine Lee Southeastern Council of Foundations
Stephen Sherman Southeastern Council of Foundations
Thanks for joining us!
Building Blocks of Early Childhood

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## Stakeholder nominations

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