

## SPEAKER INDEX

**Deborah Bergeron, Ph.D.,** Director - Office of Head Start  
U.S. DHHS/ACF/Office of Head Start, Washington, DC

Dr. Deborah Bergeron serves as the Director of the Office of Head Start. Known as "Dr. B" to former students and teachers, she has spent three decades in pre-K–12 public education as a classroom teacher and elementary and high school administrator. In the course of her career, Dr. B also started, grew, and ultimately sold her own educational services company. She holds a bachelor's degree from Texas State University. She earned a master's in education leadership and doctorate in education policy from George Mason University. During her tenure as a school administrator, she specialized in school improvement. Her focus was on academic achievement and school climate. Dr. B will use her experience as an elementary principal and her strong background in pre-K–12 instructional leadership to provide unique insights into how Head Start can support our most vulnerable children to become school ready. She hopes to spend a great deal of her time visiting Regional Offices and specific Head Start programs. Dr. B most looks forward to spending time with all of the children, teachers, and program directors who are her inspiration!

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**Denise Harlow, MSW, CCAP,** Chief Executive Officer  
Community Action Partnership, Washington, D.C.  
dharlow@communityactionpartnership.com

Denise Harlow, CCAP, was named the Chief Executive Officer of the Community Action Partnership in December 2014. She has been with the Partnership since 2011 and served as Senior Director of Training and Technical Assistance and Interim Chief Operating Officer. Prior to her tenure at the Partnership, she was the CEO of the New York State Community Action Association and Sr. Vice President for Capacity Building for the New York Council of Nonprofits. Ms. Harlow has more than 28 years of experience in the nonprofit sector, has served on several nonprofit boards of directors, and was an appointee to the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council in New York State. She started her Community Action career as a social worker with the Schenectady Community Action Program. She has a master's degree in social work from the University at Albany where she was also a Fellow on Women and Public Policy at the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society, and holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Valparaiso University.

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**Calvin E. Moore, Jr., Ph.D.,** Regional Program Manager  
DHHS/ACF/Region IV Office of Head Start, Atlanta, GA

Since 2015 Dr. Calvin E. Moore, Jr. has been a Senior Technical Analyst for ICF International, a federal contractor for the Office of Child Care in Washington, DC. He previously served as the Child Care Administrator for the state of Alabama. As the Child Care Services Division Director at the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR), he was responsible for implementing the statewide strategic goals and objectives of the division. Oversight included child care licensing, child care subsidy program, Early Head Start - Child Care Partnership program,

quality initiatives, and the training and technical assistance projects. During his tenure Dr. Moore expanded the child care services division by securing public funding for the DHR Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership program and private funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation to establish Alabama Quality STARS, the statewide quality rating and improvement system.

Dr. Moore formerly served as the Deputy Director of the Office of Child Care (OCC) in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) in the Department of Health and Human Services in Washington, DC. As the OCC Deputy Director, Dr. Moore was responsible for supervising the Regional Program Managers in the ten ACF Regional Offices across the country.

Dr. Moore has over twenty years of Head Start experience having worked as an Executive Director, Head Start Director, Education Manager, Center Director, Education Specialist, Teacher and Teacher Assistant. Dr. Moore's tenure working in Head Start programs has been eclectic - having served in both large and small programs, urban and rural programs, center-based and family child care based programs, as well as programs serving predominantly Hispanic families. Dr. Moore is a Head Start graduate and has been a longstanding vocal advocate and example of the program's success.

Dr. Moore holds a Bachelor of Science degree in early childhood education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and earned both a Master of Science in Education and Doctor of Philosophy in Early Childhood Education from Walden University. In 1992, while working as a Head Start Teacher Assistant, Dr. Moore earned a preschool Child Development Associate (CDA) credential from the Council for Professional Recognition.

He has written an early childhood curriculum supplement, *The Thinking Book Curriculum for Early Childhood Professionals*. Dr. Moore is also the author of several other books—*Men Do Stay: Recruiting and Retaining Qualified Male Early Childhood Teachers*, *Find Your Happy: Seven Steps to a More Fulfilling Life*, *Agape Declarations*, and *Givers and Takers: Understanding Complex Relationship Dynamics*.

Dr. Moore currently lives in Fairfield, Alabama with his wife and two daughters. In 2016 Dr. Moore received a Literary Award from A.I.M and New Light Ministries for *Agape Declarations*, Houston, TX and the Maria Otto Award for Leadership from the National Family Child Care Association (NAFCC), a national membership organization devoted to making sure that the profession of family child care is recognized, visible, and firmly part of the larger early care and education field. This is the highest honor given by NAFCC. In 2011, Dr. Moore received the Billy McCain, Sr., Memorial Award from the Alabama Head Start Association for his work as an advocate for family child care programs. In 2008, Dr. Moore was the first African American elected President of the NAFCC. He has served on numerous state, regional and national governing boards including the Council for Professional Recognition. Dr. Moore has worked as an adjunct professor for Lawson State Community College, Jefferson State Community College, the University of Alabama at Birmingham, Strayer University, and Miles College.

**Thomas (Tommy) Sheridan**, MPA, Senior Director for Government Affairs  
National Head Start Association, Alexandria, VA  
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Thomas Sheridan is the Senior Director of Government Affairs for the National Head Start Association (NHSA) in Alexandria, VA where he has worked since June 2009. In this role, Tommy works with the Head Start community to lobby, advocate, educate, and inform Congress, the White House, and the Federal Administration about Head Start and early learning. Tommy is NHSA's representative to Congress, the Administration, national coalitions and the other powers that be in DC. He plays a significant role in strategizing, developing, and implementing the Head Start community's vision for the future of Head Start and early learning. Prior to his career at NHSA, Tommy worked in the Minnesota State Senate, on several political campaigns, and in private sales. Tommy received an Honors Bachelor of Arts from Saint Louis University and a Master's of Public Administration from George Washington University in 2014.

**Yasmina Vinci**, M.A., MPA. Executive Director  
National Head Start Association, Alexandria, VA  
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As a seasoned leader in executive and policy roles, Yasmina Vinci's professional experience and capabilities have delivered improvements in the lives of children at national, state, and local levels. Yasmina came to the National Head Start Association (NHSA) after several years as principal and founder of EDGE Consulting Partners. At EDGE, Yasmina pursued local, national and global projects that utilized the knowledge, experience, and connections of her years in human services and early education, to enhance the capacity of organizations to thrive as competent, strategic entities capable of influencing policy. Yasmina founded EDGE after receiving her Master in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. Yasmina's experience is grounded in service as executive director of a child care program serving low-income families and as development director for a cluster of non-profit child care centers. As the first Executive Director of NACCRRRA (now Child Care Aware Of America), she led NACCRRRA's transition from an all-volunteer association of fewer than 200 resource and referral agencies to a powerful national network of 860+ community based organizations. In state government, she supervised Head Start research, administered the federal Dependent Care Grant and planned for New Jersey's implementation of the very first Child Care and Development Block Grant. She currently serves on numerous advisory boards, is a devoted member of the World Forum on Early Care and Education, and is one of the Moneyball for Government Nonprofit All Stars. Most recently, Yasmina was honored by Exchange Leadership Initiative as a Doyen in early care and education.