

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2008 Families Matter Conference</b> <b>Creating Opportunities for Family Voice, Empowerment and Leadership</b></p>
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**Friday, June 6, 2008**

**Agenda**

Registration and Breakfast	8:30am - 9:00am
Welcome and Opening Remarks	9:00am - 9:10am
Panel Discussion	9:10am - 10:10 am
Break/Transition	10:10am - 10:15am
Workshop Sessions	10:15am - 11:20 am
Networking and Evaluation	11:20 am- 12:00 pm

\* Earn EEC hours for this professional development opportunity!

**Panel Discussion- Exploring Family Voice, Empowerment and Leadership through the ages and stages of child and youth development**

**Facilitator: Suzanne Bouffard, Project Manager, Harvard Family Research Project**

This panel will focus on exploring Family Voice, Empowerment and Leadership through the ages and stages of child and youth development. You'll hear from programs that have been actively implementing and evaluating family engagement strategies for young children, middle school students and teens. Find out what has worked and the challenges they've faced along the way. You'll also hear from parent leaders who will discuss practices that support their involvement and leadership in out-of-school time programs.

**Panelists:**

- Tony Bellerose, School Age Child Care Director, **Greater Lynn YMCA** (Elementary Age)
- Marie Maxey, School Age Director, **Ellis Memorial** (Elementary Age and Parent Leadership)  
Tranee Creecy-- Parent from **Ellis Parent Advisory Committee**
- Winique Green, Program Coordinator, Out of School Time Office, **Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention/ Out of Harm's Way** at Frederick Middle School (Middle School Age)
- Paulo De Barros, Teen Center Program Director, **Catholic Charities** (Teens)  
**Catholic Charities Fathers' Group** Member
- Jeffrey Munoz, Senior Program Manager, **Hispanic Office of Planning and Evaluation (H.O.P.E.)** (Teens)
- Chrissy Souder, Curriculum Director, Out of School Time Initiatives, **East End House, Cambridge** (Evaluating Family Engagement)
- Manosi Datta, Program Director, Evaluation and Operations, **BOSTnet** (Engaging Families Initiative)

**\*See below for workshop descriptions\***

## Workshop Sessions

### Including Family Voice and Leadership in your Programs

How do you engage families beyond family night? How do you make sure your programs are informed by parent voice? What does it take to build parent/guardian leadership in your program? How does family leadership support your program?

### Family Focused Staff that supports Voice and Leadership

Hiring and developing staff members that are attuned to the backgrounds of children and youth in your program are critical in developing strong communications and relationships with families in your program. What strategies can you use to prepare staff to support family voice and leadership?

### Engaging Families in Programs with Teens

Find out what engaging families of teens looks like. Working with families of teens requires different strategies than engagement of families of younger children. How do you respect the autonomy and independence of teens while keeping families engaged?

### Increasing Family Access to Community Cultural Resources

This session will focus on utilizing the resources offered by Cultural Institutions and improving family access to these. What are these institutions offering in the summers? Learn how to plan family events at cultural institutions and receive a step-by-step guide from a program that planned a successful event at a museum.