

ELIZABETH M. BONBRIGHT
Vice President
Tacoma Public Schools Board of Directors
Position #5

Elizabeth@ElizabethBonbright.com
www.ElizabethBonbright.com

SKILLS:

Visionary & Motivational Leader ♦ Experienced Supervisor/Manager ♦ Innovator
♦ Effective Negotiator ♦ Entrepreneur ♦ Collaborative Manager ♦ Connector with strong, positive relationships with key local, state and national partners across sectors and disciplines
♦ Detail-driven ♦ Focused on how critical data influences development and implementation of quality public policy ♦ Media savvy with experience in media relations in both the private and public sectors ♦ Early childhood public policy expert ♦ Skilled at raising, braiding and leveraging funding and other resources ♦ System strategist ♦ Experienced Board Member ♦ Proven expertise working in government, corporate and nonprofit sectors at the local, state and national levels ♦ Strong commitment to equity, fairness and integrity

ELECTED OFFICE:

- ❖ **TACOMA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF DIRECTORS,** Tacoma, Washington
POSITION #5 *Appointed by Board of Directors*
(November 7, 2019 – Present)

➤ **Leadership Roles**

- Vice President, Tacoma Public School Board of Directors -- Elected by Colleagues (September 2020 – Present)
- Chair, Joint Municipal Action Committee (JMAC) -- Elected by JMAC Colleagues (January 2021 – Present)
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/committees_boards_commissions/joint_municipal_action_committee

Leading the JMAC visioning process to strengthen inter-governmental innovative collaboration to strategically address the critical policy issues facing our community. COVID-19's disruption in our "normal" operations offers elected officials the rare opportunity to reimagine what an economically vibrant, healthy, educated, more equitable and anti-racist community might look like. This collaborative project strives to build a culture of racial justice, equity, diversity and inclusion (JEDI) creating environments that truly welcome and nurture all people—regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identification, socio-economic status, or homelessness. Our goal is to create a more resilient and anti-racist community focused on public health and safety, and community wealth building.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

❖ Management/Organizational Development

- Built a statewide nonprofit organization from a small \$98 thousand/year organization with 2.5 FTEs into a vibrant, proactive, effective \$14 million/year enterprise with 18 FTEs and administrative management over the statewide child care resource and referral (CCR&R) system comprised of 7 community-based nonprofit entities
- Formulated the organization's vision and strategic direction with the Board of Trustees, initiated growth strategies, approved all financial management and new program development initiatives, provided strategic guidance on operations and supervised the work of the strategic management team
- Recruited a diverse, top level staff and board of trustees with a depth of skills, expertise and knowledge who work together as a team enabling us to reach our organizational goals
- Secured over \$46 million for core CCR&R services and raised or leveraged an additional \$52 million in funding for larger child care/early learning initiatives during my 22 year tenure
- Successfully designed, developed and managed a broad range of innovative projects in Washington State including: **Early Achievers**, implementation of the "improvement" component of Washington's child care quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) as part of Washington's \$60 million federal Race to the Top, Early Learning Challenge Grant; **Washington Scholarships for Child Care Professionals** Program; and **Child Care 2000**, the \$1 million statewide public engagement campaign launched in 1996 and featured as a successful model by the National Governor's Association

❖ Public & Private Sector Experience

- Extensive experience working collaboratively with all levels of government (local, state, federal and international), both as a state legislative employee and as a vendor/advocate
- Direct daily experience working with a broad spectrum of the private sector (business, philanthropy, faith-based and community-based nonprofit organizations)

❖ Leadership and Public Policy

- Nationally recognized public speaker with depth of subject matter expertise in a variety of areas, especially early childhood education, child care and afterschool care issues
- Over twenty years as a national leader in early childhood public policy through the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (DBA: Child Care Aware of America) Board of Directors and the Public Policy Committee
- Testified before the United States Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (March 15, 2002) on how to best meet the child care needs of working parents while promoting the school readiness of our children

- Effectively secured concepts, language, and funding in key legislative initiatives and budgets at both the state and national levels
- Authored many published reports and articles which have received state, regional and national distribution and recognition
- Collaborated with each of the Washington State agencies that intersect with children in child care to improve the coordination of services and positive impacts for children
- Founding Member of the Washington State Early Childhood Collaborative Leadership Institute
- As Chair of the WA State Child Care Coordinating Committee Public Policy Subcommittee for 12 years: crafted annual public policy statements, analyzed fiscal measures, designed initiatives and drafted legislation to improve the quality of child care, early learning and afterschool programs so that all children have the opportunity to succeed in school and life
- As staff for the California State Senate, drafted several notable laws, including:
 - Nationally award winning **California Child Care Ombudsman Program** (SB 1754, Chapter 1615, Statutes of 1984),
 - California's highly successful **school dropout prevention program** (SB 65, Chapter 1431, Statutes of 1985),
 - SCR 80 in 1986 creating the **California Commission on Aviation and Airports**
 - **Potty Parity**, requiring publicly and privately owned facilities where the public congregates to have sufficient restroom facilities to meet the public need at peak times (SB 247, Chapter 691 Statutes of 1987), and
 - The ground-breaking law that allows **child victims of sexual abuse to testify in court via two-way, closed-circuit television** rather than face their accused perpetrator in person (SB 46, CA Penal Code 1347). ***The constitutionality of this measure was challenged and eventually upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.***

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

- ❖ **EARLY CHILDHOOD POLICY CONSULTANT Self Employed (2015 – 2018)**
Focusing at the national policy level, while interacting with early childhood professionals, state administrators and key partners in states and local communities across the nation
- ❖ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Washington State Child Care Resource & Referral Network
(Effective July 1, 2012, doing business as: *Child Care Aware of Washington*)
(April 6, 1992 – August 15, 2014)**
For 22+ years, I purposefully and methodically built this organization from a scrappy start-up into a stable, pro-active, strategic, innovative industry leader which is now the foundational support for Washington State's child care and early learning and afterschool system (including the core quality component of Early Achievers)

ACTIVE MEMBER OF STATE AND NATIONAL BOARDS & COMMITTEES:

State:

- ❖ WA Scholarship/Opportunity Grants Advisory Workgroup (July 2012 – August 2014)
- ❖ Early Achievers Partnership Committee (January 2012 – August 2014)
- ❖ DEL State-Local Coordinating Steering Committee (February 2012 – August 2013)
- ❖ Thrive by Five WA Core Initiatives Committee (December 2011 – June 2013)
- ❖ Thrive by Five WA Advancing Racial Equity Theory of Change Workgroup (November 2011– August 2014)
- ❖ Thrive by Five WA Advancing Racial Equity Committee (November 2011 – August 2014)
- ❖ Early Learning Plan Steering Committee, Chair of the Early Care & Education Workgroup (November 2010 – January 2011)
- ❖ Quality Rating and Improvement System Steering Committee (September 2010 – December 2011)
- ❖ Early Learning Action Alliance Steering Committee (Member 2007 – August 2014)
- ❖ Early Learning Action Alliance Long-Term Planning Committee (Member 2007 – 2009)
- ❖ BUILD Initiative Steering Committee (Member 2003 – 2012)
- ❖ Healthy Child Care Washington (Partner 1996 – 2010)
- ❖ Kids Matter (SEECs Grant) Steering Committee (Member 2003 – 2010)
- ❖ Family, Friends & Neighbors Leadership Team (Member 2004 – August 2014)
- ❖ WA Afterschool Network Steering Committee (Member 2006-August 2014)
- ❖ Head Start-State Collaboration Project Advisory Committee (Member 2002 – 2011)
- ❖ Founding Member of the Collaborative Leadership Institute (2004 – 2010)
- ❖ Leadership Council for Quality Care and Education (Formerly the Child Care Coordinating Committee) (Member September 2004 – June 2005 when it was officially dissolved)
 - Executive Committee (Member September 2004 – June 2005 when it dissolved)
- ❖ Child Care Coordinating Committee (Member 1992 – September 2004)
 - Child Care Coordinating Committee Public Policy Subcommittee, (Chair, 1993 - 2004)
 - Child Care Coordinating Committee Systems Subcommittee (Member, 1993 - 2004)
 - Child Care Coordinating Committee Select Committee on Licensing, (Past Chair, 1992)
- ❖ The Collaborative for Early Care and Education and Afterschool Programs (Member 2003 – 2006)
- ❖ WA State Infant/Toddler Initiative Advisory Committee (Member 2003 – 2011)
- ❖ Early Childhood Education Coalition Advisory Committee (Member 2003 – 2006)
- ❖ League of Education Voters Early Childhood Advisory Committee (Member 2003 – 2008)
- ❖ Child Care Works for Washington, (Chair 1995-1996, Member 1993 - 2003)
- ❖ The Children's Budget Coalition (Member 1994 – 2008)
- ❖ The Children's Alliance (Member 1992 – August 2014)

National:

- ❖ Board of Directors, Child Care Aware of America (January 2013 – August 2014)
 - Appointed as Chair of Public Policy Committee (January 2013 – August 2014)
- ❖ Board of Directors, National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (NACCRRA) (1994-2002) & (2007-2010)
 - Re-elected by national ballot to Public Policy Committee (March 2010 – March 2012)
 - Appointed to the Board of Directors as Chair of Public Policy Committee (2007-2010)
 - Elected member of the Public Policy Committee (March 2002 – 2006)
 - NACCRRA Reauthorization Workgroup (Chair, January 2002 – 2004)
 - Immediate Past-President (March 2001 – March 2002)
 - President (March 1999 – March 2001)
 - President-Elect & Annual Symposium Chair (October 1997 – February 1999)
 - Vice President of the Board & Chair of Public Policy (1995-1997)
 - Fundraising Committee, (Chair, 1994-1995)
- ❖ Strengthening Families United National Advisory Board (January 2008 – August 2014)

- ❖ Eco-Healthy Childcare National Advisory Committee (March 2008 – August 2014)
- ❖ State Early Childhood Policy Contact, National Women’s Law Center (2002 – 2014)
- ❖ Advisory Board Member, Child Care Action Campaign (1998 – 2000)
- ❖ State Child Care Contact, Children's Defense Fund (1993 - 2009)
- ❖ State Contact, Families & Work Institute’s national *I Am Your Child* public engagement campaign
- ❖ Executive Committee Member, Every Child Matters, Washington State Chapter (January 2004 – November 2004)