

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Shelley Waters Boots

Shelley Waters Boots is a Senior Consultant with the Annie E. Casey Foundation who brings over 15 years of experience as a writer, researcher, and policy expert on issues affecting the lives of children and families. Currently she runs a consulting business where she advises philanthropic clients on investment strategy, policy research, and communications.

Prior to her work with the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Ms. Waters Boots worked as a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute, writing on issues of children, work, and family. She has honed a number of skills over the years – from developing grassroots policy campaigns to crafting new policy ideas and innovative communication strategies as the Founding Director of the Early Education Initiative at the New America Foundation. Prior to those positions, she directed child care and development policy at the Children’s Defense Fund and worked as a research director in California for a statewide resource and referral association.

Ms. Waters Boots earned a bachelor’s degree in political science from Furman University, and a master’s degree in public administration from the Maxwell School at Syracuse University.

Anne Mosle

Anne Mosle is a Vice President at the Aspen Institute and Executive Director of Ascend. In these roles she is an advisor to the senior leadership of the Aspen Institute and directs the vision and strategic goals of Ascend, a policy program of the Institute and a hub for breakthrough ideas and collaborations that move children and their parents toward educational success and economic security. The Aspen Institute’s mission is to foster leadership based on enduring values and to provide a nonpartisan venue for dealing with critical issues.

Prior to joining the Aspen Institute, Ms. Mosle served as a Vice President and officer of the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, where she developed the Family Economic Security and Civic Engagement portfolios, oversaw the launch of the \$100 million Mission-Driven Investing pilot program, and spearheaded the New Mexico place-based programming. She served as the president of the Washington Area Women’s Foundation from 2000-2007. Earlier in her career, Ms. Mosle was a member of the leadership team at the Center for Policy Alternatives and held positions on Capitol Hill. She currently serves on the Advisory Committee of the Oxford University Said School of Business.

Ms. Mosle has a bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of Richmond and has completed graduate coursework at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Gloria Perez

Gloria Perez is President and Chief Executive Officer of Jeremiah Program, a leading national nonprofit whose proven, holistic approach transforms families from poverty to prosperity two generations at a time. Since joining Jeremiah in 1998, Ms. Perez has become one of the country's leading experts in two-generational strategies to reducing poverty.

In 2012, Ms. Perez was appointed an Ascend Fellow by the Aspen Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit pioneering two-generation approaches to ending the cycle of poverty. She recently was one of two fellows selected by Ascend to attend the Aspen Institute's Action Leaders Forum, a gathering of world leaders who have been successful in moving thought to action. Ms. Perez serves on the board of directors for Allina Health Systems and Irwin Andrew Porter Foundation and on the board of trustees for The Minneapolis Foundation and the F.R. Bigelow Foundation.

Ms. Perez is a graduate of Macalester College and the recipient of numerous awards, including the Alexandrine Medal from St. Catherine University.

Duane Yoder

Duane Yoder serves as President of the Garrett County Community Action Committee (GCCAC) in Oakland, Maryland, a position he has held since 1980. His work primarily has focused on assisting low-income persons to become more self-sufficient and addressing the conditions and causes of poverty.

During his tenure as President, GCCAC has emerged as one of the most successful rural community development corporations in Maryland. The corporation is providing leadership in changing housing conditions in the Western Maryland County of Garrett. GCCAC also provides a variety of other services in early child education, child care, transportation, senior citizen programs, emergency services, and housing.

Mr. Yoder served as Chair of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Atlanta Advisory Council for two terms. He is the past President of the Maryland Community Action Partnership and the Maryland Rural Development Council. He also is a gubernatorial appointee to the Maryland Commission on Housing Policy, the Western Maryland Economic Development Commission, and the Maryland Sustainable Growth Commission.

Mr. Yoder earned his bachelor's degree from Eastern Mennonite University and has completed graduate work at the Universities of Maryland and West Virginia. He is a 2002 graduate of Leadership Maryland.