

Margaret Bridges, PhD



Margaret Bridges is a developmental psychologist and research scientist at the University of California, Berkeley. She has managed a statewide evaluation of the CARES programs and the experimental early care and education staff training

projects for the First 5 California Children and Families Commission. Currently, she is analyzing the implications of expanding access to preschool—particularly how expansion would affect low-income and Latino preschool children. Dr. Bridges completed her doctoral and postdoctoral training in child development, studying family, school, and neighborhood effects on children's outcomes.

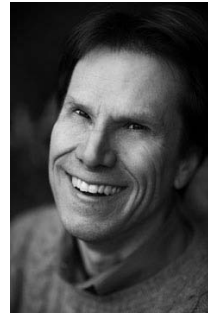
Maria A. Casillas



Maria A. Casillas is President of Families in Schools (FIS), an organization that engages parents in the education of their children and to

strengthen the relationship among families, schools and communities. Prior to her work in the non-profit sector, Maria was a teacher and principal in Guadalajara, Mexico, and served the greater El Paso community as the Executive Director in the Educational Service Center in Texas. She has given more than 20 years of service to the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) as a teacher, elementary school principal, and regional superintendent.

Bruce Fuller, PhD



Trained in political sociology, Professor Fuller's current research delves into how young children are socialized in diverse Mexican-American homes, and what neighborhood organizations effectively advance their development. His recent book, *Standardized*

Childhood: The Political and Cultural Struggle over Early Education, examines how elite reformers often push for state incorporation of community programs, even eroding the authority and resources spread across diverse ethnic leaders. A college dropout, he eventually received his Ph.D. from Stanford University. Before coming to Berkeley, Professor Fuller was a research sociologist at the World Bank and taught at Harvard's School of Education.

Sandra Gutierrez



Sandra Gutierrez is the lead creator and National Project Director of Abriendo Puertas/Opening Doors. Gutierrez has also developed a series of training programs to support children and families involved in the

child welfare system for Parents Action for Children. She brings over 30 years of experience with legal, children's advocacy, and community service organizations. Her career has included founding the first service organization to assist Central American refugees, developing health education programs for the United Farmworkers, and designing campaigns to promote the benefits of preschool for the Latino community. For seven years, she served as a founding member and state Commissioner for First 5 California.