

Thursday's Child



Taking Action for Children: Early Interventions to Prevent Abuse and Prepare for School Success

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Deborah Daro is a Chapin Hall research fellow with more than 20 years of experience in evaluating child abuse treatment and prevention programs. Prior to joining Chapin Hall, Dr. Daro was the director of the National Center on Child Abuse Prevention Research, a program of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse. She was president of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children and currently serves on the executive council of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Dr. Graciela Italiano-Thomas is the founding CEO and president of Thrive by Five Washington, an advocacy organization that champions statewide early learning improvement. She is one of the nation's leading early learning experts and brings more than three decades of education and early learning experience to Thrive by Five Washington. She has served as CEO of Los Angeles Universal Preschool, CEO of Centro de la Familia de Utah, and as a senior consultant to the National Head Start Bureau.

Ann Kirwan is the vice president for national policy consultation at the Ounce of Prevention Fund. Kirwan provides strategic direction and leadership to the Ounce of Prevention Fund's policy work outside of Illinois. Prior to her current position, she served as the vice president for institutional advancement and the assistant director of Kids PEPP, the Ounce's policy and advocacy division in Illinois. She is a graduate fellow of ZERO TO THREE: National Center for Infants, Toddlers, and Families.

Debra Williams (moderator) is the associate editor of *Catalyst* magazine. She came to *Catalyst* in 1992 while working on a master's degree in journalism at Columbia College. Her beats are teacher issues, school leadership, early childhood education, Title I spending, and community involvement. Previously, she worked in the communications offices of several hospitals.