

HOW OUR CURRENT BUDGET PRIORITIES ARE SHAPING OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Miriam Calderon is a senior partner at School Readiness Consulting. Most recently, she served as a political appointee in the Obama administration advising on early learning policy at the White House Domestic Policy Council and at the Department of Health and Human Services. Before joining the administration, Calderon served as the director of early childhood education at DC Public Schools, where she oversaw Head Start and prekindergarten programs serving nearly 5,500 children in 84 elementary schools throughout the city. She worked as the associate director of education policy at the National Council of La Raza, a Hispanic civil rights organization, where she focused specifically on early education policy for Hispanic and dual-language-learner children. She began her career in early education working as a mental health consultant in Head Start programs in Portland, Oregon. She has published several reports on early childhood education, and her work is cited in both the English and Spanish media.

Heather Hahn is a senior research associate in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute. Before joining Urban in 2010, Hahn spent the prior decade at the US Government Accountability Office, where she served most recently as an assistant director for education, workforce, and income security issues. Throughout her career, she has conducted nonpartisan research on a wide range of issues related to the well-being of children and families, including Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, and other supports for low-income families, as well as education, labor, and other policy issues. Hahn has extensive experience designing and conducting case studies related to the implementation of supports for low-income families. At the Urban Institute, Hahn has also collaborated on several reports examining federal spending and tax expenditures on children, and currently coleads the evaluation of the Work Support Strategies initiative. She received a master's of public policy from Duke University and a PhD in political science from Stanford University.

Ron Haskins is a senior fellow in the Economic Studies program at the Brookings Institution, where he codirects both the Center on Children and Families and the Budgeting for National Priorities project. He is also a senior consultant at the Annie E. Casey Foundation. In his Washington career, he has focused on early childhood education, marriage and family formation, poverty, equal opportunity, abused and neglected children, and budget issues. In 2002, Haskins was Senior Advisor to the President for Welfare Policy at the White House. Prior to joining Brookings and Casey, he spent 14 years on the staff of the House Ways and Means Human Resources subcommittee, serving as the subcommittee's staff director after Republicans became the majority party in the House in 1994. He was editor of 1996, 1998, and 2000 editions of the House Ways and Means *Green Book*. In 1997, Haskins was selected by the *National Journal* as one of the 100 most influential people in the federal government. From 1981 to 1985, he was a senior researcher at the Frank Porter Graham Child Development Center at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He holds a bachelor's degree in history, a master's in teaching, and a PhD in developmental psychology from the University of North Carolina.

Julia Isaacs is a senior fellow in the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute. Isaacs is an expert in child and family policy with wide-ranging knowledge about government programs that serve low-income families. Before joining Urban in 2012, she spent six years at the Brookings Institution, where she wrote extensively about federal spending on children, child poverty, the effects of the recession on children, and economic mobility across generations. She was also a senior researcher at the American Institutes for Research (1995–98) and has been a visiting scholar at the Institute for Research on Poverty. Isaacs has spent more than half her career in government, as a budget analyst at the Congressional Budget Office (1985–95) and as a senior civil servant at the Department of Health and Human Services (1998–2006). While at the Congressional Budget Office, she was responsible for analyzing the cost impact of legislation affecting food stamps, child nutrition, child care, and child welfare programs. At the Department of Health and Human Services, she directed a team of data analysts and researchers in the office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and provided senior officials with analyses of legislative and budgetary proposals related to welfare reform, child care, and other human services policies. Isaacs has a master's degree in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley.

Eugene Steuerle is an Institute fellow and the Richard B. Fischer Chair at the Urban Institute. Among past positions, he has served as deputy assistant secretary of the Treasury for tax analysis (1987–89), president of the National Tax Association (2001–02), codirector of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, and chair of the 1999 technical panel advising Social Security on its methods and assumptions. Between 1984 and 1986 he served as economic coordinator and original organizer of the Treasury's tax reform effort. Steuerle is a cofounder of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and the Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy. He serves or has served as an elected, appointed, advisory panel, or board member for the Congressional Budget Office, Comptroller General of the United States, the Joint Committee on Taxation, Venture Philanthropy Partners, the National Center on Philanthropy and the Law, the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics, the Independent Sector, the Council on Foundations, the National Academy of Social Insurance, and the Journal of Economic Perspectives, among others. Among other honors, he received the first Bruce Davie-Albert Davis Public Service Award from the National Tax Association in 2005.

Ruby Takanishi is senior research fellow at the New America Foundation's Early Education Initiative. From 1996 to 2012, she was president and CEO of the Foundation for Child Development, a national philanthropy that funded research and policy efforts related to children living in immigrant families and integrating prekindergarten into public education. Takanishi was executive director of the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development of Carnegie Corporation of New York, which focused on middle school reform, adolescent health, and youth development programs. She served as assistant director for behavioral and social sciences and education in the president's Office of Science and Technology Policy, working on a federal audit of research and development support for children, and as a congressional science fellow in the US Senate focusing on appropriations in education and health. Takanishi was on the faculties at the University of California, Los Angeles; Yale University; Teachers College, Columbia University; and Bank Street College of Education. She is a recipient of the Fred Rogers Leadership Award in Children, Youth and Family Philanthropy; the Distinguished Public Service Award from the American Education Research Association; and the Distinguished Research in Policy Awards from the Society for Research in Child Development and from the American Psychological Association.