

Jonathan Chaparro

Executive Director, Innovation & Head of Chicago Region, *Braven*

Jonathan is the Executive Director of Innovation & Head of Chicago for Braven. At Braven, Jonathan sits on the national leadership team and manages strategy for BravenX and Braven Online. Jonathan is a 2017 Surge Institute Fellow, a 2020 Chicago Council on Global Affairs Emerging Leader, and a 2023 Kellogg Youn Impact Leader. He serves on the national boards of BES, and the Chicago Artists Coalition, and is a part of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago's Advisory Council on Small Business, Community and Economic Development, Agriculture and Labor. He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa, a master's in teaching from Dominican University, and an MBA from Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management. Prior to his role at Braven, Jonathan held a variety of roles in recruitment, talent development, CSR, and marketing for an array of nonprofit and corporate organizations including Teach For America, Noble Schools, ArcelorMittal, McKinsey & Company, and Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP.

Mary Alice McCarthy

Senior Director, Center on Education & Labor, *New America*

Mary Alice McCarthy is the founder and senior director of the Center on Education & Labor. CELNA's work spans the policy domains of education, labor, and workforce development and seeks to connect them in ways that enhance economic mobility and reduce inequality. McCarthy's writing has been featured in a diverse set of media outlets including Washington Monthly, The Atlantic, Forbes, and the Journal on Community College Research and Practice. McCarthy serves on the board of directors of Achieving the Dream and the national advisory board of the John J. Heldrich Center on Workforce Development at Rutgers University. She also participates in a wide variety of public engagement, technical assistance, and coalition-building efforts aimed at improving postsecondary education policy and practice.

Prior to joining New America, McCarthy worked at both the U.S. Departments of Education and Labor, where she drafted policy guidance and led a variety of technical assistance initiatives related to community colleges, career pathways, credentialing, and competency-based education. McCarthy has extensive international experience, including collaborations with the OECD's Directorate for Education and Skills and the International Pathways Colloquium.

McCarthy earned a PhD in political science from the University of North Carolina. Her doctoral research examined the impact of neoliberal economic reforms implemented during the Pinochet regime on the Chilean labor movement before, during, and after Chile's transition to democracy. Mary Alice also has an MPA from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.