

AFN Webinar: Children's Savings Account Survey of Private and Public Funding 2021
December 7, 2022
Speaker Bios



Amanda Feinstein
Founder, Brilliant Baby Program at Oakland Promise

Amanda has a long history of leadership in the asset building field, promoting strategies for wealth equity from roles in philanthropy, local government and the non-profit sectors. As a Senior Program Officer at the Walter and Elise Haas Fund in San Francisco for more than a decade, Amanda was a founding board member of Asset Funders Network. More recently she was a founding senior staff member of the Oakland Promise, and director of its Brilliant

Baby CSA program. Currently Amanda is working as a consultant supporting the development of CSA programs and policy in California and nationally.



Dr. Rebecca Loya
Senior Research Associate, Institute for Economic and Racial Equity, Brandeis University

Dr. Rebecca Loya is a Research Scientist at the Institute for Economic and Racial Equity at Brandeis University's Heller School for Social Policy and Management. For the past ten years, Dr. Loya and her team have studied and supported Children's Savings Accounts and other asset building programs for low- and moderate-income families.

In addition to the CSA Funding Survey, the team's recent work includes an evaluation of the Massachusetts BabySteps Savings Plan and research on equitable and inclusive program design.



Julio Martinez
Executive Director, ScholarShare Investment Board

Julio Martinez is the Executive Director of the ScholarShare Investment Board, a role he has held since January 2015. As Director, he oversees the administration, direction and promotion of California's ScholarShare 529 College Savings Plan and its statewide savings initiatives, such as the California Kids

Investment and Development Savings Program (CalKIDS).

Prior to his role with the ScholarShare Investment Board, Julio spent nearly 14 years serving in numerous legislative and public policy-related capacities, including Deputy Controller for the State Controller's Office and Chief of Staff in the California State Legislature. His career, however, began in the field of student affairs, where he dedicated himself to helping students gain access to and succeed in higher education.

Julio received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from California State University, Los Angeles and his Master of Arts degree in Student Affairs Administration from Michigan State University.



Maggie Snyder
Asset Funders Network

Maggie Snyder serves as a consultant at Asset Funders Network. In this role, she focuses on coordinating the Network's Children's Savings Account efforts and engaging funders in Pennsylvania, as well as developing strategies and programming focused on higher education.

Alongside Maggie's work at AFN, she supports other nonprofit and postsecondary education and workforce-focused clients to increase equitable economic opportunities for individuals and communities. Her current clients include JFF, Research for Action, and Common Group. Previously, Maggie served as a program officer at ECMC Foundation in the career readiness division. There she was responsible for managing a portfolio focused on improving opportunity and outcomes for adult learners.

Maggie holds a master's of public policy, with a focus on education policy, from Vanderbilt University and a bachelor's degree in sociology/anthropology from Denison University. Maggie resides in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



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