

Pat Cooper, PhD
Chief Executive Officer
Early Childhood and Family Learning Foundation
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Dr. Pat Cooper currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer of the Early Childhood and Family Learning Foundation in New Orleans, LA. The goals of the Foundation include establishing community centers in the most economically depressed and crime-ridden neighborhoods of New Orleans. These centers will establish universal, quality early child care programs in the neighborhoods and universal, quality coordinated school health programs in the schools of that neighborhood while providing a one-stop health, social service, and education opportunity for the community.

Just prior to the New Orleans appointment, Dr. Cooper served as Superintendent of Schools in McComb, Mississippi. He served in that capacity for ten years and is in his fortieth year of public education service. While in McComb, the McComb School District implemented a planned thirteen year longitudinal study relative to the relationship of coordinated school health programs to school reform. Valuable baseline data and successive year data has been collected. The results have been extremely positive to this point. There have been significant documented gains in the academic, social, and emotional arenas.

It was the belief in McComb, Mississippi, and now in New Orleans, that successful negotiation up through Maslow's "Hierarchy of Needs" is key to the success of educational reform, and that early childhood education and coordinated school health programs are the avenues best used to satisfy those needs.

Dr. Cooper earned his undergraduate and master's level education degrees at Louisiana State University and his doctorate in education administration at the University of Northern Colorado.

Dr. Cooper has served as a classroom teacher of the emotionally disturbed, principal, university faculty member, and as Assistant State Superintendent in the Louisiana State Department of Education. Prior to becoming superintendent in McComb, Pat served four years as Executive Director for the CDC funded National School Health Education Coalition (NaSHEC) in Washington, DC.

Dr. Cooper serves as a national expert consultant in the areas of promotion of early childhood education/ care and coordinated school health and has done so for the past twenty-five years. Dr. Cooper was twice invited to testify before the Congress of the United States as well as before several state legislatures. He has performed work in 47 states and five foreign countries for a variety of organizations and agencies.

Barbara Flis, BIS

Founder

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Barb Flis, Founder of Parent Action for Healthy Kids, has more than 15 years of experience working with parents and teachers in the arena of HIV and sexuality education. She has advanced training and experience in effective professional development for adult learners. Ms. Flis has provided training and technical assistance to sex education trainers in every corner of the State of Michigan. She is a nationally recognized expert, keynoting conferences for professionals working in school health, teen pregnancy prevention, education professionals and parent education. Her work coordinating the former Michigan Governor's Talk Early & Talk Often program has been cited in the national press, including *Newsweek*.

Sarah Fraley, LMSW, ACSW

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Sarah Fraley has 17 years of experience in the world of micro and macro social work. Her work includes school-based health center social work and programming; medical social work; mental health consulting with the Michigan Primary Care Association; adjunct faculty teaching with the University of Michigan School of Social Work; and psychotherapy with adults and adolescents. Most recently, she has focused her study on Motivational Interviewing and is a member of MINT, (Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers). She provides beginning and advanced trainings in Michigan for mental and physical health practitioners. She has presented nationally in the use of Cognitive Behavioral Therapy with adolescents and in using motivational interviewing for positive behavior change.

She earned her Master's degree in Social Work from The University of Michigan in 1994 and her Bachelor's degree in psychology from Eastern Michigan University in 1991.

Bob Higgins, MA, ICPS, CPC-R
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Bob Higgins received his BA in 1977 and MA in Educational Leadership in 1985 both from Western Michigan University. He completed coursework for an EdS at the University of Michigan. Bob is a certified prevention consultant through the Michigan Certification Board of Addiction Professionals and a certified prevention specialist through the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium. He is currently the Safe Schools Consultant in the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs Unit at the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). He also serves as the Project Director of the Building State Capacity Grant and the Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – both from the United States Department of Education, as the co-project manager of the Sexual Minority Youth Project, and is a member of the Crisis Management Core Team for the MDE.

Bob is a co-chair of the School/Public Health Pandemic Issues Workgroup, and a member of the Michigan Department of Community Health's Pandemic Influenza Coordinating Committee, and the Michigan Department of Technology, Management and Budget's Continuity of Government Working Group. He also serves as MDE's representative to the State Emergency Operations Center.

Bob has been in education for 37 years, first, as a teacher and an administrator in both public and private schools and later as a consultant and program manager for the Calhoun Intermediate School District. He is a member of the following organizations: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Learning Forward, Education Law Association, American School Health Association, and Phi Delta Kappa.

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Lauren received her BSW in 1993 and her MSW in 1994 both from the University of Illinois in Chicago, Jane Addams College of Social Work. As a licensed professional, she worked in inner city Chicago as a therapist for children in foster care. She later worked as a school social worker in Ohio and Michigan and continued as a therapist part-time. Her work in the school system then led her to an administrative position as a Mental Health Consultant for the Michigan Departments of Community Health and Education.

Currently Lauren serves as a Mental Health Consultant at the Michigan Department of Education, where she works on various School Mental Health initiatives.

Kim Kovalchick, LMSW, MPH, CHES
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Kim Kovalchick, LMSW, MPH, CHES, is the Evaluation Consultant in the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit at the Michigan Department of Education. Kim coordinates implementation of the Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey and Michigan School Health Profiles, and supports the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth. She provides support in the unit with grant writing and budget development, health education and communication, committee facilitation, report writing and overall project coordination.

Kim serves on the Michigan Asthma Advisory Committee school subgroup and the Michigan Child Death State Advisory Team. She holds dual masters degrees in both public health and social work from the University of Michigan.

Scott Koziol
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Scott Koziol was a fourth and fifth grade teacher for 11 years in the Napoleon Community Schools. During this time he also served as the district's school improvement chair for four years. He then accepted a District Curriculum Director position at Vandercook Lake Public Schools where he stayed for three years, before moving onto an Educational Consultant for School Improvement and Social Studies at the Jackson Intermediate School District.

Scott worked with 13 local districts over a three year period. He also spent a great deal of time working with the Michigan Department of Education as an original member of the Michigan Continuous School Improvement (Mi-CSI) team. The main focus was to bring together all of the required plans into one template. This template is now housed on the Advanc-ED website. After being granted a leave of absence by the ISD, Scott served as an Interim Superintendent for Michigan Center School District that spanned three months. In March 2011, he was appointed to his current position as District Superintendent for Michigan Center School District.

Jim O'Neill, PhD

Associate Vice President for University Accreditation

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Dr. O'Neill serves as an evaluation consultant to the Michigan Departments of Education (MDE) and Community Health (MDCH) on initiatives involving health promotion, prevention and coordinated school health. As Senior Consultant for *O'Neill Consulting* (Novi, MI), he has led more than 75 comprehensive evaluation projects and helped secure over \$15 million in competitive grants offered by national, state, and local government agencies as well as foundations.

His service includes evaluation advising at the local and state level, as well for national organizations/agencies such as the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and the American Cancer Society's Coordinated School Health Leadership Institute.

Currently an Associate Vice-President at Madonna University in Livonia, Dr. O'Neill formerly was Professor of Psychology at MU, during which time he taught research and evaluation courses for 17 years and authored numerous peer-reviewed presentations and publications. Recognition for his work includes Madonna's Faculty Excellence Award (2004) and the Harrison Award from the Michigan Department of Education and Michigan Department of Community Health (2007) for distinguished service and commitment to school health.

Dr. O'Neill holds a BA in Psychology and Sociology from The University of Michigan-Dearborn and MA and PhD in Life-Span Developmental Psychology from Wayne State University (WSU). He received pre-doctoral training in evaluation at the Department of Community Health, Wayne State University (WSU) Medical School, and in research on the influence of prenatal alcohol and other drug exposure on infant and child development at the WSU Fetal Alcohol Research Center.

Dennis Sparks, PhD
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Dennis Sparks is Emeritus Executive Director of the National Staff Development Council (NSDC, now known as Learning Forward). He served as NSDC's executive director from 1984-2007 and currently serves as a "thinking partner" to school and school system leadership teams.

Dennis has spoken to countless educational groups throughout North America and around the world and has published on a wide variety of subjects in most major educational publications. He is the author of *Leading for Results: Transforming Teaching, Learning, and Relationships in Schools* and of *Leadership 180: Daily Meditations for School Leaders*, among other books. Dennis' professional purpose is the dramatic improvement in the quality of leadership, teaching, and learning in schools so that all students thrive academically and are surrounded by supportive relationships.

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Tracy Wilson is a Support Coordinator for the School Based Health Centers in Roscommon County. She has a bachelor of science in Health Education and is a licensed Social Worker in Michigan. She is a certified True Colors facilitator and serves on the Board of Directors for the International True Colors Association. She has been providing True Colors programs across Michigan since 2001.