

Ana Luz Gonzalez-Vasquez, PhD



Dr. Ana Luz Gonzalez-Vasquez, (MA, Ph.D.) has over 17 years of experience conducting quantitative and qualitative research and using a participatory and popular education approach to engage research participants in the conceptualization and production of knowledge. In 2006, Dr. Gonzalez Vasquez was the Project Manager for the National Day Labor Project, the first comprehensive study of day laborers and day labor worker centers across the nation. At the UCLA Labor Center, she is leading work focused on building a high road economy and prosperity for all through research, education, evaluation, and coalition and movement building.

Christopher J. Nellum, PhD



Dr. Christopher J. Nellum is the Executive Director of EdTrust–West, an evidence-driven advocacy organization committed to advancing policies and practices to dismantle the racial and economic barriers embedded in the California education system. He has led successful advocacy efforts to ensure equity in the K-12 accountability system, create a statewide cradle-to-career data system, address food insecurity for college students, ensure that every high school senior completes a financial aid application before they graduate, and defend fairness in college admissions. Before joining EdTrust–West, Nellum was at the National Center for Institutional Diversity, Young Invincibles, and the American Council on Education. Chris serves on several statewide committees, including a recent gubernatorial appointment, the advisory boards of the New Leadership Academy and GENup, and the Board of Directors of the James B. McClatchy Foundation and Swipe Out Hunger. Nellum completed his undergraduate degree at UC Santa Barbara, master's degree at CSU Long Beach, and Ph.D. at the University of Michigan. You can follow him on X (formerly known as Twitter) at @chrisnellum.

Liberty Van Natten



Liberty Van Natten is an Education Research and Evaluation Administrator in the Analysis, Measurement, and Accountability Reporting Division at the California Department of Education. She previously served as the Department's Foster Youth Data Liaison. Before joining the Department, Liberty worked for local educational agencies conducting research and evaluation and taught English as a Second Language at both the high school and post-secondary levels. Liberty holds an undergraduate degree in English from California State University, Chico and a graduate degree in Linguistics from the University of California, Davis.