

Community  
Engagement  
Letters of Support

**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 10:37:53 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 10:00 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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Good morning,

I am writing to express my support for Jewyl Alderson as a candidate for the Community Engagement Advisory Board for California's Cradle-to-Career System. Jewyl is a tremendous asset to us in San Diego County in supporting innovative work, community engagement, and collaboration around CTE and career pathways. Jewyl has championed collaboration across districts and sectors throughout the region through a variety of events, such as the CTE roadshows which bring together teachers, students, administrators, community partners and industry partners from across the region to learn from one another and to share and celebrate the great work being done throughout San Diego. Jewyl would undoubtedly be an impactful member of the Community Engagement Advisory Board and I enthusiastically recommend her for membership.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Thank you,

**Bryan Brockett, Ed. D.**  
*Director, Secondary Education*  
*Carlsbad Unified School District*

[REDACTED]



**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 3:04:45 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.png

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 2:42 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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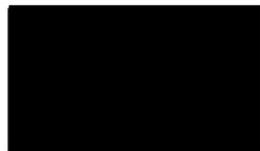
Dear Marykate Cruz Jones,

This is to submit a comment in support of applicant Jewyl Alderson. I am the FBLA/CTE Business/Entrepreneurship coordinator along with being the Academic Counselor at a small charter school in San Diego County, Dimensions Collaborative School. Jewyl is absolutely amazing in organizing CTE meetings, conferences and helping all of us network. You would be getting a highly organized, easy to work with, on top of her game member to join this advisory board.

Thank you for your time,



**Greg Hawkins**  
**NCC, NCSC**  
**Academic**  
**Counselor**



*Helping students discover, refine, and develop their gifts, talents, passions, and abilities in ways that benefit themselves and others as they prepare for the future.*

**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 3:04:00 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 1:44 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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Dear Ms. Cruz Jones,

I am writing in support of Jewyl Alderson, candidate for the Community Engagement Advisory Board. I work with Jewyl on several state level networks supporting Career Technical Education. Over the last few years, Jewyl has been a leader in developing Communities of Practice where leaders gather to solve issues facing Career Education. This includes establishing a County Office CTE network and a subgroup focused on CTE in Alternative Education. She has led this collaborative work with a focus on data and the impact for students.

Ms. Alderson will be a great asset to the advisory board. Thank you for your consideration.

Hilary Dito  
Contra Costa County Office of Education  
Director, College and Career Readiness  
[REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: J. Alderson  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 10:37:45 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.png

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 8:16 AM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** J. Alderson

**CAUTION:** This email originated from a NON-State email address. Do not click links or open attachments unless you are certain of the sender's authenticity.

Good Day Marykate Cruz Jones:

I am sending this message in support of Jewyl Alderson as a candidate for the Community Engagement Advisory Board of the California Cradle-to-Career System. Jewyl has a depth of knowledge related to many areas which would make her a great addition to the Board. She also has strong connections with many educational leaders which would allow her to share input from across the state.

Thank you,

# Janice Rogge



Coordinator, MCOE  
Regional Occupational Program (ROP)/Career Technical Education (CTE)



**MCROP: Specializing in Career and College Transitions**

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**Subject:** FW: Community Engagement Advisory Board Applicant - letter of support  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 3:04:29 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 1:58 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Community Engagement Advisory Board Applicant - letter of support

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June 13, 2023

**Subject: Letter of Support for Jewyl Alderson/SDCOE on the Community Engagement Advisory Board.**

Dear Ms Cruz Jones,

I am writing to express my strong support for **Jewyl Alderson's** consideration as a member of the Community Engagement Advisory Board. I have had the privilege of working closely with Jewyl and can attest to her exceptional expertise and commitment to education, data and analysis as it relates to Career Technical Education (CTE).

Jewyl has a profound understanding of the California School Dashboard College and Career Indicator as well as the actual workings of individual schools and districts. Her past experience as a CTE educator allows her to work towards systemic change within pathways. Jewyl's dedication to accurate and meaningful representation of the field's perspectives would undoubtedly contribute significantly to the committee's discussions and decision-making process.

Having collaborated with Jewyls on numerous CTE projects, I have witnessed firsthand her ability to synthesize, think critically and propose solutions. She has completed this as she possesses excellent communication skills and has consistently demonstrated her commitment to collaboration and consensus building. Jewyl is highly respected within the CTE educational leadership community and her inclusion in the advisory committee would represent a collective expertise of our region.

Should you require any further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate contact me.

Sincerely,

**Paula Ann Trevino**

Paula Ann Trevino



Image removed by sender.



"Education is learning what you didn't even know you didn't know." - Daniel J. Boorstin

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**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 3:04:15 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 1:56 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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Dear Cradle-to-Career,

I am writing today to provide a recommendation for Jewyl Anderson to be a member of the Community Engagement Advisory Board. For many years now, I frequently rely on Jewyl as a thought partner to provide advice on how Coronado Unified can have an impact on the goals of the region. She helps me be efficient and effective in our work. Jewyl has the expertise and experience to make sure ALL students in our region have equitable access to a living-wage career. I highly recommend her nomination and know that she will help the state of CA become a better place for ALL residents of this beautiful state.

Thanks,  
Shane

Shane Schmeichel (he/him/his)  
Director of Special Programs  
Coronado Unified School District

[REDACTED]

**\* CONNECT \* CHALLENGE \* CHAMPION**  
*Every Child, Every Day!*

Support the Coronado Schools Foundation: <https://csfkids.org/>  
Support Coronado School of the Arts: <http://cosafoundation.org/>

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**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 at 11:50:36 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 10:20 AM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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Attention Marycate Cruz Jones,

I am writing in support of Jew Alderson's application to join the Community Engagement Advisory Board for California's Cradle-to-Career System, which I am excited to say our district and office of education joined CCGI this year.

Jewyl Alderson has the vision for all California education and career stakeholders to communicate and act collaboratively to move us all toward our shared goals, and the tenacity to identify challenges and initiate resolve with enormous stakeholder participation.

Recognizing student and LEA hurdles from collected Data, Jewyl developed a statewide County Office of Education monthly collaborative educator leadership meeting where she encourages new ideas, and discussions around local and state challenges, and our successes. She is always welcoming, and easy to work with.

I believe that Jewyl Alderson would be an asset to the Community Engagement Advisory Board. As her work dives deeply into the California School Dashboard College and Career Indicator, alternative schools, other education data, workforce data, and post-secondary engagement and alignment,

I look forward to the Community Engagement Advisory Board's creation of strong feedback loops with data users to support evidence-based decision-making, analytical capacity, and equitable access to actionable information.

Gina Pixler, CTE Coordinator  
Plumas USD, COE & ROCP  
[Schedule a 30-Minute Zoom Meeting here](#)

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicant Jewel Alderson  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 at 11:50:42 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image005.png

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 5:17 PM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicant Jewel Alderson

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Dear Ms. Cruz Jones,  
My name is Jamie Davenport and I am a coordinator for the K16 Collaborative Grant / Border Region Talent Pipeline Project. I am writing to support the candidacy of **Jewyl Alderson** for the Community Engagement Advisory Board. I have known Jewyl for several years and have worked closely with her on several projects. She is a dedicated and dynamic educator who has a deep knowledge of the California School Dashboard College and Career Indicator, Career and Technical Education, alternative schools, work-based learning, and post-secondary engagement/alignment. She is a clear and effective communicator who is trusted and respected throughout the San Diego region. She would make an excellent addition to this committee.  
Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or concerns.  
Warm Regards,

Jamie Davenport  
Coordinator, K-16 Collaborative



**Subject:** FW: Community Engagement Advisory Board recommendation  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 2:24:26 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.png

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 10:23 AM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Community Engagement Advisory Board recommendation

Hello Marykate

I am recommending consideration of Jewyl Alderson to become a member of the Cradle to Career Community Engagement Advisory Board.

I have had the pleasure of working with Jewyl for several years. She has regularly demonstrated her ability to support evidence-based decision making, analytical capacity, and equitable access to actionable information through her active participation in discussions to improve the California School Dashboard College and Career Indicator and work-based learning.

Jewyl is always an active, thoughtful participant, and also provides leadership when she sees a need, as with the voluntary convening of County Office Education staff to discuss the career technical education needs of county offices and alternative education programs.

Jewyl will offer thoughtful, experience-based input to the work of the Community Engagement Advisory Board.

John

John Merris-Coots [pronouns: he/him](#)  
California Career Resource Network  
California Department of Education  
[www.californiacareers.info](http://www.californiacareers.info)



**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Monday, June 19, 2023 at 11:50:57 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** Info@C2C  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 10:39 AM  
**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

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I highly recommend Jewyl Alderson for selection to the Community Engagement Advisory Board for California's Cradle-to-Career System.

Jewyl is knowledgeable, passionate, and experienced with workforce development initiatives, evidenced-based decision making, capacity building, and creating equitable environments for our young people to fully participate and contribute to our state's economy. Jewyl has demonstrated, over the years, to represent all in our region to provide post-secondary engagement and alignment between our K12 and post-secondary systems, and to share pertinent information with the field to improve outcomes. She will serve as a strong, contributing leader on your committee.

Lynn McConville  
Director, CTAE



Poway Unified School District  
Career Technical Education



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**Subject:** FW: Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 2:23:13 PM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** Info@C2C

**To:** [REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 at 2:22 PM

**To:** "Info@C2C" <Info@c2c.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants

**CAUTION:** This email originated from a NON-State email address. Do not click links or open attachments unless you are certain of the sender's authenticity.

Hello,

I am writing this email to support Jewyl Alderson in her application to the Community Engagement Advisory Board for the California's Cradle to Career System.

I have worked with Jewyl for several years in the Career Technical Education field. Over the years I have attended several events that Jewyl has hosted including leadership meetings, workshops, data presentations etc. As a leader Jewyl is always prepared, informed, enthusiastic, personable and professional. She stays current with data and continuously shares that data with CTE leaders across the county. Jewyl has created a variety of communication opportunities for our county. She shares information through meetings, workshops, podcasts, and newsletters to encourage all of us to make evidence-based decisions. She helps us break down and analyze the data for our schools and districts which enables us to make informed decisions. Jewyl provides opportunities and encourages the CTE leadership across our county to engage with each other, share best practices and create pathways based on the most current data. She also shares methods/techniques for collecting data regarding our programs. Jewyl would be a fabulous representative on this board because she has the skills and experience to apply evidence-based decision making based on interpreting analytical data. She knows how to create equitable access for all students based on actionable information. I believe Jewyl would bring an incredible amount of experience and enthusiasm to the Community Engagement Advisory Board for California's Cradle-to-Career System. I strongly encourage you to consider Jewyl Alderson's application for a position on the Community Engagement Advisory Board.

Thank you,

Shari

--

Shari L Duran

SWP/CTE Coordinator, Induction Mentor

Steele Canyon High School

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Jewyl Alderson-Community Engagement Advisory Board  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 12:00:01 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Info@C2C  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png

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I cannot imagine a more productive addition to California's Cradle-to-Career System than Jewyl Alderson. I've worked with her for the better part of a decade, and she's one of the most thoughtful, productive, and intelligent people doing the important work of preparing students for college and career. She's a whiz with data, and has an uncanny knack for helping users digest and make meaning of it.

Please accept my sincere support for her addition to the advisory board. You will not regret it.

**Joe Austin**  
Career Education Specialist



Poway Unified School District  
Career Technical Education



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**Subject:** Item 5: Community Engagement Advisory Boards Applicants  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 4:01:53 PM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Info@C2C  
**Attachments:** image001.jpg

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Marykate Cruz Jones,

This email is in support of Jewyl Alderson's application for appointment to the Community Engagement Advisory Board. I have worked with Ms Alderson for the past 7 years and know how committed she is to ensure all youth are provided high quality education and are provided access and opportunity to innovative educational programming that increases their future economic opportunity.

Ms Alderson's work to support our region's K12 districts in developing their college and career readiness programs is data informed and includes the latest local and state labor market information, relevant CDE, CA Community College Chancellor's Office, and national policy/practice focused on improving outcomes for students.

Without a doubt, Ms. Alderson would be a great addition to the Community Engagement Advisory Board.

Margie de Ruyter, M.PA  
Coordinator, College and Career Readiness  
Innovation Division  
San Diego County Office of Education





**Subject Line: Public Comment for Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board in Support of Natasha Hall-Sevilla**

Dear Committee for the Selection of Advisory Boards,

June 20, 2023

I am writing in support of Natasha Hall-Sevilla as a candidate for the Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board. As the Medical Director of The Primary School, East Bay, I have had the pleasure of working with Natasha for the past three years. During this time, I have been impressed and inspired by the deep dedication she has shown to the health and wellness of our East Bay community.

In my work as a pediatrician, I have always seen family wellness as an integral component of children's health. Natasha shares this perspective and has been an invaluable partner to me as we have worked to provide holistic support to The Primary School's families. Her background working in early education and social and family services, combined with her warmth and compassion, have been an enormous asset in this work. Each day, she brings a sense of optimism and a strength-based approach to our work that is truly unique. I have found her to be an inspiring leader for our teams and equally comfortable in systems-based thinking and handling details.

Natasha had dedicated her career to creating stronger families and communities, and I see her interest in serving on the Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board as a natural extension of that work. I sincerely hope you will consider her a superior candidate for this Board. She has a great deal to contribute.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Espinas, MD  
Medical Director  
The Primary School, East Bay  
The Permanente Medical Group  
Kaiser Hayward Pediatrics



**Subject Line: Public Comment for Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board in Support of Natasha Hall-Sevilla**

June 21, 2023

Dear Committee for the Selection of Advisory Boards,

We are writing to express our support for Natasha Hall-Sevilla as a candidate for the Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board. As Executive Director of The Primary School - East Bay, Natasha has demonstrated leadership skills, consideration for adult caregivers and family wellness, and the ability to employ a data-informed approach.

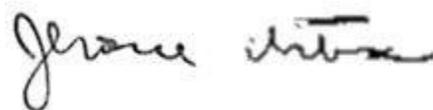
In the early childhood education field, academic progress for children is often the sole focus of staff, parents, and data systems. However, Natasha recognizes that parents need to be well in order for their children to thrive. She has been an advocate for the Parent Wellness program at The Primary School, where parents partner with a Parent Wellness Coach to develop plans for reaching their goals, identify sources of support within their networks, and create strategies to support the wellbeing of their whole family, including themselves. Natasha's experience as a Parent Wellness Coach and as Executive Director has allowed her to develop a unique perspective that deeply understands the important connection between children's academic and social emotional achievement and the wellbeing of their adult caregivers.

Natasha has an extensive background of serving children and families, spanning over 20 years that includes experience with Headstart, involvement in a partnership with medical systems via Kaiser Permanente, serving as a Parent Wellness Coach and social worker, among many other roles. In addition, her lived experience as the first to graduate high school in her family gives her a unique lens in advocacy work with children and families.

With her distinct approach to early childhood education, we eagerly support Natasha's appointment to the Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board. She is in touch with the strengths and challenges that families with young children encounter, is experienced in child development, and uses data to inform programming decisions. Through her work with children, early childhood educators, and families, we are confident that Natasha will be a valuable addition to the Cradle-to-Career Community Engagement Advisory Board by advocating for equity in data usage and having a true understanding of the cradle to career pathway.

- Nerissa Broughton, Senior Manager of 2Gen Programming, The Primary School
- Rae Calderon, Associate Teacher, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Dr. Katherine Carter, EdLD Director of School Program, The Primary School
- Nathalie Carvajal Director of Operations and Integration, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Vosa Cavu-Litman, Director of Partnerships, The Primary School - East Bay
- Lisette Espinoza, Senior Operations Associate, Parent Program and Birth to 3, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Rosio Gallo-Casillas, Senior Manager of Parent Program & Birth-to-Three, The Primary School - East Bay
- Martha Paramo Garcia, Community and Parent Engagement Manager, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Mary Gaston, Director of Program, The Primary School - East Bay
- Blanca Herrera, M.A. Principal, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Lindsey Luebchow, Vice President of Policy & Growth, The Primary School
- McHale Newport-Berra, Vice President of Learning and Innovation, The Primary School
- Jenny Nguyen, Early Childhood Education Interventionist The Primary School - East Bay
- Klaressa Ortiz, Parent Wellness Coach, The Primary School - East Palo Alto
- Jessica Pablo, Early Childhood Education Senior Manager, The Primary School - East Bay
- Liz Varela Manager of Talent Acquisition, The Primary School
- Marco Villa, Director of Human Resources, The Primary School
- Shawneece Stevenson, MSW, RPFI, ATMHP Manager of Family Success Coaching, The Primary School

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerome Intia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rodel "Jerome" Intia  
Vice President of External Relations  
The Primary School



June 22, 2022

Marykate Cruz Jones  
Chief of Strategic Partnerships and Initiatives  
Cradle-To-Career Data System

Dear Ms. Jones,

I am writing on behalf of uAspire to provide our strongest recommendation for Parshan Khosravi as a C2C Community Engagement Advisory Board member. The vision and critical mission of C2C can only be realized with strong advisory board members who can apply their deep knowledge and utilize their networks across California to provide proper outreach, education, and strategic partnership. That is why Parshan is uniquely fit to support that mission.

As uAspire's California Policy Director, Parshan has led our FA4All Coalition, a coalition of various statewide, regional, and local organizations working to expand access to, and completion of, FAFSA and CADAA applications. As a coalition, we were able to support a historic rise of financial aid application completion in California through a coordinated effort that included strategic partnerships and outreach campaigns at both a grass-roots and grass-top level. Parshan's creative solutions and deeply-rooted network of community organizations and stakeholders was paramount to the success of these efforts, and his leadership allowed us to connect with hard-to-reach communities that had historically never been engaged or included.

As a C2C Community Engagement Advisory Board member, Parshan will continue to build upon the successes as described above. Parshan's strong relationship and connection with the three public post-secondary student associations in California, coupled with his direct experience with students and families, and his depth of knowledge on the C2C Data System will make him a critical asset to the Community Engagement Advisory Board. His membership on the advisory board will directly result in strong and strategic engagement of communities across California in order to raise awareness of the data system and ensure its usage by students, families, educators, researchers, and policymakers in a student-centered and community-informed way. For these reasons, uAspire is proud to recommend Parshan Khosravi to the C2C Community Engagement Advisory board member.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jaclyn Piñero'.

Jaclyn Piñero  
uAspire CEO

**Subject:** Sponsor Letter - C2C Community Engagement and Data Advisory Board  
**Date:** Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 8:58:14 AM Pacific Daylight Time  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** Info@C2C  
**CC:** [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** image001.png, image002.png, image003.png, image004.png, image005.png

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Hello Marykate Jones,

On behalf of the California Cradle to Career Coalition, we would like to provide a written comment, recommending three of our coalition partners who have applied to join the Cradle to Career System Advisory Board: Megan Lowery, James Crandall and Edgar Chavez.

Attached you will find our formal letter. Please let me know if you need anything else.

With thanks,

Emerald Evans  
Policy Associate, C2C  
GRACE/End Child Poverty CA



Connect with Us:





Members, Advisory Board Selection Ad Hoc Committee  
Office of Cradle-to-Career Data System  
400 R Street, Suite 351  
Sacramento, California 95811

**RE: Support for Candidates to Cradle-to-Career System Advisory Boards**

Dear Advisory Board Selection Ad Hoc Committee Members:

On behalf of the California Data 4 The People Coalition, a statewide coalition of data equity experts, practitioners, educators, advocacy organizations, and community members, we write to express strong support for several highly qualified candidates applying to the Cradle-to-Career Data & Tools Advisory Board and the Community Engagement Advisory Board.

As a coalition representative of the stakeholders and communities impacted by the Cradle-to-Career Data System, we write to express support for the candidates who encompass our state's diverse experiences *and* a vision for an equitable data system. To better serve the purpose of the advisory boards, both of whom shape not only the way in which the data system is implemented, but the who and why of the system. With this in mind, the candidates fulfilling the roles within the Data & Tool Advisory Board and the Community Engagement Advisory Board should not only understand the scope of the data system's role in identifying gaps in equity and resources, but the unique needs and challenges that our communities require and face. We believe that the following candidates would bring forth a diverse perspective to answer the challenges we face in implementing the data system and highlight the experiences of communities, practitioners, and advocates alike:

Data & Tools Advisory Board

- Zima Creason, Executive Director, California EDGE Coalition

- Erin Heys, Policy Director & Senior Researcher, Berkeley Institute for Young Americans
- Xilonin Cruz-Gonzalez, Deputy Director, Californians Together
- Sorrel Stielstra, Director of Research, Growing Inland Achievement
- Abe Flores, Deputy Director of Policy & Programs, Create CA
- Dr. Lisa Catanzarite, Vice President, Research and Evaluation, UNITE-LA

Community Engagement Advisory Board

- Katrina Linden, Public Affairs Director, the Campaign for College Opportunity
- Adam Gottlieb, Director, Postsecondary Strategy & Policy, UNITE-LA

We thank you for considering our support for the candidacy of these individuals,

The Data4ThePeople Coalition

Anna Alverado, Policy Director - California EDGE Coalition

Ann Marie Sakrekoff, Interim CEO - Growing Inland Achievement

David Palter, Senior Director, Education & Workforce Development - SVLG

Sarah Swanbeck, Executive Director - Berkeley Institute for Young Americans

Natalie Wheatfall-Lum, Director of P-16 Data - The Education Trust-West

Ajay Lucas, Policy Manager - UNITE-LA

Tom DeCaigny, Executive Director - Create CA

Alfredo Camacho, Western Regional Director - Young Invincibles

Cc: Mary Ann Bates, Executive Director, Office of Cradle-to-Career

Marykate Cruz Jones, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships



June 20, 2023

Members, Cradle-to-Career Data System Governing Board  
Office of Cradle-to-Career Data System  
400 R Street, Suite 351 Sacramento, California 95811

**RE: Support for Candidates to Cradle-to-Career System Advisory Boards**

Dear Cradle-to-Career Governing Board Members:

On behalf of the California Higher Education Equity Coalition, we write to express our strong support for highly qualified candidates applying to the Cradle-to-Career System Data & Tools Advisory Board and the Community Engagement Advisory Board. As leading organizations focused on educational opportunity and racial equity, we have come together to ensure that California state leaders have a laser-focus on higher education access and success and the closure of racial and socio-economic equity gaps. This requires that individuals appointed to California governing boards not only be reflective of the diverse students we serve across the state but understand their unique needs and challenges.

The Data & Tool Advisory Board has the duty of ensuring the data tools outlined within the system provide information that is actionable for practitioners and families. The Community Engagement Advisory Board ensures access to the data system is both equitable and supports evidence-based decision making by providing strong feedback loops in the development of the system. These two 16-member boards should continue to consist of diverse appointees from across the state – representing individuals from various sectors, including research organization staff, advocacy organization staff, practitioners, students, and community organization staff.

With these categories in mind, we strongly support the appointment of the following individuals to the Cradle-to-Career Advisory Boards, all of whom are reflective of our state's immense diversity:

**Data & Tools Advisory Board**

- Zima Creason, Executive Director, California EDGE Coalition
- Erin Heys, Policy Director & Sr. Researcher, Berkeley Institute for Young Americans, Goldman School of Public Policy

## Community Engagement Advisory Board

- Katrina Linden, Public Affairs Director, The Campaign for College Opportunity & the California Undocumented Higher Education Coalition
- Elizabeth Garcia, Economic Development Project Manager, Culver City
- Parshan Khosravi, California Policy Director, uAspire

Advisory board members have proven to be critical in shaping a successful Cradle-to-Career System, helping ensure that the data tools provide actionable information and that the public can use these tools to support evidence-based decision making. It is vital that the individuals appointed to each of these boards have direct experience with the communities who will benefit from and utilize the data system once launched. These individuals have a demonstrated commitment to improving educational access and quality for California's students and will bring valuable experience to these boards.

We thank you for your leadership as you work to launch this historic Cradle-to-Career Data system to help more students reach their college and career goals. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our support further, please reach out to Denise Castro, [dcastro@edtrustwest.org](mailto:dcastro@edtrustwest.org).

Thank you for your leadership,

The California Higher Education Equity Coalition

Su Jin Gatlin Jez  
Executive Director  
California Competes

Anna Alvarado  
Policy Director  
California EDGE Coalition

Jessie Ryan  
Executive Vice President  
Campaign for College  
Opportunity

Denise Castro  
Associate Director of Higher  
Education Policy  
The Education Trust—West

Emmanuel Rodriguez  
Director of Policy and Advocacy  
The Institute for College Access  
& Success (TICAS)

Sbeydeh Viveros-Walton  
Director of Higher Education  
Public Advocate

CC: Mary Ann Miller Bates, Executive Director, Cradle-to-Career Data System Marykate Cruz Jones, Cradle-to-Career Board Liaiso