



Trust for Learning

Ideal learning made real for all.

June 1, 2018

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am writing to let you know that after eight years with Trust for Learning, Stephanie Miller is stepping down as Executive Director to pursue new challenges and achieve greater work/life balance as she begins a new chapter in her life and as her children enter into their formative teen years. While we are sorry to see her go, she will be leaving the Trust in the hands of our highly capable staff and Board team, at a time when the momentum for growth has never been stronger.

Stephanie's passion has always centered on building the foundation on which transformative ideas become great things. That has certainly been the case over the last eight years as she committed herself to making ideal learning a reality for all children, especially those who have the least access to it. Today, Trust for Learning has a strong foundation in place, as evidenced by the following:

- Ideal Learning providers are united as a field of practice and have developed shared principles for what quality looks like in the classroom;
- Researchers are working on measurements and evaluations to strengthen the evidence base for developmental education approaches;
- Our Parents As Consumers research is deepening understanding of parents' aspirations for ECE and how to effectively communicate with them;
- The New Haven Children's Ideal Learning District (NH ChILD) is poised to show how Ideal Learning can be delivered across diverse providers to transform an entire community; and
- We have built capacity to influence state and federal policy.

Most importantly, the Trust has a strategy to build upon these successes to increase the supply of Ideal Learning programs and demand reforms that will enable greater access for more children. With this foundation in place, Stephanie feels the time is right to transition from the organization and leave it in capable hands that are equipped with a solid strategy and committed partners. The challenge ahead is to expand our work to have even greater impact and influence on expanding Ideal Learning to more children and communities.

As many of you know, over the last six months while Stephanie has worked on partnership outreach she has been shifting the bulk of her responsibilities to Chrisanne Gayl who has been implementing and executing our grants and programs with a focus on impact and a deep understanding of the field. Chrisanne will continue to carry out this work, as our Senior Director of Policy and Programs, and looks forward to working closely with each of you. She has been supported by our Program Associate, Ally Cady, and Program Administrator, Nina Walsh, who continue to be instrumental in this work. Stephanie will remain at Trust for Learning through the fall to continue our partnership outreach efforts and to ensure a smooth transition to new leadership. We will of course keep you informed as decisions are made and the Board undertakes an executive search.

Please join me in wishing Stephanie well in her future pursuits and in congratulating her on her upcoming wedding!

In partnership,

Marianna McCall

Trust for Learning Board of Advisors