



980 Fair Oaks Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91103
T: 626.792.2687
F: 626.793.1832

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For Immediate Release

Families Forward Learning Center Welcomes Newest Board Members

PASADENA—July 3, 2021—Families Forward Learning Center is proud to welcome Mary Freeman, Ruth Anne Hammond and Linda Lopez to its Board of Directors. Each brings their strength in community and business leadership and are poised to share their time and talents in support of Families Forward Learning Center’s mission of preparing families living in isolation and poverty to succeed in school and in life through two-generation learning programs.

Mary Freeman is a retired attorney who served as Group Counsel for the Office Products Group of Avery Dennison Corporation, and as a private mediator and arbitrator. Mary has extensive non-profit experience, including volunteering with special needs students in the Harvest Garden at Descanso, at the Union Station Adult Center, as a Planned Parenthood community outreach ambassador, coaching and training student and adult mediators at the Western Justice Center, adult literacy tutor with the Pasadena Public Library, and as a Pasadena Schools Reading Partners' tutor. Mary has a B.A. in Sociology and Psychology from the University of Minnesota, an M.A. in Educational Psychology from Michigan State University, and a J.D. from the University of San Diego. Mary resides in Pasadena with her husband. She has three children and two young grandchildren. Mary is an avid traveler.

Ruth Anne Hammond is a consultant for infant/toddler care and education. She has extensive experience in conducting trainings with Resources for Infant Educators’ (RIE). Ruth Anne has been a RIE Associate and Mentor, as well as Board President. She has served on the faculty of Pacific Oaks College & Children’s School as both a member of the Senior Adjunct Faculty as well as a Master Teacher in the Infant/Toddler-Parent Program. Ruth Anne was also an Adjunct Instructor at Los Angeles Mission College and Los Angeles City College and is the author of numerous publications on early childhood education. Ruth Anne has served on the boards of directors of RIE, Silverlake Children’s Theater Group, Pacific Oaks College and Children’s School, Hope Lutheran Church and Westminster Child Center. Ruth Anne has a Bachelor of Fine Arts, Dance from Southern Methodist University and a Master of Arts in Human Development (Dual Specializations: Infant/Toddler Studies & Leadership in Education) from Pacific Oaks College.

Linda Lopez grew up in Guadalajara, Mexico and Southern California. She graduated from Cal Poly Pomona University with a degree in Marketing. Linda has established herself as a top real estate agent representing a 30 year plus referral base. Prior to starting her career in real estate, she worked at IBM in technical marketing and sales. She currently serves as a Trustee for the Saint Mark's School Board of Trustees in Altadena, where her children currently attend school. Linda lives with her husband, twins, and her beloved labradoodle. Linda has completed eight marathons, three triathlons and is a tennis enthusiast.

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CONTACT: Liz Kwong, Development Director, at (626) 792-2687, ext. 123, for additional information.