



Kara Dukakis

Associate Director, Youth Data Archive

Kara Dukakis joined the staff of the John W. Gardner Center for Youth and Their Communities in October, 2007. Prior to that, she was an independent Policy and Planning Consultant researching, writing and developing trainings in the areas of early care and education, child welfare and children's mental health.

Before working as a consultant, Kara was the Associate Director for Early Care and Education at Children Now, where she led the agency's work on universal preschool efforts and state budget advocacy, and authored several Children Now publications. Kara previously worked as the Director of Family Services at The Children's Council of San Francisco, performing executive agency planning activities and chairing the agency's advocacy committee. Prior to that, Kara served as a Psychiatric Social Worker for San Francisco's Department of Public Health, Foster Care Mental Health Program (FCMHP), where she conducted mental health assessments and long-term individual therapy in English and Spanish for youth in foster care.

In 2006, Kara was appointed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to the San Francisco Children and Families First 5 Commission, for which she currently serves as Chair. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Brown University and a Master's in Social Welfare from UC Berkeley, and has a license in clinical social work (LCSW).