



WELCOME TO OST LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE IN NEW MEXICO

WHAT IS THE OUT OF SCHOOL TIME LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (OST-LI)?

- A professional development training program designed to build upon and expand skills while strengthening the statewide out-of-school time (OST) network.

THE OST-LI MISSION:

- The OST Leadership Institute mission is to increase access to OST programs across New Mexico by providing high quality professional development for emerging out-of-school time leaders working in underserved and vulnerable New Mexico communities.

TRAINING TOPICS

System Building • Partnership Building • Facilitation • Fundraising • Positive Youth Development • Program Planning • Program Assessment & Evaluation

OST-LI OUTCOMES

- Form a statewide group of change-makers dedicated to taking OST to the next level in New Mexico.
- Provide networking opportunities with other programs and community leaders to share best practices and build capacity in OST programs across New Mexico.
- Develop and strengthen participants' leadership skills.
- Deepen participant's understanding of program planning, assessment and evaluation, partnership building, and fundraising.
- Form a group of leaders that will advocate for the expansion of high-quality afterschool and summer learning programs with local and state leaders.



OST-LI COHORT BIOS

KIM ALESSANDRA
OUTLOOK COORDINATOR,
R4CREATING



Kim Alessandra is currently the Outlook Coordinator for R4Creating. She has been with this R4Creating for 2 years and finds herself still excited to come to work everyday! The nature of the out-of-school (OST) environment is what inspired her to join the OST-LI. At R4Creating, Kim and her colleagues provide out-of-school training for students that support the simultaneous work that their teachers are currently providing them. Kim believes this model contributes to the success of out-of-school programs.

Previously, Kim taught in the public and private school system from 1977-2018 with a reprieve of 7 years to homeschool her own children. Her job responsibilities ranged from teacher, SAT chair, Instructional Coach, mentor, Data Coach and Reading Interventionist. In Kim's personal life she has been head of Women's ministry at her church and currently is a counselor who works with women who have had grief in their lives. Kids of all ages are Kim's passion. She strives to help them be successful citizens. She believes this institute will help her in that endeavor.

CHARIS BAXTER
PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
THE CLUB



Charis Baxter serves as the Program Director for The Club, a teen center located on T or C, NM. She has served as the 21st CCLC Director for Sierra County from 2010-present and is constantly looking for ways to improve programming to meet the needs of Sierra County youth. Charis works to implement multiple grants at various sites throughout the county that serve youth of all ages. She is certified to provide QPR training. She has two children and is raising her twin grandchildren. Charis was inspired to join the OST Leadership Institute because she is always looking for ways to expand and improve the programs offered and her knowledge base. Working with youth has become a passion for Charis and she loves being able to provide youth with support and new experiences and opportunities.

SHANNON BEGAY
DIRECTOR OF PROGRAM
SERVICES, THE BOYS &
GIRLS CLUB OF CENTRAL
NEW MEXICO



Shannon Begay is the current Director of Program Services at the Boys & Girls Club of Central New Mexico since 2021. In this role, she oversees club operations, and training, ensuring program safety and quality. Previously, Shannon served as Program Director at the Boys & Girls Club of Farmington, supervising sites, and emphasizing program excellence by building strong relationships with Farmington Municipal Schools and promoting education and recreation programs, from 2019 to 2021. Her leadership career in youth services began as a Unit Director from 2008 to 2016 at the Boys & Girls Club of Farmington, where she managed daily operations and community relations.

Shannon joined the OST Leadership Program with a deep-rooted commitment to fostering positive development and growth in the lives of youth. Recognizing the critical role that out-of-school time plays in shaping character and providing enriching experiences, she is eager to enhance her leadership skills through the program. This program aligns with Shannon's professional goals by offering a platform for acquiring new insights, strategies, and collaborative approaches in the out-of-school time sector. She is enthusiastic about contributing to and learning from a community of like-minded professionals dedicated to improving the quality of programs and services for youth.

ANDREA CHAVEZ
ASST. DIRECTOR OF
EXTENDED LEARNING
SERVICES,
DEMING PUBLIC
SCHOOLS



Andrea Chavez is a dedicated wife and mother of five who balances her family life with a commitment to education and community service. With a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, a master's in Reading, and several educational licenses, including Level Three-A Instructional Leader and Level Three-B Administration, Andrea possesses a solid academic foundation.

Currently serving as the Assistant Director of Extended Learning services for Deming Public Schools, Andrea oversees a diverse array of programs including afterschool programs, summer camps, community schools and Esperanza Child Development Center. Additionally, she shares her knowledge as an adjunct professor at Western New Mexico University, where she teaches ESL Methods to aspiring educators.

With a rich background including roles as an English Learner Coordinator, Andrea is committed to fostering inclusive educational environments. As an administrator, her mission is to promote cultural awareness, implement effective instructional strategies, and provide ongoing support to educators maximizing student engagement and academic achievement across all subjects. Andrea is a committed advocate for fostering collaborative initiatives aimed at ensuring equity and access for every student. Her active involvement in the Out-of-School Time Leadership Institute serves as a testament to her unwavering dedication to promoting quality education and facilitating experiential learning opportunities.

TAMRYN CLANCY
CHILD DEVELOPMENT
DIRECTOR,
THE FAMILY YMCA



Tamryn Clancy has lived her entire life in the small mountain community of Los Alamos, NM with her husband of 10 years, and two amazing teenage boys. Her love for both her community and the children in it led her to working with children ages six-weeks through 12 years for more than 20 years. Throughout these years Tamryn has worked her way up at a private preschool - starting off as a teaching assistant and working all the way up to become the Director of that center. After a few years, she made the switch from Early Childhood Education to working OST for the 'after-school program' at The Family YMCA. Tamryn started off as a site director for one of the YMCA's programs and very quickly rose to become the Child Development Director for the entire childcare department. She was inspired to join OST-LI because she loves learning more about what she does, and values working with and learning from others who have unique and creative ideas. Tamryn absolutely loves helping others and working with a team! In her opinion, teaming up with others and sharing ideas is what makes us all more successful at what we do.

AJA CURREY
PRINCIPAL
RIO GALLINAS SCHOOL



Aja Currey is a school principal at a K-8 community charter school in rural New Mexico. She has 3 young children of her own and is committed to offering project-based, experiential learning to learners both at her own school and in her overall community. She has been involved in creating and sustaining multiple afterschool and summer programming including leading a team to integrate this into her now community school. Aja is a member of TeachPlus and the Teach for America Rural School Leaders Academy. When not working to transform education, she loves to spend time with her children, travel, and be outside.

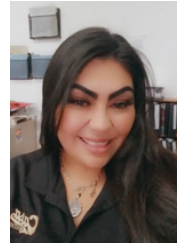
ALAN DAUGHERTY
SCIENCE TEACHER,
MELROSE MUNICIPAL
SCHOOLS



Alan Daugherty is the Science Teacher for Melrose Municipal Schools in Melrose, New Mexico. He is a veteran teacher with over 25 years of experience teaching at the High School, Junior High, Elementary, and Junior College levels. Most of those years have been in Science and Technology, but he is also an Ag Teacher at heart. He says his country background has served him well!

Over the years, Alan has experienced a lot, excelled at a bit, and been exposed to a wide range of things. He has never been bored as he is always looking for new topics and skills to learn. He enjoys making and building things, as well as meeting new people, exploring new areas, and learning about the histories of spaces and places he is in. Alan has a lot of opinions about education, and about what we should be doing to promote the futures of our students in the most beneficial ways, but he remains willing to learn more and consider other viewpoints.

ANGIE FRIAS
YOUTH PROGRAM
COORDINATOR,
EMPOWERMENT
CONGRESS OF DONA
ANA COUNTY



For the past two years Angie Marie Frias has served as the Youth Program Coordinator of the DescolonizARTE Youth Program at Empowerment Congress of Dona Ana County. Angie is a passionate about being a positive influence on youth as a mentor and has dedicated the past 20 years to youth serving roles.

She is a mother to three amazing young adults, Marisol (20), Pete (18) and Penelope (16), as well as 3 doggies, Kingston, Toby and Baybee. She loves working in her garden, reading, hanging out with her kids watching movies, going shopping or on mini day/road trips, and cooking! She is excited to be a part of the NMOST Leadership Institute and to further her knowledge in all areas. Angie feels that opportunities such as the Leadership Institute, not only provide knowledge and strategies to use in programs but also provides a place to network, brainstorm and gain useful knowledge from colleagues and peers who also work with youth. Her heart will always be in youth mentorship and advocating for young adults and she is appreciative for this wonderful opportunity!

DIANA GINEZ
SANCHEZ
OST COORDINATOR,
RAÍCES DEL SABER
XINACHTLI
COMMUNITY SCHOOL



Diana Ginez is originally from Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. She has a bachelor's degree in visual arts, a master's degree in social sciences, and 16 years of experience working in the educational area, primarily in teaching visual arts. Diana is interested in academic research, dissemination, teaching, and promotion of the arts with infants, adolescents, and young people. She was motivated to join OST-LI to learn about other people's experiences and acquire skills and knowledge that allow her to improve her community program while considering its cultural and political profile.

**SHELDON
HAMILTON**
PROGRAM MANAGER
FOR X STUDIO,
EXPLORA SCIENCE
CENTER



Sheldon Hamilton is a dedicated museum professional with a BA in Critical Studies in Mass Media from the University of New Mexico and a two-time recipient of the Association of Children's Museums Diversity in Action fellowship. Over the past five years, Sheldon has contributed his expertise and passion to Explora Science Center, where he currently serves as the Program Manager for X Studio, the institution's new teen workforce development center.

With a background in film production and communication, Sheldon plays a pivotal role in coordinating the day-to-day operations of X Studio and translating complex STEAM and design concepts into engaging programs for teen participants. His keen interest in additive manufacturing, fabrication, and film photography enriches his interactions with students, fostering a dynamic and inspiring learning environment within X Studio's makerspace.

Driven by a commitment to empowering youth and advocating for diversity and inclusion, Sheldon is eager to further develop his leadership skills through the NMOST OST-Leadership Institute. He is deeply motivated by a desire to cultivate (and be a part of) the next generation of leaders and changemakers of color and looks forward to leveraging his passion and experience in the Leadership Institute to make a meaningful impact.

**TEAHONNA
JAMES-BELIN**
21ST CCLC COORD,
NAVAJO PREP SCHOOL



Teahonna James-Belin is Yanyeidí Lingít and Tebughna Athabascan from Craig, AK. However, she grew up in Washington State on the Puyallup Reservation. Teahonna is the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Program Coordinator for Navajo Preparatory School in Farmington, NM. Teahonna is passionate about perpetuating Indigenous languages and cultures by offering top-notch out-of-school time programming to her students where they have ample access to cultural resources. Where she can help Indigenous students not only survive but thrive in society today. Teahonna has two bachelor's degrees from Fort Lewis College, her first in Native American and Indigenous Studies and her second in Humanities with a minor in Spanish. Teahonna is honored to serve as an Ambassador for the Afterschool Alliance, advocating for out-of-school time programming across the Nation.

**RHODERA
JOHNSON**
AFTERSCHOOL
ACTIVITIES SPECIALIST,
NAVAJO PREP SCHOOL



“Ya’át’eeh shí eí Roder Johnson yinishyé. Tó’aheedlínii nishítí Haltsooí báshishchíín Tódiłk’ózhí eí dashicheii dóó Dibé Łizhini’ dashinalí. Ákót’éeego diné asdzáan nishítí.”

Rodera Johnson is Diné from the Farmington, NM area and currently works at Navajo Preparatory School as the After School Activities Specialist. She received her Bachelor of Science in Sports Administration with a minor in Coaching from Fort Lewis College in 2021. Before coming to Navajo Prep School, Rodera worked for La Plata Boys & Girls Club with their after-school program, Durango Parks & Recreation, and Durango High School, coaching and hosting basketball clinics. She is currently an MBA candidate at the University of the Southwest, pursuing Sports and Recreational Management. In the field of OST, Rodera is constantly inspired by the ability to craft innovative programs that build cultural connections and promote positive self-esteem among students. By providing a welcoming and inclusive environment where workshops and activities empower students to gain a deeper understanding of their own identities and values. Witnessing the growth and confidence of students who participate in these programs is truly one of her greatest accomplishments and what inspired her to join the OST-LI.

**VANESSA
MOBLEY KNOX**
FAMILY ENGAGEMENT COORD,
BORDERLAND FAMILY TIES



After surviving cancer, changing careers later in life from an I.R.S. Tax Examiner to a Family Engagement Coordinator and then founding Borderland Family Ties - Vanessa Mobley Knox's journey has been defined by resilience. Graduating from NMSU with a degree in Family & Child Science/Human Development helped to fuel her passion for community service and the vision of happy, healthy and educated children with strong family support.

Joining NMOST-LI, Vanessa seeks to learn and grow, knowing every challenge she's overcome has been worth it. Witnessing families thrive, whether through improved grades, job security or reconnections, fills her with an immense sense of fulfillment. It's not merely a job but a calling, driving her commitment to building a better tomorrow for our community, one smile at a time.

**DINAH
PADILLA-HARVEY**
TITLE AND COMPANY
NAME



Dinah Padilla-Harvey is a devoted wife to a law enforcement officer and a proud mother of two daughters, whom she considers her greatest treasures. Her educational journey began at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, where she earned her undergraduate degree in Adult Education. She furthered her studies at Wayland Baptist University, obtaining a Master's in Management. Dinah's passion lies in advocating for individuals who are unable to speak for themselves. She believes that everyone should have the opportunity to advance in their education. Dinah has demonstrated leadership in educational initiatives aimed at improving the lives of those with disabilities.

Outside of her professional pursuits, Dinah finds joy in spending time with her extended family and embracing her cultural traditions. She is an avid reader and enjoys attending church regularly. In her leisure time, she cherishes walks, especially with her dog, Jett, and exploring new destinations through travel. Dinah's dedication to making a difference in the lives of individuals with disabilities inspired her to join the Out of School Time Leadership Institute (OST-LI), where can continue to contribute her expertise and passion to support this community.

BRIDGET PENA
GRANT COORDINATOR,
RIO GRANDE
EDUCATIONAL
COLLABORATIVE



Bridget Pena is a Grant Coordinator in the Albuquerque, Moriarty, and Edgewood area with the Rio Grande Educational Collaborative. She worked in the educational field for 15 years in the same small village town where she was born and raised. She has two grown children and is a Gigi of two boys who are pure perfection in her eyes. When Bridget is not working, her outlet is finding the nearest rock concert to attend.

She started with Rio Grande Educational Collaborative in 2019 as an instructor. After two weeks, became Site Supervisor for one year, and two years later, transitioned into Grant Coordinator. Bridget has found a new devotion by implementing the development of school safety into her programs. She is passionate about promoting the protection of all students, and staff from violence, exposure to weapons and threats on school grounds. Bridget believes in teaching students the importance of community service and the responsibility of giving back. In May of 2023, with the assistance of six afterschool programs and their students, they selflessly contributed their earnings from the sales of their lemonade to a fellow student who was involved in a fatal car accident. The money was donated to her family. This story led to the honor of winning the 2023 Community Spirit award for National Lemonade Day. It is her hope to continue working with students and making an impact and difference where she can.

**WILLIAM “BILL”
RODRIGUEZ**

**21ST CCLC DIRECTOR,
SANTA FE PUBLIC
SCHOOLS**



William (Bill) Rodriguez is the Program Director for 21st Century Community Learning Centers and Summer Programs for Santa Fe Public Schools in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Bill oversees thirteen sites where he emphasizes the use of technology such as coding, robotics, 3-D printing, and art. Mr. Rodriguez spent twenty-eight years in the classroom teaching upper elementary at Francis X. Nava Elementary and twenty years as a Site Coordinator for the Nava Thunder Academy a 21st Century Community Learning Center. Bill earned his Bachelor's Degree in Psychology/Sociology from Adams State University in 1990. In 1995, he received his teacher certification through the University of New Mexico/Santa Fe Public Schools Intern Program and his Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in TESOL from New Mexico Highlands University in 2012. Bill has participated in You 4 Youth's Technical Working Group, the NMPED State-Wide Nutrition Coalition. He has been interviewed by the Afterschool Alliance, and the Wallace Foundation for the Community Educators Network. Bill has been awarded the Girl Scout Leadership Award and was featured in the Girls Scout Magazine, Boy Scouts of America District Award of Merit, the Bronze Pelican Award, named Who's Who Among America's Teachers, three times, and the Partners In Education Teachers Who Inspire Award. Bill states, "My goal is to provide the skills necessary for students and teachers that prepare them for future opportunities."

**THOMAS
SAUCEDO**

**COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
COORDINATOR,
RED MOUNTAIN MIDDLE
SCHOOL**



Thomas Saucedo is the Community Schools Coordinator at Red Mountain Middle School in Deming, NM since July of 2023. Prior, Thomas worked in the equity department at DPS for two years. He considers himself new in the education field as he worked for the government for the past 11 years. Working with the Education system helped Thomas realize the resources students lacked in his community. His passion is to help others. It's what inspired him to be in his current role at Red Mountain Middle School. Since starting his position, they have maintained a food and clothing bank at the school. He has also assisted many students with new shoes, jackets and numerous other needs. Next year as Red Mountain Middle School enters into the implementation portion of their grant, Thomas finds it very important to learn what OST-LI has to offer in order to bring those new ideas into the school. He looks forward to learning about OST so that he is able to bring back information and improve student's education, providing them different opportunities.

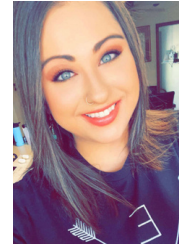
NINA SILFVERBERG
**AMB. OF CREATIVITY,
TWIRL TOAS**



For over twenty five years, Nina Silfverberg (b. 1970) has been thoroughly engaged in ensemble work, deciphering its language through costume and set design for the performing arts. Her theater designs have been seen from Edinburgh to Stockholm, from Finland to the U.S.A, and on numerous stages in between. The past eight years she has been working as an ambassador of play and creativity for www.twirltaos.org, creating out of school time programs for the larger community. Nina is always looking for something that sparks her creativity and gets her inspired so that she can share with her community and create opportunities for the kids and families in Taos, to play, create, and explore together.

ASHLEY SULLIVAN

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT
ASSISTANT,
FAMILY YMCA**



Ashley Sullivan was born and raised in Los Alamos where she continues to live. I went after benefiting from attending elementary, middle, and high school in Los Alamos, she now has the privilege of working to give back to her community through her work with the YMCA. Starting her career as an after school counselor at 18 years old, Ashley worked her way up to being the assistant site director of that program, then went on to teach drama for YMCA summer programs (about 8 years), finally becoming a Site Director for one of their five programs. Throughout her almost 14-year journey at the YMCA, Ashley has been promoted to part time administrative staff to Child Development Assistant. She helps to oversee all five of the YMCA's after-school programs and staff. Ashley has also worked in the Los Alamos school district as an instructional assistant (IA), and one-on-one IA for children with special needs. Ashley is passionate about children and applied to the Leadership Institute to learn more with the goal of being able to offer more to the families and children she serves. Ashley believes there is always more to learn to help us be the best and provide the best that all children deserve to experience.

**BRENDA
TRUJILLO**

**PROGRAM
COORDINATOR,
RGEC AFTER SCHOOL**



Brenda Trujillo originally from Bloomfield, NM now lives in Belen. She is married with three sons and four grandchildren.

As a senior in high school Brenda began working as an educational assistant to a first-grade teacher for three hours a day. She taught students their colors and numbers by reading and spelling them in three different languages. Brenda enjoyed her time teaching the students.

Brenda began working in childcare in 1995 and has attended numerous related training sessions. She started working with RGEC After School as an instructor to the site supervisor and became a program coordinator after a year.

As a Program Coordinator, Brenda incorporates community service projects. Along with her team she has completed several projects such as: Letters to Soldiers, Spreading the Love, Recycle Fashion Show, and Cards for Blue Star Mothers. She believes that including the community is a way of volunteering and sharing their kindness without taking time away from their families. Brenda is excited to attend NMOST Leadership Institute to learn how to make afterschool accessible for the children in her community. She is passionate about creating a quality, safe, and fun learning environment for children.

