



SPRINGBOARD Social Innovation - Forum

July 2009 Theme:
The New Family-Friendly Agenda

~The 2nd Wednesday of each month~

Panelist and Workshop Presenter Bios

Panel Moderators

o Sharon Bernstein, co-founder of Family Forward Oregon



- o Sharon Bernstein is an educator and sociologist by training, a mother of two young boys, and a community activist. Over the past fifteen years she has worked for social change from a number of angles. She has taught women's studies, supported school reform in high poverty schools, and conducted social research. She has managed volunteer programs, trained community leaders, and served as a leader in community-driven projects including visionPDX, Vision Into Action, and Parents For Paid Leave. Sharon's experience as a parent has solidified her understanding that we can't make social change through our individual decisions alone – we need to work together for cultural and policy change. Through Family Forward Oregon, she plans to build a movement to reshape the economics of work and family in our state.

o Andrea Paluso, co-founder of Family Forward Oregon



- o Andrea Paluso is a social worker turned community activist. She has Masters degrees from Columbia University in social work and public health and a work history in non-profit program management. She has worked in public schools, community health care settings, and in international development. As a parent, Andrea has been struck by the widening gap between contemporary American families and the policies designed to support them. She is committed to re-defining what it means to be "family-friendly", and to developing policies and communities that support parents and families. She was the spokesperson for Parents for Paid Leave, a grassroots group that worked to pass a paid family leave bill in Oregon in 2009. She also writes for the local parent-activism blog Activistas. She co-founded Family Forward Oregon because she believes a new vision for Oregon is possible and that developing more family-supportive workplaces and communities is an essential part of the way forward.



Panelists and Work Session Presenters

- **Sattie Clark, co-owner/co-founder of Eleek, Inc. (www.eleek.com) and founder/board member of the Sustainable Oregon Business Alliance**
 - Sattie Clark is the Co-Owner/Co-Founder Eleek, Inc., a sustainable design and manufacturing company specializing in decorative lighting, as well as the CEO of Oregon Wind, a vertical axis wind turbine start-up. Both companies are based in Portland, Oregon and focused on the triple bottom line. Sattie is also the founding board member of SOBA, the Sustainable Oregon Business Alliance, an independent non-profit organization created to help sustainable businesses connect and support each other while using their collective power to influence policy on a State and local level.

- **Nancy Davis, Isobel's Clubhouse, www.isobelsclubhouse.com**
 - Nancy Davis is honored to have served on the board of directors for family-focused organizations as varied as the YWCA, Children's Relief Nursery and Childpeace Montessori. She worked in recruiting and economic development for over a dozen years before founding Isobel's Clubhouse. Isobel's Clubhouse is Central Portland's family room; a not-for-profit place for families to play and build community. Nancy holds a B.A. in Economics from Portland State University.

- **Barbara Dudley, Chair of the Working Families Party**
 - Barbara Dudley is an adjunct professor in the Hatfield School of Government at Portland State University where she teaches courses on social sustainability, world trade, global civil society and advocacy. She is also co-chair of the Oregon Working Families Party, and a partner in Bethel Heights Vineyard in Polk County. She formerly served as Executive Director of Greenpeace USA, President of the National Lawyers Guild, and Assistant Director for Strategic Campaigns of the national AFL- CIO.

- **Lisa Frack, Activistas, www.activistas.us**
 - After experiencing life as a working mother in America for four years - with all the complications it brings, Lisa Frack joined forces with local blog urbanMamas in 2007 to share her frustrations with other local moms. Frustrations with unpaid leave, breastfeeding at work, costly, off-site childcare, sick kids with insufficient sick leave, long school vacations, and the list goes on. Armed with a masters degree in public policy, she tackled these issues online - and found a community of Portland moms who also wanted to see and work for policies that supported families more.

- **Jason Graham-Nye, G-diapers, www.gdiapers.com**
 - Jason Graham-Nye is the co-founder, with wife Kimberley of gDiapers, a flushable, biodegradable baby diaper from Australia. Kim and Jason are as passionate about offering a sustainable work environment as they are about the sustainability of the product they sell. gDiapers offers onsite daycare, 4 weeks paid time off and 3 months paid maternity leave. They moved to Portland from Australia to launch the business in the US due to the sustainable sensibilities of the city.

- **Mary King, PSU Professor of Economics**
 - Mary C. King is a labor economist on the faculty of the Economics Department at Portland State University, where her teaching and research focus on the economic experience of women and members of ethnic minorities. She has a PhD in economics from UC Berkeley, and lives in Portland, Oregon with her family.