



Sonia Valenzuela, Member

Sonia joined Support for Families of Children with Disabilities in 2001 after her youngest was born with special needs. Sixteen years later, Sonia has held several positions and is currently the Family Engagement Manager on the Inclusion Networks Project, a project that is dear to Sonia's heart. Sonia is passionate about equity, diversity and inclusive best practices and is inspired by her personal and professional experiences to support early care educators and programs in their efforts to include all children, especially children with special needs. Sonia develops and facilitates professional development trainings and provides technical assistance and coaching to San Francisco's early childhood communities.

Sonia received her Bachelors of Arts in Communication from California State University of Los Angeles and to increase her capacity to provide culturally humble, equitable and family centered practices to San Francisco's early education community, she has participated in numerous professional development trainings and workshops ranging from the Protective Factors, Humble Inquiry, Coaching for Equity and Trauma Informed Care. Sonia is a strong advocate for early childhood inclusion. She has personally witnessed and experienced the positive effects of an inclusive early childhood experience and how that experience sets the standard for the K-12 and post-secondary school outcomes. As a new member of the San Francisco Child Care Planning and Advisory Council, Sonia uses her professional and personal experiences to ensure that the inclusion of all children from birth to age five and beyond remains a priority for San Francisco's early childhood community.

