

Panelist Bios

Join Us!

The Power of Codesign in Research

Centering Parent Voices to Learn About Parent-Child Relationships

Presented by:



DATE

Tuesday, October 21st

TIME

2:00-3:30 PM ET



Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD

Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Director, Center for Early Relational Health, Columbia University, Panelist



Tiffany Solomon

Parent Leader, Reach Out and Read, Panelist



Deepa Srinivasavaradan

Parent Leader, Panelist



Steven Thibert

Parent Leader, Family Network Collaborative (FNC), Panelist



Nikki Shearman, PhD

Chief of Research & Innovation, Reach Out and Read, Moderator

Guest Speakers:

Dani Dumitriu, MD, PhD is a pediatrician-researcher and associate professor of pediatrics at Columbia University, where she serves as inaugural director of the [Center for Early Relational Health](#). As Principal Investigator of the [Developmental Origins of Resilience \(DOOR\) Lab](#), Dani investigates how stress and resilience become developmentally embedded and drive individual and relational outcomes. Chair of the multidisciplinary [COMBO Initiative](#), her world-leading clinical study of maternal-infant/child health has generated an unprecedented foundational data set on families of the Covid Generation. Through a unique tripartite partnership between the [Center for Early Relational Health](#), [Reach Out and Read](#), and [Nurture Connection](#) (at the Georgetown Thrive Center), she co-leads the movement to meaningfully advance the field of ERH by bridging research, practice, and policy.

Tiffany Solomon is a parent leader, advocate, and researcher dedicated to centering family voice in health and early childhood systems. As a [Reach Out and Read](#) Parent Leader and Presenter, she collaborates with clinicians and

researchers to co-design studies and tools that strengthen parent–child and parent–clinician relationships. Drawing on her lived experience of homelessness, medical trauma, and raising a medically complex child, she works to embed equity, caregiver leadership, and co-design into policy, research, and practice.

Deepa Srinivasavaradan is a parent leader and research partner dedicated to advancing early relational health and strengthening family engagement in early childhood systems. A graduate of the NJ Alliance for Clinical and Translational Science (NJACTS) Community Scientist Program and an Endorsed Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health professional working in a community-based organization, she collaborates with families and researchers to elevate family voice in research, foster cross-sector partnerships, and co-develop resources, surveys, and strategies that support positive outcomes for young children and their families.

Steven Thibert is a Parent Leader and Fatherhood Advocate. Steven is the father of a soon-to-be 5-year-old whom he shares custody with. Steven [has a powerful story](#) in overcoming adversity in the family court system, where he had the odds stacked against him. He is a passionate voice in parent leadership and fatherhood advocacy and he is currently engaged in work that includes the [Washington Fatherhood Council](#), [Nurture Connection Family Network Collaborative](#), Nurture Connection Steering Committee, Washington Prenatal-to-3 Coalition, National Center For Parent Leadership Advisory Board and more.

Moderated By:

Dr. Nikki Shearman, PhD is Chief of Research and Innovation at [Reach Out and Read \(ROR\)](#). Dr. Shearman has led the network-wide integration of the value of the ROR model in promotion of Early Relational Health (ERH), the development of a training platform to ensure high-quality delivery of ROR, and a collaborative effort with clinicians, parent leaders, researchers, and early childhood development experts to build an evidence base for the promotion of ERH through pediatric primary care. Dr Shearman received her PhD in immunology from Southampton University, UK.