

Gender-based Violence against Women and Children in the Americas: Countering Another Pandemic

Speaker Biographies

Brisa De Angulo

Founder and CEO

A Breeze of Hope Foundation

Brisa De Angulo is founder and CEO of A Breeze of Hope Foundation. As a lawyer, psychologist, and human rights activist, she dedicates her life to improving access to justice and healing for survivors of sexual violence against children (SVAC). Brisa, herself an SVAC survivor, uses her story and expertise to challenge the status quo and promote legislation that safeguards children.

With 17 years of experience working with survivors, and 21 years working with early childhood development, Brisa's insights have created a remarkably effective set of interventions. Her center for child survivors of sexual violence in Cochabamba, Bolivia implements these interventions on a daily basis, serving more than 500 children every year.

Brisa has received many international awards for her impactful work, including CNN Heroes, BBC Outlook Inspirations Award, the World of Children Award, and the Elevate Prize.

Gary Barker

President and CEO

Promundo- USA

Gary Barker, PhD, is a leading global voice in engaging men and boys in advancing gender equality and positive masculinities. He is the CEO and founder of Promundo, which has worked for 20 years in more than 40 countries. Beginning in low-income areas of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Promundo's approaches have been incorporated into ministries of health and education around the world. Promundo is a Global Consortium with members in Brazil, the US, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Portugal. Gary is co-founder of MenCare, a global campaign working in 45 countries to promote men's involvement as caregivers, and co-founder of MenEngage, a global alliance of more than 700 NGOs. He co-created and leads the International Men and Gender Equality Survey (IMAGES), the largest-ever survey of men's attitudes and behaviors related to violence, fatherhood, and gender equality. He is a co-author of the 2015 and 2017 *State of the World's Fathers* reports. He has advised the UN, the World Bank, numerous national governments, and key international foundations and corporations on strategies to engage men and boys in promoting gender equality. In 2017 he was named by Apolitical as one of the 20 most influential people in gender policy around the world. He is an Ashoka Fellow and received the Voices of Solidarity Award from Vital Voices for his work to engage men for gender equality. He holds a PhD in Developmental Psychology.

Flavia Bustreo

Chair, Governance and Ethics Committee, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health; Co-Chair, Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People

Dr. Flavia Bustreo is a leading physician, public health professional and advocate for the health and human rights of women, children, adolescents, and the elderly, and is known for taking action on the social and environmental determinants of health, including the health impacts of climate change. She is currently the Vice Chair of Foundation Botnar and Chair of the Governance and Nomination Committee at the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH). Previously, Dr. Flavia Bustreo was Assistant Director- General for Family, Women's and Children's Health for the World Health Organization (WHO) from 2010 to 2017, and also served as Co-Chair of the Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, from 2015 to 2017. At WHO she led the organization's work in reproductive, maternal, child, and adolescent health, climate change, aging, vaccinations, health, human rights, gender equity, and the social determinants of health.

Gloria Estefan

Singer, songwriter, actress

International Superstar, Gloria Estefan, is a Grammy award- winning singer, actress, songwriter, author of two New York Times best-selling children's books, philanthropist and humanitarian. She is considered one of the world's most recognizable and beloved performers. Billboard Magazine considers her the single most successful Latin crossover artist in music history.

Having sold over 100 million records worldwide she's been awarded with 7 Grammy Awards, an Oscar nominated performance for the song "Music of My Heart," a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, an American Music Award for Lifetime Achievement, an induction into the Latin Songwriters Hall of Fame, and the Gershwin Prize for Popular Song. In 2015, President Obama honored Emilio & Gloria Estefan with the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Nation's highest civilian honor, presented to individuals who have made meritorious contributions to the United States, to world peace, and to cultural endeavors. In 2017, Gloria was the first Cuban American, singer- songwriter to receive The Kennedy Center Honors.

ON YOUR FEET! the Tony Award nominated Broadway musical based on the lives and music of Emilio & Gloria Estefan. As Executive Producers, it is the story of two people who—through an unwavering dedication to one another and their pursuit of the American dream— showcased their talent, their music and their heritage to the world in a remarkable rise to global superstardom. On Your Feet!! has received rave critical reviews and nominations for Tony Awards, Outer Critics Circle Awards and Drama League Awards and is now on tour around the world.

She is the founder of the Gloria Estefan Foundation whose mission is to support charitable programs for disadvantaged children and empower young people through education and opportunity. The Foundation also supports spinal cord research through the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis.

She recently released her new Grammy winning album, Brazil305 which topped the charts around the world and is one of the hosts of the 2-time Emmy nominated & GLAAD Award nominated Facebook Watch series, Red Table Talk: The Estefans, which premiered Fall of 2020 and was renewed for 12 new episodes that are streaming now. She also voiced a character in the critically acclaimed animated film "Vivo" with music written by Lin-Manuel Miranda that was released on Netflix and she has signed on to play a role in the new 'Father of the Bride' film opposite Andy Garcia.

Rosie Hidalgo

Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House Gender Policy Council

Rosie Hidalgo serves as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House Gender Policy Council. Rosie has worked in the movement to end gender-based violence for over twenty-five years as a public interest attorney and as a national policy advocate. Most recently she was the Senior Director of Public Policy for Casa de Esperanza: National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities, a national resource center with a focus on providing training, research, and policy advocacy to prevent and end domestic violence and sexual assault. Rosie previously served as the Deputy Director for Policy at the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) at the U.S. Department of Justice during the Obama-Biden Administration and also served on a detail to the Office of the Vice President, working with the White House Advisor on Violence Against Women. Rosie also served on the Biden Foundation's Advisory Council for Ending Violence Against Women and on the American Bar Association's Commission on Domestic and Sexual Violence. She is a graduate of Georgetown University and New York University School of Law.

Felicia Marie Knaul

Director, Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas, University of Miami
Co-Chair, Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People

Felicia Marie Knaul is Director, Institute for Advanced Study of the Americas and Hemispheric and Global Affairs and Professor, Miller School of Medicine at the University of Miami. A health and social sector economist, Felicia maintains a synergistic program of research and advocacy. She has produced over 250 publications and books including a memoir on her cancer experience. Her research focuses on global health, cancer, particularly women's and pediatric cancers, and especially in low and middle-income countries, women and health, health systems and reform, health financing, access to pain control and palliative care, poverty and inequity, gender equity and female labor force participation, and children in especially difficult circumstances. Felicia spearheads several research networks, including serving as Co-Chair of the Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People and Lancet Commission on Cancer And Health Systems, and chaired the Lancet Commission on Global Access to Palliative Care and Pain Relief. As director of the Harvard Global Equity Initiative, she founded the Global Task Force on Cancer Care and Control that inspired research, policy, and advocacy. She is Founding President of Tómatelo a Pecho, a Mexican NGO dedicated to reducing the impact of cancer and improving the health of women and leads research on health systems with the Mexican Health Foundation.

Daniela Ligiero

*Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer
Together for Girls*

Dr. Daniela Ligiero is the Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of Together for Girls, a global, public-private partnership dedicated to ending violence against children, especially sexual violence against girls. The partnership includes five UN agencies, the governments of the United States and Canada, several private sector organizations and more than 20 country governments in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, working together to generate comprehensive data and solutions to this public health and human rights epidemic. Dr. Ligiero also serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children.

Before she joined Together for Girls, she served as the Vice President of Girls and Women's Strategy at the UN Foundation and developed the foundation's gender integration strategy. In addition, she spent over five years at the U.S. Department of State where she led the integration of gender issues into all foreign policy and investments in global health—working with over 70 countries and over 1 billion dollars in investments on issues like preventing gender-based violence and improving the sexual and reproductive health of girls and women. She helped develop the first ever International U.S. Government Strategy to End Gender-Based Violence.

Dr. Ligiero also served in leadership roles at UNICEF, as Chief of HIV and then as Senior Program Officer in the UNICEF Brazil Country Office—the second largest in the world. In addition, she has held positions at the World Bank and the US Senate and has worked directly with survivors of sexual assault in a variety of settings. She is also a survivor of sexual violence herself and has been speaking publicly about her story for the last decade. She earned her doctoral degree in counseling psychology from University of Maryland, College Park. Dr. Ligiero is fluent in four languages: English, Portuguese, Spanish and French.

Patti Tototzintle

*President and CEO
Esperanza United*

The President and CEO of Esperanza United, Patti Tototzintle, has over 35 years of experience in community development, nonprofit management, and working with Latin@ communities. Tototzintle is passionate about tapping into and developing the strengths of Latin@s, and she has used this passion, in part, to create a reputation as a national expert on leadership development. One of Tototzintle's strengths is bringing diverse groups to the table to create and implement solutions to critical issues. Under her leadership, Esperanza United has become the largest, most-respected Latin@ organization in the country focused on ending gender-based violence. For nearly 40 years, Esperanza United has been proud to be a part of the St. Paul, Minnesota community, offering critical local services to individuals and families. Fed by our roots in Minnesota, our national work is powered by our belief in the strength of Latin@s within the context of family and community and includes training, research, and public policy. We work transnationally, partnering with community groups across Latin America to share learnings and wisdom. With this multi-pronged approach, Esperanza United engages with over 15,000 individuals, organizations, and systems each year.

Nanseera Wolff

Student

Frost School of Music, University of Miami

Nanseera Wolff is a singer songwriter with an international upbringing. She is currently a junior at the Frost School of Music studying Artist Development and Songwriting. Nanseera has been writing songs since the age of eight and taking voice lessons in high school. For her, music is a place to explore personal, social, and political questions and confusion. When not playing guitar and writing songs, Nanseera can be found curled up on the couch with her roommates, drinking tea, and watching the Great British Baking Show.