



## WEBINAR GUEST BIOS

*Bridging across political differences and reducing polarization*

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June 17, 2025



**Allyson Frazier**

**National senior director, communications and campaign planning**

**Voices for Healthy Kids**

Allyson Frazier, MSW (she/her) is a national senior director for Voices for Healthy Kids overseeing the communications, marketing, grassroots, training, resource development and campaign planning teams. Frazier has worked in public affairs for more than 25 years and has kept her sense of humor and belief in government for and by the people. For two decades with the American Heart Association, she has been responsible for planning and implementing advocacy campaigns on the state, regional and local

levels. Prior to joining the American Heart Association, Frazier was the campaign manager of Clean Air Works, the successful campaign that made Boston one of the first major cities to go smoke-free and ultimately paved the way for a smoke-free state law. She supported the passage, implementation and monitoring of public health laws and regulations. Frazier credits this experience as providing her with an excellent understanding of the process of implementing changes once a bill becomes a law.

Frazier earned a master's degree in social work from Arizona State University, specializing in community-based strategies and a bachelor's degree from American University in international studies. She is currently in a Master of Arts program in organizational management.

Allyson is the proud and harried mom of three wild kids, raising them to change the world (when she isn't driving them late to practice, or is it a game?).



**Biz Harris**

**Executive director**

**Mississippi Early Learning Alliance**

Biz Harris is the executive director of the Mississippi Early Learning Alliance (MELA). She is a dedicated leader, strategic thinker, and coalition-builder committed to strengthening Mississippi's future by advancing early childhood education and health as key drivers of economic and community well-being. As a founding team member of MELA, Harris has played a pivotal role in shaping the organization's vision, forging strategic partnerships, and leading the development of Forum for the Future—a cross-disciplinary infant and toddler coalition dedicated to ensuring

Mississippi's youngest children and their families thrive.

## County Health Rankings & Roadmaps

Building a Culture of Health, County by County

Recently, she authored the September 2024 report, *Child Care: A Critical Piece of Mississippi's Labor Force Puzzle*, as well as the *Mississippi Business Child Care Tax Credit and Employee Stipend Resource Guide*—a practical tool designed to help Mississippi businesses leverage the state's child care tax credit. Beyond her leadership at MELA, Harris lives in Laurel with her husband Brett, and two sons Wagner (11) and Elliott (7). A graduate of W&L University, Biz holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and a Master of Divinity degree from Emory University. She is also an alumna of Teach For America's Mississippi Delta Region, where she began her career in education as a teacher in Marks, MS.