



SERVICE LEARNING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT THROUGH HIGHER EDUCATION

DR. MONA IVEY-SOTO | BELMONT UNIVERSITY

THE STORIES OF OUR NEIGHBORS- LISTENING TO & LEARNING FROM OUR CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ABSTRACT:

Place based immersion experiences offer teacher candidates a unique opportunities to engage urban communities and reduce power differentials that often exist between them and the communities they will serve. Particularly in economically marginalized communities where it is easy to overlook the many cultural and linguistic resources that families possess, positioning teaching candidates as learners and community members as teachers is essential. This session will highlight the work of immersing teacher candidates in two non-profit community based organization and providing them with opportunities to learn counternarratives, challenging stereotypes and unlearn embedded stigmas while working alongside children and families in those communities.

THEMATIC FOCUS: LEARNING THE CHORDS | RESONANCE | SURPRISING COLLABORATIONS

BIO(S):

MONA-IVEY SOTO

Dr. Mona Ivey-Soto holds a dual appointment as an Associate Professor in the College of Education and the Global Honors program at Belmont University. She teaches extensively on issues of racial inequality within p-12 schools and other organizations and how advocates can utilize anti racist pedagogy and praxis as a way to combat systemic racism within the classroom and the broader community. She is also an expert in ACES, race based traumatic stress and leveraging healing centered practices to address inequities. In addition to her work in the academy, she also serves as a race equity expert on a W. K. Kellogg Foundation grant through the American Bar Association Center on Children and the Law looking at racial disparities and overreporting of black and indigenous children in the child welfare system. As a

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community engaged scholar, she runs her own grassroots organization called The Mother's Collective working with economically exploited families living in public housing throughout Nashville. She has presented over 300 conference presentations, keynotes and workshops on leveraging trauma informed anti racist practices for diverse audiences across the world. She holds a BA in Political Science and Sociology from New York University, an MEd from Bank Street College in NYC, an MSW from Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College also in NYC and a PhD in Special Education & Clinical Sciences from the University of Oregon. She has previously worked as an educator and social worker in marginalized and minoritized communities throughout the United States.