**Notes from the Summit Panel discussion**

**June 7, 2018 SIA GWR Spring Conference**

***Please join “liveyourdream.org”***

Former LYDA winner now **SI Moreno Valley member, Judith Vasquez**—amazing life story with an even more amazing “ending”, although she’s thriving now, no end in sight as she's just accepted into a doctorate program.

Last Summit action (2018) to make a difference in literacy was to start a program to deliver kids books for visitation rooms in jails. This Summit learned to ensure that inmates know how to read so they can actually USE the books with their children.

**Tina Loza, Founder & Managing Partner of Loza & Loza LLP - facilitator of panel**

Poverty is not just financial. It's the "other" we need to focus on: lack of basic food, clean water, health and housing. Developing relationships.

**Cid Pinedo, CEO of Children’s Fund (passionate about poverty)**

3 Mottos to live by re: education:

* *Access without support is not an opportunity*
  + *support means remove any barrier. e.g. how to use it, literacy, how to register, childcare. Develop relationships so you can define the barrier.*
* *I will not remain quiet so you can remain comfortable*
* *Every child needs a champion*

Be a ‘Shero’-ask ‘why’ when you see a situation (60% in housing projects don’t have a HS diploma)

Their reality is their mindset. Show and/or help overcome obstacles.

If we are part of the problem, then we are part of the solution.

Everyone deserves a champion.

Poverty *SUCKS*—literally *sucks* the joy/everything out of your life

# of females attending college is up but still under represented in many vocations. Intervene early, mentors need to work with the family as well.

Get and read Framework for Understanding Poverty by Ruby Payne--Creator of the “Aha Process”

*Poverty word gap study*—Kids from poverty enter school with more than 30million less words than more affluent children. Also consider the manner to which they were spoken AND, what words they do hear.

Reasons No Access

1. Underprepared
2. Internal factors that affect success - “Head Trash” things that bog down the brain (a mentor can “empty the trash”)
3. Capacity to understand resources and persistance
4. Workforce preparedness
5. Financial assets and funding
6. Perception of the VALUE of education
7. Workforce demands on time

PTSD=something that trigger a traumatic state of mind

*3 areas affected by Trauma:*

1. Performance
2. Behavior
3. Relationships

California community colleges CANNOT turn away anyone (“unfunded mandate”) so over $1 million is spent on remedial summer programs to prepare enrollees for college courses. This creates an internal struggle with faculty, creates a bias against “those needy kids”.

Check out Jeff Duncan Andrate (youtube) ‘Growing Roses in Concrete”

* Get your *ASK* in gear
* Find out what’s needed
* Be prepared /open for all responses
* NEVER ASSUME
* Be patient, relationships take time
* Be a bridge to other resources
* Use your ‘social capital’

Old African saying: *If a child does not feel embraced by his village he will burn it down in order to feel some warmth*

Make change - run for office!

*SOROPTIMISTS ARE THE REAL DEAL—GET OUT THERE AND DO IT!!!*

**Ginger Ontiveros, Exec Dir, Community Engagement San Bernadino City USD**

“They don’t know how much you care if you don’t care how much they know” Their scholarship recipients are assigned a mentor, also peer support ‘group’, creating an “extended family”.

***ACE survey (Average Childhood Experience)***

TRAUMA changes how a child accepts what you have to offer. Kids in both poverty and affluence have “trauma” in their lives. Kids with a high level of ACE’s are always on their “last straw”—doesn’t take much to push over the edge. Kids in poverty have greater levels of ACEs.

Issues for Single MOMS

What are the barriers? HS blames mid-school, mid-school blames elementary, etc. So, change needs to start with 0-3 years of age, a time of critical brain development for kids, especially those born in to poverty.

At kindergarten they begin 2 grades below kids from more affluence. Basic nurturing is missing, as many times their mothers were not nurtured as well.

Make hope happen. See a future and help find a way there. Mentors and build relationships. Walk along with them to talk with authorities, register online, etc.

Every child needs education after high school.

**Jessie Fulller, Orange Grove HS EXCEL Teacher, UNITY Advisor**

Substitute “at promise” kids rather than “at risk” kids. You must change their “narrative” (mindset). Just saying “you can do it” doesn’t work/help because they’ve never known success in their lives. We must discover ANYTHING positive in their lives and ask how did you overcome that? What did you do to overcome that?...Let them see a success and how it feels. Help them name their strength. When did you use that skill to overcome that obstacle.

Self-care and self-discovery. They don't need to be fixed, they need to identify their skills. Set a challenge/opportunity for them. Ask them to speak and then help them prepare. Encourage them to mentor others.

Dignity not charity case.

Trust. Resistant because that is their reality of survival.

Understand reality. Encouraging words like "you can do it" doesn't help if they literally don't know how.

ANTs - another negative thought. Imposture syndrome. Head trash.

Think about your “social capital”—our networking groups that can be used to increase someone’s “resource bank” =when they say I don’t know how to do that/don’t know what to do, ask who they know who might help with that? List some of your social capital here:

(For Glee) AAUW & SWTU Strutters

Make partnerships with schools to mentor students AND teachers. This is not about me. SI clubs can take it to the next level by being mentors to mentors (teachers). Let them know we can support them with patience, be a TRIBE for them. Even if it means providing supplies for their room, their students.

You are the real deal.

**Mike Stull, Management Department Chair Entrepreneurship, California State University San Bernardino**

You don't realize how much impact you have.

Intervene early.

Talk with families to remove obstacles and gain buy in.

Does COLLEGE=EDUCATION???

When asked ‘Why are you here’?—Because my parents said I needed to be here

First generation to go to college come unprepared, they’re here because the family thinks it’s best, would be good, and they don’t want to disappoint the family.

What is the best path for each student? ALL JOBS are important in our economy!! There’s a bias against technical schools, need to refrain from using the term ‘vocational’.

So, phrase it differently: EVERYBODY NEEDS AN EDUCATION THE GOES BEYOND HIGH SCHOOL. WHAT’S YOUR FAVORITE ‘FLAVOR’? SHOW THEM THE WHOLE MENU> Focus on *PREPAREDNESS FOR A JOB*.

After getting the job, knowing how to keep the job. THINK LIKE AN OWNER!! Owning the job, seeing the entire organization & how to make it better. Always think like you’re an owner.