



TALARIS EXPANDS NATIONAL EXPERTS IN EARLY LEARNING
Non-profit Moves Early Learning Science to Parents & Communities

Seattle, WA (October 10, 2005) Talaris Research Institute announces two senior staff appointments, Brenda Blasingame as Director of Programs and Sherry Catron Wong as Director of Product Strategy. Both will help Talaris translate early learning research into practical knowledge for parents. They bring expertise in public-private partnerships, philanthropy, early learning and national program development.

“The science is clear, babies are born with remarkable learning abilities and parents are the key in developing those abilities. But parents need help applying the research to everyday life,” says Terrence Meersman, executive director, Talaris Research Institute. “Brenda and Sherry bring experience in designing programs and curriculum to do just that.”

Blasingame joins Talaris from Contra Costa First Five in Northern California. As founding executive director, Blasingame managed a multi-million dollar public agency that funds programs, services and activities for children five years of age and younger and their families. At Talaris, she will develop local, regional and national programs.

Catron Wong had a key role in developing the “Communities that Care” program, a national prevention science program created by David Hawkins and Richard Catalano at the University of Washington. At Talaris, she will work on evidence-based training and curriculum materials and evaluate their results.

About Talaris Research Institute

Talaris Research Institute (www.Talaris.org), a Seattle-based, non-profit organization, advances knowledge of early learning and the importance of parenting in the first years of life. It does so by providing parents with tools on social, emotional and cognitive development from the prenatal period through age five. National partners include PBS’s Ready-To-Learn coordinators through the multimedia “Parenting Counts” program, co-developed with KCTS (Seattle).

Photos available

Contact:
Cherylynne Crowther
Talaris Research Institute
206-529-6898 x 307
cherylynne@talaris.org