



September 25, 2024

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"You are needed in this work...we are in this space for a reason...Lean into those communities, lean into your supports, align yourself with organizations...that center equity within lactation."

Shenell Ford, Heart2Heartbeat Lactation & Wellness

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Welcome to the September 2024 edition of the [NOW Innovation Forum Newsletter](#). We are excited to share additional opportunities and resources with you this month. In this edition you're invited to:

- View the webinar archive for *Community Leadership Pathways and Advocacy: Moving towards Equitable Breastfeeding Care and Support*
- Register for the November 12 Peer Learning Cluster Workshop, *Collective Visioning for 2025 on Peer Leadership Strategies to Promote Advocacy*
- Save the Date for the final webinar, December 5, *Building Community Power through Food and Education Systems Transformation*
- Subscribe to *In the Arena with NOW* podcast, Season 3 launching this October
- Explore the NOW Resource Library featured resource, *Transformational Capacity Building*
- *Support our Campaign, Together We Thrive*

Thank you for your commitment to children, families, and communities and for joining us as we journey through another year together.

Bienvenido a la edición de septiembre del 2024 del Boletín Informativo del NOW Innovation Forum (Foro de Innovación NOW). Nos complace compartir oportunidades y recursos adicionales con usted este mes. En esta edición está invitado a:

- Ver el archivo de seminarios web para *Caminos de Liderazgo Comunitario y Abogacía: Avanzando hacia el Cuidado de la Lactancia Materna y Apoyo Equitativo*
- Registrarse para el Taller de Aprendizaje entre Pares del 12 de noviembre, *Visión Colectiva para 2025 sobre Estrategias de Liderazgo entre Pares para Promover la Abogacía*
- Guardar la fecha para el último webinar, 5 de diciembre, *Construyendo Poder Comunitario a través de la Transformación de los Sistemas Alimentarios y Educativos*
- Suscribirte al podcast *En La ARENA con NOW*, la temporada 3 se estrena este octubre
- Explorar el recurso destacado de la Biblioteca de Recursos NOW, *Desarrollo de Capacidades Transformacionales*
- *Apoyar Nuestra Campaña, Juntos Prosperamos*

Gracias por su compromiso a los niños, las familias, y las comunidades, y por acompañarnos en nuestro recorrido ante otro año juntos.

Network Highlights

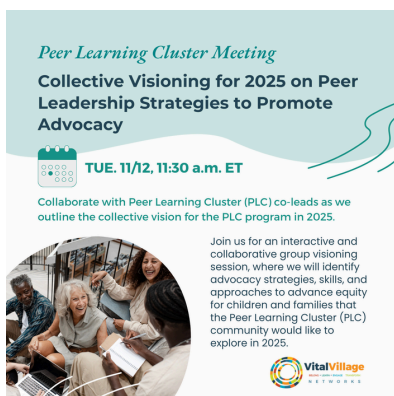
Webinar Archive: Community Leadership Pathways and Advocacy: Moving towards Equitable Breastfeeding Care and Support

Thank you for joining us on September 12 for a powerful conversation with Shenell Ford and Melody Cunningham of the Boston Breastfeeding Coalition (BBC), who shared powerful personal stories and reflections around the critical work needed to make sure equitable breastfeeding care is not only available but accessible in our communities. View the webinar archive to access the recording, materials, and other resources to get involved and learn more about the coalition's work underway.

[View Here](#)



Peer Learning Cluster: Collective Visioning for 2025 on Peer Leadership Strategies to Promote Advocacy



Join us **Tuesday, November 12 from 11:00 am - 1:30 pm ET** for an interactive and collaborative group visioning session focused on peer-led strategies to promote advocacy. This co-design process will create space to identify group priorities, build consensus on advocacy strategies, skills, and approaches to advance equity for children and families that the Peer Learning Cluster (PLC) community would like to explore in 2025. We will also discuss additional leadership opportunities for PLC members.

[Register Here](#)

Next Webinar: Building Community Power through Food and Education Systems Transformation

Throughout the year, we've explored the critical question: What does it look like to harness, activate and build community power? What can we learn from resident-led advocacy movements and their strategies toward self-advocacy, collective action, and legislative change? Join us on **Thursday, December 5 at 1:00 pm ET** for our closing webinar of the year to learn from local leaders who are centering healing and community power sharing by transforming food and education systems.

[Register Here](#)



In the Arena with NOW: Season 3 Launches this October



In the Arena with NOW lifts up the voices of community leaders who are “in the arena” -- in classrooms, playgrounds, Congressional halls, hospitals, and neighborhood streets -- working to make sure that all children and families can live healthy, thriving lives. Season 3 will delve into the experiences of local coalitions, residents, and experts who are working to create equitable systems of care and education through community power and healing-centered advocacy. Subscribe and tune in to learn what they are doing and why, challenges and successes faced, and advice for others seeking to build, grow, and sustain momentum for the long haul.

Subscribe

NOW Resource Library Feature: Transformational Capacity Building

From the Stanford Social Innovation Review, *Transformational Capacity Building* provides seven foundational elements of transformational capacity building that support grassroots organizations, with a focus on nonprofits of color. “In failing to expand its cultural frame of reference, conventional capacity building has missed an opportunity to radically reexamine how organizations can operate and achieve their mission.” Read more and check out other resources in the [NOW Resource Library](#).



Access the Resource Here



At Vital Village Networks, we envision a world where every child's birthright includes a healthy, joyful, and equitable future. As we continue to work collectively to improve child well-being and nurture community leadership, we see power in knowing we are not alone, and that ***Together, We Thrive.***

Every contribution, regardless of the amount or type of service, helps to sustain this critical work of supporting civic leadership and driving positive change. Can we count on your support to reach our goal?

Give Today

The NOW community hopes to stay connected and lift up the work and stories of all of our members. Follow and tag us so that we can virtually highlight the community-led transformation you are leading

#VillageInMind



www.networksofopportunity.org 

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