



March 27, 2025

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"Rather than cutting off our roots because we are ashamed or afraid, we can reimagine the relationships we have inherited and we can take up our responsibilities to each other.

- Patty Krawec

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Welcome to the March 2025 edition of the [NOW Innovation Forum Newsletter](#). We are excited to share opportunities and resources with you this month. In this edition you're invited to:

- View the latest NOW Webinar archive recording, *Centering Ancestral Wisdom through the Hogan Dialogue: Reflections on Community Engagement and Data Sovereignty*
- Listen to the latest episodes of Season 3 of *In the Arena with NOW* podcast
- Join the Community Food System Fellows in their upcoming Instagram Live session
- Save the date for the 12th Annual National Community Leadership Summit
- Help us celebrate Ronda Alexander's leadership at "A Village of Gratitude" network event
- Explore the NOW Resource Library featured resource, *Story-Based Strategy 101*
- 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 marzo del 2025 del [Boletín Informativo del NOW Innovation Forum](#) (Foro de Innovación NOW). Nos complace compartir oportunidades y recursos con usted este mes. En esta edición estás invitado a:

- Vea la última grabación del archivo de Talleres Virtuales de NOW, *Centrando la Sabiduría Ancestral a través del Diálogo Hogan: Reflexiones sobre el Compromiso Comunitario y la Soberanía de Dato*
- Escuchar el último episodio de la Temporada 3 de *In the Arena con NOW* podcast
- Únase a los Becarios del Sistema Alimentario Comunitario en su próxima sesión de en Vivo de Instagram
- Reservar la fecha para la 12a Cumbre Nacional de Liderazgo Comunitario
- Ayúdanos a celebrar el liderazgo de Ronda Alexander en el evento de network “Una Aldea de Gratiud”
- Explorar el recurso destacado de la Biblioteca de Recursos de NOW, *Estrategia Basada en Historias 101*
- 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

2025 NOW Webinar Archive: Centering Ancestral Wisdom through the Hogan Dialogue: Reflections on Community Engagement and Data Sovereignty

Thank you for joining us on March 13 for a powerful conversation with **Roberto Nutlouis (Navajo)**, Executive Director of Nihikeya and 2024 VVN Community Food Systems Fellow. View the webinar archive to access the recording and learn more about Roberto and Nihikeya's work in community engagement and transform systems towards greater data sovereignty and community healing.

[View Here](#)



In the Arena with NOW: New Episode



Tune into the last regular episode of Season 3, *The Power of Convivencia: Finding Connections through Community Care*, featuring **Dr. Michelle Gallas**. Serving as the lead pediatrician for the Centering Parenting program, Dr. Gallas shares more about how this innovative group-based model of care brings together children and families for group well child visits, peer learning, and meaningful connections across critical life stages in a child's first three years. Tune in to learn more about the power of convivencia - "coexistence" or "coliving"- outside the home, an important perspective learned from her patients, and how finding your passion and your people can build community power.

[Listen Here](#)

2025 Community Food Systems Fellowship Instagram Live

Please join us on **Wednesday, April 2 at 12 pm ET** to hear from two of Vital Village's 2025 Community Food Systems Fellows, **Nekia McDonald** from The Lighthouse | Black Girl Projects and **British Griffis** from Chicago Food Policy Action Council. Make sure to follow us at [@vitalvillage](#) and tune in for an exciting conversation on all things related to local food systems!

[Tune in Here](#)



2025 National Community Leadership Summit: Save the Date



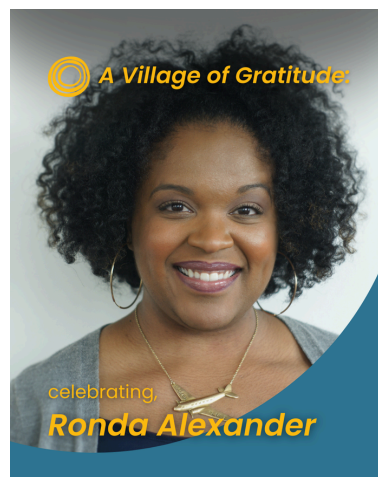
Join us **October 23 - 24, 2025** for the 12th annual National Community Leadership Summit in Boston, MA. This summit brings together trailblazers from around the country who are dedicated to helping children and families get equitable access to the resources they need to thrive. Save the dates and stay connected for registration announcements this spring.

[Stay Connected Here](#)

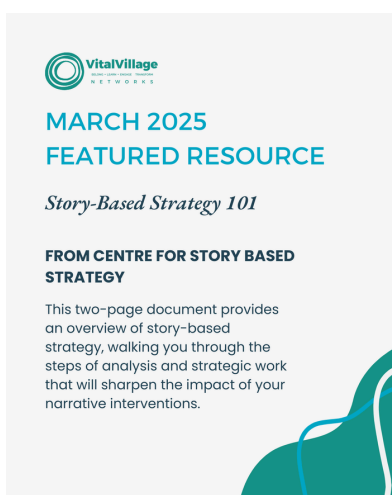
A Village of Gratitude: Celebrating Ronda Alexander's Leadership

Join us **Thursday, April 10 at 4:30 pm ET / 1:30 pm PT** as we gather in deep appreciation to honor Ronda Alexander's seven years of dedication, leadership, and impact at Vital Village Networks as our Director of National Partnerships! This celebration is an opportunity to express our gratitude, reflect on the journey we've shared, and send her forward with love and appreciation.

[Register Here](#)



NOW Resource Library Feature: Story-based Strategy 101



Center for Story Based Strategy presents, *Story-based Strategy 101*, a two-page document outlining the overview of story-based strategy. This brief will walk you through the steps of analysis and strategic work to sharpen the impact of your narrative interventions. Available for download in English, Spanish and Traditional Chinese. 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 help us reach our goal?

Give Together, 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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