

MEET YOUR FACILITATORS

Kara Eusebio



Kara Eusebio is a transracially adopted person and an expert on international and transracial adoption. Born in South Korea, she has lived in Canada since 2016. She has spoken to hundreds of adoptees, adoptive parents, and prospective adoptive parents about cross-cultural competence, special needs adoption, transracial adoption, anti-racism, and allyship. In Ottawa, she has presented at The Children's Bridge's AdopTALK and at PRIDE Ontario trainings. She also coordinated the Connect-a-Kid Adoptee Mentorship Program, run by The Children's Bridge and the Adoption Council of Canada, for young adoptees from 2017 to 2019. As Associate Director of Outreach and External Relations at Spence-Chapin, the largest adoption agency in New York City, she presented at the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) Conference and to print, radio, and television media on adoption

and child welfare-related topics.

Kara is the Senior Manager, Strategic Partnerships at Invest Ottawa and Bayview Yards, the innovation hub and technology accelerator in Canada's capital. She is also the Co-Lead of Women and Color Speaker Bootcamp, the first training program of its kind for women, Black, Indigenous, and people of colour, and LGBTQA2S+ tech professionals in Ottawa. She is a 2019 Ottawa Board of Trade and Ottawa Business Journal Forty Under 40 recipient. Raised in the United States, she holds a Master of Public Administration from American University and a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs from the George Washington University.

Karyn Arnould-Bakelaar



Karyn Arnould-Bakelaar is the Executive Director of The Children's Bridge adoption agency based in Ottawa, Ontario. In 2004, she co-created the *Families with Children from South Africa* network along with three other adoptive families and has presented at the North American Council on Adoptable Children (NACAC) Conference on maintaining cultural ties to your child's country of birth. She has created and currently facilitates several adoption related courses such as *The Neuro-biology of Early Trauma* and *Parenting Your Teen with an Early Trauma History*. She has written extensively on topics such as the ethics and human rights issues in intercountry adoption, and on power structures that maintain systems of inequality. She is the mother of three children ranging in age from 13 – 26 (one by birth, two by adoption). She has spent extensive time living and working in her sons' country of birth, South Africa.

Karyn holds a Master of Arts degree in International Law and African Studies from Carleton University, where she completed her thesis titled *Intergenerational Trauma and Post-Conflict Transitional Justice: A Case Study of South Africa and Lessons from Rwanda*. She completed her thesis while residing in KwaZulu Natal, South Africa through the supervision of Dr. Tshepo Madlingozi (University of Pretoria). She holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Ottawa in International Development and Globalization with a minor in Political Science.