

**Ellen B. Kagen, M.S.W.**



Ms. Ellen B. Kagen is President of Leadership Consulting and on the faculty as a Senior Policy Associate of the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development where she serves as Director of the *Georgetown*

*Leadership Initiative*, a national leadership learning and consultation effort for professionals and civic activists in the fields of health, education and human services. She also is the Editor of a leadership training curriculum which focuses specifically on the leadership role within complex systems change and community transformation. In addition, Ms. Kagen is a senior consultant with Indiggo Associates, a boutique consulting firm which specializes in leadership development for senior executives and leadership teams to improve their effectiveness in accomplishing personal, organizational and system goals.

Ms. Kagen is a highly skilled and dynamic facilitator, trainer and consultant with over 20 years experience working at the national, state and local levels of government and non profit organizations on leadership development, interagency integration, managing collaborative change processes and community development.

At the heart of Ms. Kagen' work is a focus on innovation and the creation of breakthrough strategies that sustain the evolution of constructive change. To support individual leaders, Ms. Kagen and her colleagues created an innovative new coaching and consultation model called *Transformation Facilitation* which strengthens leadership effectiveness in reaching system and organizational goals. In addition, at the national level, she played an instrumental role in the founding of the federal Child and Adolescent Service System Program (CASSP) and the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and their Families program and at a state level, was recently honored by Gov. Jay Nixon of Missouri for

her role in bringing innovation to State government by utilizing the public health approach to children's social and emotional well being. In her role as a civic activist, Ms. Kagen is the inaugural recipient of the International BBYO *One Voice Award* which honors her leadership in enhancing youth engagement and activism in communities around the world.

Prior to her work at Georgetown University, Ms. Kagen served as the Deputy Director of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's, Mental Health Services Program for Youth (MHSPY); the Deputy Director of the National Resource Network (NRN) for Child and Family Mental Health Services at the Washington Business Group on Health and the Children's Division Director for the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors.

Ms. Kagen has worked across a broad spectrum of organizations and agencies that support children and families and strengthen communities including such entities as the New Jersey Division of Health and Behavioral Health, Maryland Department of Education, Greater Miami Federation, Missouri Health Foundation/Show Me Bright Futures Initiative, Florida Department of Health, Michigan Impact Ingham County System of Care, Shoshana S. Cardin Leadership Development Program, University of Utah's National Institute for Child Welfare Leadership Initiative (NICWLI), Iowa Department of Children's Services and Oregon Children's Commission.

Ms. Kagen holds an MSW in Social Strategy from the University of Maryland and a Certificate in Leadership from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government. In addition, she is a proud Wexner Foundation Leadership Fellow (2005). She is the author of two chapters in [The Leadership Equation](#), *Leadership Function and Styles* and *The Work of Leadership in Systems Change* published by Brooks Publishing in 2010.

She and her husband David, have two children Andrea and Evan, and are both involved in building a strong family business and bringing about community transformation through personal involvement and impact philanthropy.