

Pablo Stansbery

Background Information

Pablo Stansbery received his doctorate in Human Development and Psychology in 1998 from Harvard University. He continued his post-doctoral training at the Child Development Unit within Boston Children's Hospital (Harvard Medical School). His research concentrates on the impact culture has on child rearing practices and how those practices influence developmental trajectories of children beginning at the earliest ages (0-6 years). His training uses both qualitative and quantitative methodologies to better understand how children grow and how families understand developmental milestones.

Dr. Stansbery moved to California in 2000 to help jump start local evaluation and community needs assessments in support of the California Children and Families Commission (First 5 California). Pablo has directed the evaluation of First 5 funded projects in Sacramento, San Joaquin, Merced, Contra Costa, San Benito, Solano and Monterey Counties. He has also worked in El Dorado, Los Angeles, Yuba, Santa Clara counties and across California to craft ways to measure the impact of early childhood development programs on young children, their families and the communities they live.

Dr. Stansbery specializes in linking lessons learned from research studies to the applied world of service delivery. He brings a unique understanding of the everyday challenges faced by families and social service agencies while providing expert technical assistance and integrity.

Dr. Stansbery also directs a longitudinal study in Costa Rica where he is tracking the development of children from birth as they enter kindergarten. The purpose of the Costa Rican Child Development Project is to identify early adult-child interactions and home environment conditions that may be linked to school success. Pablo is particularly interested in how routine narratives and other cultural communicative patterns influence the way families perceive and access social institutions (e.g. schools, medical system, justice system).

Earlier in his career, Pablo worked as a Peace Corps volunteer in projects aimed at developing early education curriculum and programs to support Women in Development. In both missions, Pablo ensured that families and communities were systematically included in the strategic planning process, program implementation and evaluation. Pablo also worked with Migration and Refugee Resettlement Services to support immigrants transition into a new life in the United States. He has also directed a community-based child development program. Pablo is English-Spanish bi-lingual.