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Jefferson Ready Start Network Welcomes Paula Munera Belanger
Belanger will help bridge connections with Latino families and early learning opportunities in Jefferson Parish

METAIRIE, LA (TBD) – Jefferson Ready Start Network (JRSN) announced today the addition of Paula Munera Belanger to the consulting team as Director of Early Childhood Equity and Access.

Belanger is a former director with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana Foundation and will work with JRSN to connect Latino families in Jefferson Parish with early learning and care opportunities.

“Paula brings invaluable connections, insights and collaboration to our team,” said JRSN Executive Director, Sarintha Stricklin, Ph.D. “As we address equitable access to high-quality early care and education amongst the Latino community, she will help us further this part of our mission.”

In July, Jefferson Ready Start Network released an impact report on the state of early childhood education among Latino families in Jefferson Parish. Only about 905 Latino children (**that is less than 5%**) under the age of 5 currently participate in registered, certified or licensed publicly funded early learning in Jefferson Parish. Now JRSN is taking the first steps to improving access through strategic initiatives including connecting with this community directly.

“I’m excited to work for the Hispanic and Latino community from another lens,” said Belanger. “I hope to be a vehicle to bring solutions and strategies for the betterment of this population in our parish.”

To learn more about Jefferson Ready Start Network, click [here](#).

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About Jefferson Ready Start Network: Under the authority of Jefferson Parish Schools, Jefferson Ready Start Network works to create a culture of high-quality, comprehensive early childhood services (birth to 5 years) through engagement and partnerships with families, educators and community members. For more information, visit www.jeffersonreadystartnetwork.com.