Jeff Edmondson is managing director of the Ballmer Group, the Seattle-based organization created by former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer and his wife, Connie, to direct their philanthropic efforts. He was managing director of StriveTogether, a national movement of 68 communities working to improve educational outcomes that bring together leaders in Pre-K-12 schools, higher education, business, industry, community organizations, government leaders, parents and other stakeholders who are committed to helping children succeed from cradle to career.

Edmondson was founding executive director of the Strive Partnership in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky, the flagship cradle to career partnership in Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky launched in 2006. The partnership has worked to help partners across sectors use data to align the time, talent, and treasure of the community behind what works for children. The work became a model for the concept of “collective impact” nationally in 2010.

Edmondson also worked as the Foundation Officer for KnowledgeWorks where he supported the CEO on special projects and governance. Prior to that he was the Peaceable Schools Coordinator at Woodrow Wilson Senior High School, the largest public secondary school in Washington, D.C., where he helped build partnerships between the school and the community to improve student outcomes.

Edmondson has been named an Ashoka Fellow, an Annie E. Casey Family and Children Fellow, and a Draper Richards Kaplan Social Entrepreneur. He was named the 2012 recipient of the American Express NGen Leadership Award given to an individual annually under 40 that has made significant contributions to improving outcomes in the social sector. He lives in Cincinnati with his wife Kelly and four kids (two sets of twins).
Facilitators

Caitlin McMunn Dooley, Ph.D. is Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning for the Georgia Department of Education. She has worked as an elementary classroom teacher, teacher educator, educational researcher, and professor at Georgia State University. Since earning degrees from the University of Virginia and the University of Texas, Dr. Dooley has authored over 50 publications and led and evaluated funded research projects totaling over $17 million to investigate children’s literacy learning and instruction, digital literacies, teacher learning, and education policy. Dooley was a writer for the national Computer Science education Frameworks and has been the principal investigator for several projects funded by the National Science Foundation for computer science education and learning technologies. She has served on several Boards, including the National Council of Teachers of English, Literacy Research Association, Georgia’s Brain Trust for Babies, the Get Georgia Reading Campaign Cabinet, and Decatur Makers.

Khurram Hassan, MPH is the managing partner for Advantage Consulting, LLC. His firm has provided evaluation, research, strategic planning, collective impact planning, and program design services for nonprofit organizations since 2008. Prior to his consulting work, Mr. Hassan was the Impact Director for the People at Risk Impact Area at the United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta. He coordinated planning and funding for the metro region’s Health Strategies (Substance Abuse Treatment, Mental Health Support, Physical Health) and Independence Strategies (In Home Support, Life Skills Training, Supplemental Transportation). Mr. Hassan was also involved with the United Way’s Regional Commission on Homelessness initiative. For the Regional Commission, he
specifically coordinated the Addiction/Mental Health initiatives such as Street Outreach Coordination, Treatment Courts Collaboration, and Treatment Capacity for Homeless Persons.

**Participant Flash Talk Feedback Local Expert Panelists**

**Christopher Allers, Ph.D.** is a Partner with Advantage Consulting LLC, received his Doctorate in Counseling (Georgia State University, 1993) and has excelled as a non-profit professional for more than 23 years. Dr. Allers has performed a variety of roles in the nonprofit sector including as an executive director, “funder,” researcher and independent consultant. He is currently an active member of the Georgia Center for Nonprofits Consulting Group. Chris served as the Executive Vice President at United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta from 2003-09 and helped launch the 2-1-1 system across the nation between 1999 and 2002. He is founder of Positive Impact, Inc.(the nation’s first HIV mental health services organization), founding Board President of Pathways Community Network (Georgia’s statewide homeless management information system) and founding Executive Director of Crossroads Community Ministries.

Dr. Allers has a distinguished professional record in the following areas: organizational/board development, program measurement and evaluation, results-based accountability/strategic planning, data management and technology systems, mental health/substance abuse and co-occurring disorder assessment and treatment, organizational change management.
Since December 2012, Arianne Weldon has served as the director of the Get Georgia Reading Campaign, Georgia’s platform for connecting people, agencies, organizations, sectors, and communities to ensure that all children in Georgia become proficient readers by the end of 3rd grade. In that role, Arianne uses her background in public health to encourage Campaign partners to apply an epidemiological approach to promoting reading proficiency for young children. By using multi-dimensional data to identify patterns of risk and protective factors related to language and literacy development, Arianne has helped the Campaign to find clues that can lead to possible solutions and to change the conversation about what is needed and what is possible in creating a new future for Georgia’s young children. Her work includes connecting and convening decision-makers from across the state to focus on families with children under the age of 8. Arianne holds a Master of Public Health from Emory University’s Rollins School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Georgia State University.