

About The Authors



Ajay Chaudry, PhD, is author of *Putting Children First: How Low-Wage Working Mothers Manage Child Care*, and co-author of *Cradle to Kindergarten: A New Plan to Combat Inequality* as well as articles related to child poverty, children of immigrant families, and U.S. social and economic policies. He is currently a Visiting Scholar at New York University, and previously served in the administration of President Barack Obama as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Human Services Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE) at HHS (2012-15). Other prior experiences include Senior Fellow & Director of the Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population at the Urban Institute (2007-12); Deputy Commissioner for Early Childhood Development at the NYC Administration for Children Services (2004-06); and faculty at the New School for Social Research. Dr. Chaudry completed an A.B. at Columbia University, and M.P.P. and Ph.D. at Harvard University.



Taryn Morrissey, PhD, co-author of *Cradle to Kindergarten: A New Plan to Combat Inequality* is Associate Professor of Public Policy, School of Public Affairs at American University and non-resident fellow at the Urban Institute. Her work focuses on examining and improving public policies for vulnerable children and her ongoing research investigates the effects of family economic instability, neighborhood poverty, and state paid family leave programs on children's health and achievement. From January 2013 to August 2014, Dr. Morrissey was on leave from American University serving as Senior Advisor in Human Services Policy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the US Department of Health and Human Services, working primarily on President Obama's Early Learning Initiative, including Early Head Start and child care. She received her PhD in Developmental Psychology from Cornell University and her BS from Tufts University.