

**The Law and Policy of Universal Preschool  
Friday, October 13, 2006**

Panelist Bio

**Maryann O'Sullivan**



Maryann O'Sullivan is the Founder and CEO of Preschool California a new broad-based multi-year advocacy campaign to achieve voluntary preschool for all of California's three and four year olds. The campaign brings together business leaders, educators, early care and education providers, labor, law enforcement, faith-based institutions, community leaders, parents, child advocates and other key constituencies to work to achieve preschool for all in California.

Ms. O'Sullivan was the founding State Director for Fight Crime: Invest in Kids *California*, an organization of law enforcement leaders advocating for prevention programs for California's young people. Ms. O'Sullivan served as the Consumer Education Officer for the California HealthCare Foundation's Quality Initiative. She was the founding Executive Director of Health Access, a statewide consumer coalition that recently celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary advocating for health care for all and especially for health care services for low income populations. Ms. O'Sullivan served as Director of Special Health Initiatives at Children Now. She also worked as an advocate for Consumers Union and California Common Cause. She traveled twice to South Africa where she served as a consultant for the Advocacy Institute and the Kaiser Family Foundation training progressive health care advocates to influence the newly democratic South African government. Ms. O'Sullivan served as a lecturer at San Francisco State University teaching health policy. Ms. O'Sullivan is a member of the California Bar.