

THE JOCELYN GRAVES AWARD

For Distinguished Service to
Public Education



Susan Stevenson

Flamboyan Foundation, 2010-2016

Jocelyn Graves

was a parent looking to forge a more productive relationship with her children's school when she galvanized families, educators and community organizers to form the Parent Teacher Home Visit Project in 1998. A single mother with serious health issues, she nevertheless advocated tirelessly for her community, for HIV/AIDS awareness, and for education reform. Jocelyn Graves was a volunteer and trainer for PTHVP until her passing in 2007.



In memory of one of our founding mothers, Jocelyn Graves, we honor Susan Stevenson. As founding Executive Director in Washington, D.C., Susan led the effort to create Flamboyan's unique approach to family engagement, which focuses on building teacher and school-level capacity to engage with families authentically and meaningfully so children succeed. Under Susan's leadership, Flamboyan brought the Parent Teacher Home Visit project's model of home visiting to D.C., and developed a close collaborative partnership with DC Public Schools, which is now a national leader in family engagement.

Through the combined efforts of Flamboyan staff and partners, in Washington, D.C. today over 1,100 teachers and school leaders have been trained, 54 schools (public and charter) are implementing intensive family engagement initiatives, and almost 40,000 home visits have been performed, including 13,000 in the 2015-16 school year alone. In addition to overseeing the rapid growth of Flamboyan's family engagement efforts, Susan spearheaded the effort to identify and leverage \$3.5 million in additional funding for family engagement during her tenure. She also oversaw the completion of an external evaluation of home visits in DC, which found positive associations between teachers' home visiting practices and student literacy and attendance.

Prior to joining Flamboyan, Susan co-directed United Way America's "Success by 6" initiative, a national network of early childhood organizations. She also worked in international development, serving as Vice President, Latin America and Vice President, International for Ashoka, where she led a team of 75 people in 34 offices worldwide to support the efforts of social entrepreneurs. Susan also worked as a management consultant for McKinsey and Company in New York and Argentina. She started her career as a Program Assistant for Save the Children in Bolivia.

Susan earned her Master of Business Administration from the Stanford Graduate School of Business and her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Spanish from Indiana University. Susan lives in Washington, D.C. with her husband, David Littleton and two teenage daughters. Susan is currently consulting with organizations launching family engagement initiatives around the country.