## Inaugural Don and Rosemary Vial Awards for Digital Inclusion Exemplary Individual Performance Nominee

## **Kathleen Mooney**

Director of School Partnerships Families in Schools

As an education advocate and dedicated professional, Kathleen has played a vital role in managing parent engagement programs throughout Southern California for more than nine years. Under her guidance at Families in Schools, Kathleen has successfully implemented parent programs within Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and has most recently led the charge of implementing the School2Home (S2H) Initiative.

Her leadership has been an instrumental force in the successful piloting of S2H at both Stevenson and Central Middle Schools since January 2009. Parents and students from both middle schools come from traditionally underserved backgrounds where access to technology has been historically limited. Kathleen's expertise working with schools and diverse communities has proven exceptionally valuable and vital to improving the Digital Divide in these communities.

Kathleen has developed parent curriculum focused on strengthening the involvement of all parents in the education of their children through the use of digital technologies. She provided professional development to school staff on how to incorporate technology into their classroom and supported the implementation of workshops for students and parents on Digital Literacy skills and home-to-school online communications.

Kathleen's work has advanced the work of Digital Inclusion by making computers relevant to parents and exposing the benefits of technology to many disadvantaged communities, as well as facilitating the process of bringing high-speed digital access and a computer into their homes.

Four words describe Kathleen: leadership, vision, passion, and collaboration. Kathleen is a life-long education leader who is dedicated to supporting schools and community organizations as they engage families to increase student achievement. Kathleen's career in education has focused on working towards achieving her mission that parents should be equal partners with school staff to ensure that all students succeed.