



**2012 Don and Rosemary Vial Awards for Digital Inclusion
Exemplary Individual Performance Nominee**

Mr. Luis Pérez

Director of Digital Literacy Programs
Building Blocks for Kids



As Director of Digital Literacy Programs for the Building Blocks for Kids Collaborative (BBK) Luis has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life of families in Central Richmond through the development and implementation of Digital Literacy and social enrichment programs that incorporate leadership development, educational advancement, and economic community development into its daily activities.

In his current role, Luis is responsible for implementing the BBK Collaborative's Emerging Technology Plan for Family Inclusion (ETPFI). In his capacity as Director, Luis organized his small team to address several complex tasks: distributing computers to 1,000 families that are very mobile and often inaccessible, developing an English and Spanish Digital Literacy training curriculum that was accessible to youth and adults, providing free Internet access in a community that has few resources and no available broadband technology and addressing the challenges related to ensuring African American and Latino families have equal opportunity and access to the online world. Luis is a staunch advocate of the development and revitalization of Richmond and he passionately believes that Richmond can be at the forefront of the movement to prepare underserved youth to master 21st century skills.

Luis is a 2011 Compasspoint Next Generation Leaders of Color Fellow; he was awarded the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth -Outstanding Individual Working in a Program award in 2008; and, received a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for his work with homeless youth from both Congressman George Miller and the California Department of Education in 2008.