

**School Readiness: Closing Racial and Ethnic Gaps  
Policymakers and Practitioners Conference  
Wednesday, March 8, 2006**

at  
**Brown University Faculty Club ❖ One Magee Street ❖ Providence, RI**

- 8:30 – 9:15**      **Registration and Breakfast**
- 9:15 – 9:30**      **Welcome**  
❖ *Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT*  
❖ *Mayor David N. Cicilline, Providence*  
❖ *Stephanie McGencey, Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families*
- 9:30 – 9:40**      **Introductory Remarks**  
❖ *Commissioner Peter McWalters, Rhode Island Department of Education*
- 9:40 – 10:30**      **Keynote Address**  
*Dr. Jeanne Brooks-Gunn, Columbia University*  
Introduction of keynote speaker by *Dr. Lewis P. Lipsitt,*  
*Brown University and Board Chair, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT*
- 10:30 – 11:00**      **Questions and Discussion**
- 11:00 – 11:15**      **Break**
- 11:15 – 12:00**      **The Time is Now – Implications for Action**  
Moderator: *Elizabeth Burke Bryant, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT*  
Panelists:  
❖ *Dr. Cynthia García Coll, Education Department, Brown University*  
❖ *Dr. Rosa Smith, Schott Foundation for Public Education*
- 12:00 – 12:30**      **Questions and Discussion**
- 12:30 – 1:30**      **Lunch**
- 1:30 – 2:45**      **Workshops**  
Four workshops focused on policy and practice implications of key areas of the *Journal* and implications for action in states and communities. Refer to the workshop descriptions for more information.
- 3:00 – 3:30**      **Closing Speaker**  
*Dr. Donnie W. Evans, Superintendent of Public Schools*  
Introduction of closing speaker by *Dr. Ronald Seifer, Director,*  
*Center for Human Development at Brown University*
- 3:30 – 4:00**      **Participant Reflections on Action Steps**

Sponsored by the Princeton/Brookings Future of Children, Rhode Island KIDS COUNT, the Center for Human Development at Brown University, the Education Research Section and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, Grantmakers for Children, Youth and Families, and the Kauffman Foundation.