

Evelyn Boyd Simmons

Evelyn has a 25 year record of varied and effective cross-cultural and cross-sector advocacy and collaboration, working with governments, private sector, and NGOs to drive results. She has earned a reputation for strategic vision, critical thinking, and problem-solving.

A 32 year resident of the District of Columbia, she has lived in ANC2F since 1998. She was the first appointed chair of the ANC2F Education Committee and currently serves as Co-chair with Commissioner Matt Connolly. Evelyn is an active member of the Logan Circle Community Association (LCCA) and has helped shape its education activities and led efforts to build community support around traditional neighborhood DCPS schools. She represented Ward 2 on the DC Head Start Parent Policy Council and has served as Vice President of the Garrison Elementary School PTA and on the Local School Advisory Team. She convened the Cardozo Feeder System Parent Leaders group which delivered recommendations for holistic neighborhood school improvements to Chancellor Kaya Henderson. In recognition of these efforts, LCCA awarded her the 2012 Community Improvement Award.

Evelyn began her career in Dakar, Senegal as a volunteer Project Assistant to the Country Director for Africare, afterward returning to Washington to work in the US Senate and US Department of State to work on foreign policy and development issues. She left federal government service in 1991 and joined the private sector which included an 11 year stint with Motorola, first lobbying domestic telecommunications issues then moving back into the international arena as Director of International Trade Policy for Europe, Middle East, and Africa then Latin America. She later served as Director of International Affairs for Pfizer, developing a Washington-based component of a campaign to raise awareness of the contributions of the company in improving global health and brokering partnerships with international organizations and NGOs. She also provided strategic government affairs advice to business teams and advised NGOs on how to partner effectively with corporations.

A graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service (SFS) with a major in International Politics, Evelyn was awarded a Dean's Citation for service to SFS. She holds certificates in partnership brokering from The Partnering Initiative of the International Business Leaders Forum, a London-based non-profit organization (<http://thepartneringinitiative.org>) and in Parent Leadership Training, from the Parent Leadership Training Institute, a Hartford, Connecticut-based civic leadership initiative of the Connecticut Commission on Children (<http://www.cga.ct.gov/coc/PLTI.htm>).

In addition to her volunteer education advocacy, Evelyn does occasional consulting providing strategic advice, coaching, and facilitation services to help individuals and organizations build capacity for robust, productive multi-stakeholder collaborations. She and her husband have two children in DCPS.