



Keynote Speaker

Edward F. Zigler, PhD

Yale University Sterling Professor of Psychology, Emeritus;
Director Emeritus, The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy, Yale University



Edward Zigler, Sterling Professor of Psychology Emeritus at Yale University, is the former Head of the Psychology Section of the Child Study Center at Yale's School of Medicine and founder of the Center in Child Development and Social Policy. The Center has been renamed in his honor and is now known as The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy. He is the founder of the School of the 21st Century, which has been adopted by more than 1,300 schools nationwide.

Dr. Zigler regularly testifies as an expert witness before congressional committees and has served as a consultant to a number of cabinet-rank officers. He was one of the planners of Project Head Start and President Carter later named him chair of the 15th anniversary analysis committee.

From 1970 to 1972, Dr. Zigler was the first director of the U. S. Office of Child Development (now the Administration on Children, Youth, and Families) and chief of the U. S. Children's Bureau. He was also a member of the Advisory Committee on Head Start Quality and Expansion and of the planning committee for the Early Head Start program for families and children ages zero to three.

He continues to work full-time on his scholarly efforts and is currently conceptualizing a new role for Head Start where universal public preschool becomes a reality.

Dr. Zigler's many honors include awards from the American Psychological Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Society for Research in Child Development, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, the American Academy on Mental Retardation, the American Orthopsychiatric Association, the National Head Start Association, the Heinz Foundation, and Teachers College, Columbia University. Among his many honorary degrees are ones from Boston College and McGill University in Canada.