

EARLY EDUCATION COMMISSION

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Background on the Speaker

May 5, 2009 Meeting



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W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek, MI

Anthony (Tony) Berkley is an anthropologist with 15 years of domestic and international experience in program design, strategic planning, and education research. Previously he was a Program Director in Youth & Education at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. He also directed the learning and evaluation process around the Foundation's Youth & Education grants.

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation was established in 1930 to "help people help themselves." Specifically, the organization supports children, families and communities as they strengthen and create conditions that propel vulnerable children to achieve success as individuals and as contributors to the larger community and society.

For greatest impact, the Foundation targets its grants toward specific areas, including health, food systems and rural development, youth and education, and philanthropy and volunteerism. Among the grants featured in its 2008 annual report are SPARK (Supporting Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids), which fosters family engagement and community collaboration on behalf of young children, and Baby Steps, Inc., a "good beginnings" program for low income parents of children ages birth to age five.

Tony has been a past grantee of The Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, The Spencer Foundation for Research Related to Education, and The Tinker Foundation. He has held faculty positions at the University of Chicago and the University of Michigan. He is the author of numerous publications and presentations in the fields of knowledge management, education, and anthropology. His roster of clients has included the Wisconsin Center for Education Research (University of Wisconsin), Secretaría de Educación Pública -Sección General de Educación Indígena (Yucatán, México), Retroliner, Inc., Sociometrics, Inc., WestEd, and the California Department of Education.

Tony holds both master's and doctoral degrees in anthropology from the University of Chicago. In addition, he holds a bachelor's degree in political science, also from the University of Chicago. He is a member of several professional associations including Grantmakers for Education, American Educational Research Association, and the American Anthropological Association.