Uniting women to give local kids THE VERY BEST START in school and in life

“If you’re not doing one thing that you’re scared about every day, you’re not growing”

- Anna Maria Chávez
2018 Keynote Speaker
Anna Maria Chávez’s experiences growing up in rural Arizona lit a passion for public service and social engagement. Her desire to transform the world through servant leadership led her to Yale University, before pursuing a juris doctorate at the University of Arizona. She held numerous posts in President Bill Clinton’s administration, and later returned to Arizona to serve then-governor Janet Napolitano. Her success led to her appointment as the CEO of Girl Scouts of the USA, where she served from 2011-2016 as the first woman of color to lead the iconic organization in their 104-year history.

In 2017, Chávez joined the National Council on Aging (NCOA), our nation’s oldest advocacy organization dedicated to helping Americans navigate the challenges of aging. Less than a year later, Chávez was promoted to Executive Vice President and Chief Growth Officer where she is responsible for the day-to-day operations and leading the national team in advancing the organization’s mission to improve the health and economic security of 10 million older adults by 2020.