Join us this fall for Eluna’s 2020 Community Conversations, a series of free, livestreamed events focused on how community members can support kids impacted by grief or addiction.

Thursday, October 8, 2020
Topic: What’s It Like Growing Up with Addiction at Home?

Join us to learn more about how you can understand and support kids and families impacted by a loved one’s substance use disorder and prevent kids from developing an addiction of their own. This community dialogue will feature panelists honestly sharing what daily life is like living with someone struggling with substance use disorder, being separated from family members because of addiction, what risk factors are involved, and how important relationships and community response can be to provide support. Through this discussion, attendees will learn to recognize when kids may be in distress, how they can help foster coping skills, and what they can do to help break the cycle so kids can be kids.

Moderated by Kavitha Cardoza
Kavitha Cardoza is an award winning broadcast reporter whose work has seen tremendous impact. She is especially passionate about telling the stories of vulnerable populations—“the last, the least and the littlest.”

She has hosted “Breaking Ground with Kavitha Cardoza,” a documentary series on education that aired on more than 150 public radio stations. Her work has been seen, heard and read by millions on outlets including Morning Edition and All Things Considered on NPR, PBS NewsHour, BBC World News, Washington Post, and The Atlantic.

She is a frequent guest and moderator at national events, discussing education, poverty and children. During her time as a public media reporter, she had participated in reporting initiatives with NPR as well as member station “two-ways,” fundraising and community events.

Read Kavitha’s October 2019 NPR coverage of Camp Mariposa.
Thursday, November 12, 2020
Topic: Let’s Get Real About Grief

This community dialogue will focus on the unique ways we grieve as individuals and communities, and how we can all be more comfortable with grief and support those grieving. Whether losing a spouse in Iraq, a parent to cancer or a friend to COVID-19, your grief journey is unique and should be processed in its own time and way. Panelists for this livestream event will discuss how children and adults grieve differently, how to support people grieving, how to reach out for help when you need it, and how bereavement affects us in our daily lives.

Moderated by Laura Ling
Laura Ling is an award winning journalist and author. She has hosted the podcast Everyday Bravery, the Discovery mini-documentary series, The Power of Kindness, and two documentary series airing on the E! Network: E! Investigates and Society X with Laura Ling. As the Director of Development for Discovery Digital Networks, she oversaw the creation and production of original web series, which have garnered tens of millions of views online. Ling served as Vice President of Current TV’s journalism department and created Vanguard, the network’s weekly investigative documentary series.

In March 2009, while reporting on the trafficking of North Korean women, Ling and her colleague Euna Lee were detained by North Korean soldiers along the China-North Korea border. The two journalists were arrested and held captive in North Korea for 140 days before being granted a special pardon and returning to the United States. She documented her experience in the 2010 memoir, Somewhere Inside: One Sister’s Captivity in North Korea and the Other’s Fight to Bring Her Home, that she penned with her sister, Lisa.

As a correspondent for SoCal Connected, the hard-hitting news magazine series airing on KCET, Ling’s work was recognized with both an Emmy and a national Edward R. Murrow award. Ling has served as a producer for Channel One News and co-created Breaking it Down, a documentary series on MTV that aired between 1999 and 2001. Her work has also appeared on ABC’s Nightline, NBC, and PBS. She has written editorials for the Los Angeles Times and CNN.com.