SCRI provides knowledge and tools that empower communities and programs to reach more young people where they are, through adults they know, with strategies that work.

Turning Evidence Into Action

Too often, organizations lack the means to connect research and evidence to their everyday programs and practices. Evidence may exist, but it’s not widely known or shared in a practical way. And day to day operations can be overwhelming, offering little time to learn from research, investigate and test new approaches, and document what works.

Named in honor of BellXcel’s longtime Board Chair, Laurene Sperling, SCRI bridges the research to practice to policy gap, walking alongside partners as they strengthen goals, implement high-quality practices, expand to reach more young people, and advocate for improved policies.

Why Partner with SCRI?

**Evidence-based practice is our specialty**
We have vast experience implementing evidence-based programming in partnership with schools, community-based programs, and national nonprofits.

**Data guides our work**
We collect, analyze, translate, and harness the power of data to optimize youth programming. We help our partners focus their energy on strategies that will increase quality and deepen impact.

**Collaboration leads to innovation**
Everything we do is in partnership with others. Our team is skilled at transferring knowledge and building the capacity of partners in ways that lead to innovations in models and services.
Tap Into a Legacy of Innovation Spanning Over a Quarter Century

SCRI is part of BellXcel, which has grown from a single afterschool program to become a national nonprofit leader in OST education. Drawing on decades of firsthand implementation experience and a culture of continuous improvement, SCRI is poised to share knowledge, lessons learned, and effective practices more broadly across the youth services field.

“Throughout its history, innovation and research have been flagships of BellXcel. SCRI is uniquely positioned to amplify this work and serve as a dedicated platform to expand the influence and visibility of BellXcel’s growing body of evidence.” - Laurene Sperling
BellXcel Board Chair Emeritus

Brenda McLaughlin
SCRI Managing Partner

Brenda oversees research and evaluation and develops solutions to elevate the quality and impact of educational experiences nationally. Prior to joining BellXcel, Brenda founded The Learning Agenda, a consultancy dedicated to helping nonprofits, philanthropies, and educators expand their capacity. She also served as vice president at the National Summer Learning Association.

She holds a Master of Arts in public policy from Johns Hopkins University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Spanish and Latin American Studies from Univ. of Pittsburgh.

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