

# Child & Family Studies QUARTERLY

SPRING 2012

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND COMMUNITY SCIENCES • LOUIS DE LA PARTE FLORIDA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE

## 2011 CFS Accomplishments

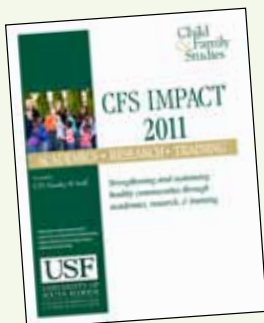
### In FY 2011, CFS managed grants totaling

**\$7,716,736** from local, state, and federal sources to resolve issues of mental and behavioral health, disability, education and healthy development. Federal sponsors included:

- U.S. Department of Education/Institute of Education Sciences.
- Administration for Children and Families.
- U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.
- U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs.
- ACF/Administration on Developmental Disabilities.
- U.S. Department of Education/National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research.
- U.S. Department of Labor and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

**CFS submitted a total of \$27,225,949 in proposals for FY2011**, and secured nearly \$5 million in new funding, which includes:

- \$1.4 million the Agency Workforce Innovation for the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngster Program.
- \$1.7 million from the Florida Department of Education for the Positive Behavior Support Team Training and Technical Assistance Center.
- \$542,000 from the Administration for Children & Families for the University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities.



Learn more about our accomplishments in the CFS Impact 2011

## CFS Welcomes Dean Serovich!

Julianne Serovich, chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Science at Ohio State University (HDFS-OSU) since 2005, has been appointed dean of the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences. Bringing two decades of administrative and research success, she is expected to take up her new role by summer 2012, with her faculty appointment in the Department of Child & Family Studies.



A widely respected couples and family therapist, Dr. Serovich was integral to gaining accreditation for the OSU Couples and Family Therapy (CFT) doctoral program, as well as national attention for the department. Her efforts served ultimately to increase not only student enrollment (by 40 percent) but also the research productivity of an HDFS faculty that has roughly doubled in size. She also has been at the forefront of engaging faculty and students in the development of the undergraduate curriculum, including the design and implementation of a number of high-quality online courses.

Her work began more than two decades ago at Texas Tech University, where, after receiving her doctorate from the University of Georgia, she was named an assistant professor of marriage and family therapy in 1991. Also a graduate of Loyola College, Baltimore, she joined the OSU faculty in 1995 and was named the inaugural director of the CFT program. Since 1997, she has received grant funding in excess of \$9 million, mostly from the National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH).

“I am extremely honored to be chosen as the next dean of the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences at the University of South Florida. I am excited to work with the talented faculty, staff and students of the college as we seek innovative solutions to pressing real-world problems,” said Serovich. “I believe we are positioned to have an enormously positive impact on the challenges we face as citizens of the Tampa Bay community, the state of Florida and of the world. I look forward to facing these challenges together and to producing groundbreaking discoveries that can shape policy and light the way to a brighter, healthier future.”

## Announcing CFS Community Solutions

### A National Resource for System Planning and Community Capacity Building



CFS has recently launched a new website to serve as a national resource for research-based system planning and community capacity building. Our focus is to share our nationally

recognized and far-reaching efforts to improve and integrate services in the juvenile justice, mental health, education and child welfare systems. The website offers a glimpse of our expertise in the areas of technical assistance and training, research, evaluation and online training available so that individuals, communities and states can gain the knowledge and skills needed to effectively provide behavioral health services and supports to all children, youth and their families. Visit the website today at <http://cfscommunitysolutions.cbcs.usf.edu/>

# Welcome



## Drs. Krista Kutash & Al Duchnowski Receive Professor Emeritus Status

Congratulations to Drs. Krista Kutash and Al Duchnowski, who will be granted the status of Professor Emeritus upon their retirement this spring. Having served as faculty members in CFS for more than 25 years, Dr. Kutash (28 years) and Dr. Duchnowski (27 years), both served as Co-Deputy Directors of the nationally recognized Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health (RTC) that operated over a period of 25 years and received \$15 million in federal funding.

**Dr. Kutash** is recognized for her expertise in community-applied research methodology and her application of these methods to researching publicly funded children's mental health services, school-based mental health, and parent-support programs. In addition to her contributions to RTC, Dr. Kutash has been a major collaborator on successful federal grants that totaled \$5 million. Her federal funding has included research sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the National Institute on Disabilities and Rehabilitation Research, Office of Special Education Programs and the Institute of Education Sciences. She has published widely and has produced 3 books and over 100 publications including journal articles, book chapters and monographs.

**Dr. Duchnowski** worked to develop the National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health, serving on the board for 10 years. Additionally, he serves on five editorial boards, has served on many review panels, and served a term as a member of the NIMH Standing Review Panel for Children's Mental Health Services. Dr. Duchnowski has also completed over 60 publications in peer-reviewed journals, over 150 papers presented at conferences, as well as co-edited five books, 22 book chapters and several monographs. For more information, visit <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>



Dr. Kirsten Ellingsen

## Welcome Dr. Ellingsen!

### Research Director Selected for HIPPIY USA National Research Center to Focus on Early Child Development



**HIPPIYUSA**  
Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters

The HIPPIY USA national research center, housed within the USF Department of Child & Family Studies, has selected a research director to oversee a national research strategy in the areas of early childhood/family literacy and early childhood development. Dr. Kirsten M. Ellingsen joins CFS with a background as a clinician and researcher with more than 15 years involvement in child and family focused research. She is passionate about facilitating the health and development of young children, reducing preventable secondary conditions, and maximizing positive functioning and engagement in daily life for those most vulnerable due to biological or environmental risk.

HIPPIY (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) a home visiting program that focuses on parent involved early learning, offers services directly to parents, who then work with their own three, four, and five year old children. HIPPIY's mission is to empower parents as primary educators of their children in the home, and foster parent involvement in school and community to maximize the chances of successful early school experiences. It is listed as one of the seven models selected as an evidence-based home visiting model approved for funding under the Affordable Care Act Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, and includes a network of over 150 home-based, early childhood programs throughout the United States.

"For many years, I have dreamt about creating a true partnership with a university to lead HIPPIY research activities," said Dr. Miriam Westheimer, Director of HIPPIY International. "The idea has been around for a very long time, but it was not until Dr. Mario Hernandez grasped onto it, that the idea became a reality. Given the creative and multi-disciplinary approach and attitude of the Department of Child and Family Studies, I have no doubt that HIPPIY research in the US has found a supportive and invigorating home base. I wish Dr. Kirsten Ellingsen all the very best and am eager to start working together!"

Dr. Ellingsen's new duties will include designing and implementing a national research strategy for HIPPIY USA, developing collaborative research partnerships with others conducting research, and securing external funding for conducting national research studies.

"Dr. Ellingsen has already hit the ground running by joining with us to discuss research issues and challenges at a joint presentation for the upcoming 25th Annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference in March 2012," said Dr. Paul J. Wirtz, HIPPIY USA Board Member. "In addition, she has already proposed a plan to reach out to HIPPIY practitioners and researchers from across the country in the next few months. The HIPPIY Board has recognized the need for this center and a lead researcher. We are looking forward to a fruitful and productive relationship with USF and Dr. Ellingsen."

"I'm excited about the research possibilities that will come from the establishment of the National Research and Evaluation Center for HIPPIY USA. I'm looking forward to collaborating with colleagues at other universities across the country and internationally to create a research and evaluation agenda for HIPPIY," said Dr. Ellingsen.



## New Funding

### Reducing Alcohol, Tobacco & Marijuana Use Among African American Youth: New Grant To Pilot On-Line Training Program

Dr. Carol MacKinnon-Lewis from the Department of Child & Family Studies has been awarded a two-year, \$659,296 grant from the National Institutes of Health/ National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). She will be piloting a live, on-line training and technical assistance program to test the effectiveness of an internet platform for the dissemination and implementation of the Strong African American Families Program (SAAF), a universal preventive intervention shown to be effective in reducing alcohol, tobacco and marijuana use among African American youth living in rural communities.



Carol MacKinnon-Lewis

The pilot program will be implemented in Gadsden County, unique in Florida because it is the state's only county with an African American majority population – 56% according to the 2010 U.S. Census. It is also one of the poorest counties in Florida, with more than one in three children living below the poverty level.

“Despite huge investments in health care, barriers to the delivery and utilization of effective behavioral health services often lead to limited access to preventive programs, especially for minorities and the poor living in rural areas,” said Dr. MacKinnon-Lewis. “This often results in health disparities for these groups, an issue relevant to NIDA’s mission.” For complete details, visit <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>.



### KIDS COUNT Numbers Reveal Changing Faces of Poverty

The topic of poverty has made the headlines in Florida so often that unfortunately, it isn't considered anything new. What is new, however, is the face of poverty and the needs of those, who for the first time in their lives, are no longer able to make ends meet. Nearly 8 million of America's children live in high-poverty areas — about 1.6 million more since 2000 — according to a new KIDS COUNT® Data Snapshot from the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

The new numbers parallel data released in the 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book, which indicated a significant jump in child poverty over the last decade, as well as an increase in kids living in low-income families. The 2011 Data Book, *America's Children, America's Challenge: Promoting Opportunity for the Next Generation*, reveals that “we must act now to restore opportunity for all through a comprehensive, two-generation strategy that helps both children and their parents succeed every step of the way.”

Through its KIDS COUNT project, The Annie E. Casey Foundation has tracked the well-being of children at the national, state, and local level for the past 21 years. Visit Florida KIDS COUNT to view these resources, as well as Florida comparisons to the national trends. <http://floridakidscount.fmhi.usf.edu/>

### Recent KIDS COUNT Publications

- KIDS COUNT® Data Snapshot
- National KIDS COUNT Data Book 2011
- 2011 KIDS COUNT Data Book: A Florida Comparison
- Why Reading by the End of Third Grade Matters in Florida



### \$300,000 State Grant to Help Youth and Adults with Developmental Disabilities Gain Employment

The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) has been awarded a three-year grant totaling \$300,000 for an initiative entitled the Collaborative on Discovery and Innovation in Employment (CODIE). The project, funded by Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., will help to build the capacity of school professionals in collaboration with community action partners to use the Discovery Process in supporting youth and adults with developmental disabilities in achieving customized employment. The Discovery Process utilizes person-centered assessment strategies to determine individual skills, talents, desires, support strategies, and work-related needs to yield a selection of vocational options that can be customized into wage or self-employment.

FCIC at USF was established in October 2005 through a University Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service (UCEDD) grant award from the Administration on Developmental Disabilities. Since 1963, UCEDD has been working to accomplish a shared vision that foresees a nation in which all Americans, including Americans with disabilities, participate fully in their communities. FCIC is committed to developing a range of supports and services in the areas of Community Supports, Early Childhood, Transition, Education, Employment, Health, Interdisciplinary Training, Public Policy, and Cultural Competence. Dr. Lise Fox, Director of the Division of Applied Research and Educational Supports, is Principal Investigator on the project. Nila Benito and Brenda Clark will be the project leads and will provide training and technical assistance to CODIE teams. Dr. Tammy Jorgensen-Smith is co-PI and will facilitate the evaluation of the project.



## Welcome ICEI Clinic!

The USF Interdisciplinary Center for Evaluation and Intervention (ICEI) Clinic is part of the Florida Diagnostic and Learning Resources System (FDLRS) statewide program of comprehensive services for children. There are a total of five FDLRS Specialized Multidisciplinary Centers, each located on a university campus. The mission of ICEI, housed within CFS, is to provide specialized services to school-aged students who present with serious and complex behavioral and social/emotional conditions and who have, or are at risk of having, developmental disabilities such as Autism Spectrum Disorders.

ICEI is funded by the Florida Department of Education to provide services to students who have received supports from the school system but continue to show minimal to no response to interventions. Clinic staff collaborate with schools, community agencies, and families to implement evidence-based interventions with fidelity. The ICEI team includes professionals from the discipline areas of applied behavior analysis, psychology, communication disorders, family science, pediatrics, psychiatry, social work, and special education.

## For additional information

Call 813-974-0968,  
or email ICEI@usf.edu

## Intensive Youth Suicide Prevention Workshop Successfully Piloted in Tampa

A new training curriculum developed and piloted by CFS researchers can help communities and schools gain knowledge and skill in planning a community approach to youth suicide prevention. Kathy Lazear and Steve Roggenbaum, authors of the Youth Suicide Prevention School-Based Guide, developed the two-day intensive workshop, which was recently piloted in Tampa, FL. Both Lazear and Roggenbaum have consulted with and provided technical assistance to numerous states and local communities on suicide prevention, as well as having presented at and facilitated many conferences, meetings and trainings.

Participants at the workshop included representatives from county mental health organizations, family organizations, hospitals and churches, counselors and suicide prevention specialists from schools, advocates and family members who lost a loved one to suicide. One school counselor who attended shared that 23 students from her middle school last year had revealed suicide ideation. This year, she wants to be better prepared when intervention is necessary.

“Individuals with accurate information can be better prepared to identify youth at risk for suicide, demonstrate caring behavior, and refer or link youth to appropriate resources,” said Kathy Lazear. “Community venues where youth spend significant time are all potential avenues for intervention strategies. School-based prevention programs can be very effective since schools provide an environment with a high likelihood of exposure to a suicide prevention program for adolescents.”

## Future Trainings

Lazear and Roggenbaum are conducting a pre-conference workshop at the Annual Children’s Mental Health Research & Policy Conference in Tampa March 4th. They also plan to expand the training for individual schools and communities. For cost and additional information, contact Steve Roggenbaum at 813-974-6149 or roggenba@usf.edu.



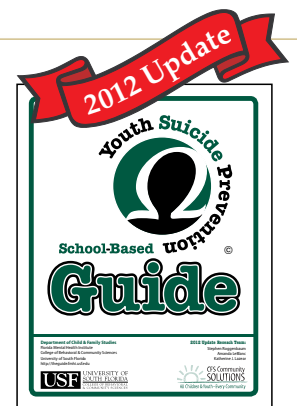
## 2012 Edition Now Available!

The 2012 Edition of the *Youth Suicide Prevention School-based Guide* is now available online and printed copies can be purchased for \$20.

Designed to provide accurate, user-friendly information for school administrators, staff, and faculty, the Guide:

- Defines the elements of a comprehensive, school-based suicide prevention program.
- Examines the scientific literature to determine what works in reducing the incidence of suicide.
- Contains checklists that may be completed by schools to evaluate the adequacy of their suicide prevention programs.
- Attempts to provide what research and exemplary practices have found and suggest about issues related to adolescent suicide prevention.

Visit <http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu> for the online version and order forms for print copies.





## Applied Behavior Analysis News

### Jobs in the Field of “Changing Behavior” Change Job Prospects for 100% of USF’s ABA Grads

It isn’t very common these days to hear that 100% of graduates from a university graduate program are successful in finding jobs, but the University of South Florida’s Master’s Program in Applied Behavior Analysis can say just that. Since the two-year program began in 2006, graduates have had no trouble finding jobs. Their expertise, applying strategies to change human behavior, is needed in many areas to help people change a vast array of problematic behaviors.

The fields of developmental disabilities, autism, mental health, education, rehabilitation, children and families, as well as business and industry all benefit from the principles of applied behavior analysis whose application can lead to positive and sustained behavior change for individuals and groups.

The program, which enrolls 20 students each year, involves a mix of scientific application and practitioner experience. Undergraduate students in areas such as psychology, social work or special education find the ABA master’s program is just what they need to provide valuable professional training that can lead to a fulfilling career. Visit <http://aba.cbcs.usf.edu/>

### Undergraduate Minor in ABA

In Spring 2012, the ABA program began offering courses for an undergraduate minor. Students who study ABA can become certified as a Behavior Analyst once they obtain their degree. In order to become certified, students must take approved coursework in ABA, gain supervised field experience, and pass a certification exam. Individuals who are certified at the bachelor’s level are in high demand in the Tampa Bay area and throughout the U.S. Visit <http://aba.cbcs.usf.edu/>

### Approved Continuing Education (ACE) Provider

Dr. Ray Miltenberger, Director of the ABA program is an approved continuing education (ACE) provider of Type 2 (approved) continuing education hours for BCBA and BCaBA certificate holders. BCBA certification requires 36 hours of continuing education every three years. BCaBA certification requires 24 hours of continuing education every three years. Under Dr. Miltenberger’s direction, the USF ABA continuing education program provides both online training modules as well as self study CE articles on a variety of topics ranging from making data-based decisions to sport performance. Visit <http://aba.cbcs.usf.edu/> for more information.

## CFS Offers New Graduate Level Course

### Mental Health and Schooling of Culturally Diverse Children and Adolescents

A 2007 report of the Annapolis Coalition on the Behavioral Health Workforce emphasized several key areas that must be addressed, including the “notable lack of racial and cultural diversity among mental health disciplines” and the “critical shortage of those trained to meet the needs of children/youth.” In order to support the professional training of individuals who provide mental health services for culturally diverse children and adolescents, CFS is offering a new graduate level course: Mental Health and Schooling of Culturally Diverse Children and Adolescents, taught by Research Assistant Professor Teresa Nesman, PhD (MHS 6900-002/CRN #25340).

Although the online course may be applied to another graduate degree with departmental approval, it is part of the 15-credit-hour Graduate Certificate in Children’s Mental Health, an interdisciplinary program delivered through distance learning technologies. It is designed to provide a rigorous, empirically-based education to individuals in the behavioral health services field who wish to work with agencies and systems that serve children and families who have mental health needs. It will cover concepts and methods for the collaborative development of culturally competent school-related interventions based on the principles of community science. <http://www.gradcerts.usf.edu/certificates/XCH.html>



Teresa Nesman

## CARD Intern Receives Honor



Congratulations to CARD intern Jessica Bernhard, who was recognized at the Dec. 9th graduation ceremonies for the USF School of Social Work program as the first ever Graduate of Distinction honoree from the USF College of Behavioral & Community Sciences (CBCS). To graduate with distinction in CBCS, the criteria for nomination include scholarly activity, professional development, community service, and/or examples of overcoming adversity/hardships. More on this story can be found at <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>.

## CARD Fundraiser March 25th with Style!

After being mentored for his senior project by CARD Director Dr. Karen Berkman, high school student **Dominique Gardner** decided he wanted to do something special to raise awareness about autism. Luckily, his mother, a hair stylist at Ultracuts, agreed. From 11 am - 3pm, donations for haircuts will benefit CARD’s efforts to serve children and adults with autism spectrum disorder. Please help fulfill Dominique’s wish by participating in the March 25th fundraiser at two Ultracuts locations. Parents of children with autism can make a reservation by calling either location: New Tampa (813) 632-7800, or Wesley Chapel (813) 994-9200.



## DrPH Student Nichole Murray Selected for USF Graduate School Doctoral Student Leadership Institute

Congratulations to DrPH student Nichole Murray for being selected (out of nearly 100 applicants) into the inaugural class of the 2012 USF Graduate School Doctoral Student Leadership Institute.

The two-year Institute provides an opportunity for students to gain perspectives on effective leadership theories and practices from top university, industry, and community leaders.

Participants are required to take leadership courses, participate in leadership workshops and conferences, develop leadership plans and portfolios, and serve as a mentee to incoming fellows. Ms. Murray is in her second year pursuing a doctoral degree in the Department of Community & Family Health, focusing in Behavioral Health. This doctoral program is jointly offered through the USF Colleges of Public Health and Behavioral & Community Sciences.

The program, which offers five graduate degree options, examines alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health from a public health perspective.

## Associate Professor Mary Armstrong Elected as President-Elect for the American Orthopsychiatric Association

Congratulations to Associate Professor Mary Armstrong who has been elected president-elect of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, an interdisciplinary association devoted to mental health, health, and social justice.

The association was formed in 1923 and has a prominent history in the United States as an organization that provides a common ground for collaborative study, research, and knowledge exchange among individuals engaged in preventive, treatment, and advocacy approaches to mental health. Psychiatrists, social workers, psychologists, nurses, counselors, attorneys, and other human service professionals are among the many members.



Mary Armstrong



Richard Briscoe

## Research Assistant Professor Richard Briscoe to Serve on the NDPC-SD Advisory Committee

Research Assistant Professor Dr. Richard Briscoe has been invited to serve on the advisory committee of the National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities (NDPC-SD). As one of the U.S. Department of Education/Office of Special Education Programs'

(OSEP's) specialty technical assistance centers, NDPC-SD's mission is to support states and local agencies in their effort to develop and disseminate strategies and interventions that will increase graduation, decrease dropout and increase recovery/reentry among their students with disabilities.

The goal of the Advisory Committee is to advise and offer guidance to NDPC-SD on substantive issues, activities, and plans in assuring the appropriateness of project services to meet the needs of intended recipients and beneficiaries. The first advisory committee meeting will be held March 28-29, 2012 in Baltimore, MD.

## Congratulations Dr. Elizabeth Perkins

Dr. Elizabeth Perkins has just been appointed as one of the first international members to serve on the editorial advisory board of *Learning Disability Practice*. This journal is for nurses who specifically work in the field of learning disabilities, the term used in the United Kingdom to refer to people with intellectual/developmental disabilities. The journal is published by the Royal College of Nursing, one of the world's oldest and largest associations for professional nurses, and to which Dr. Perkins has been a member since 1988.

Dr. Perkins, who did her nurse training in this field in the UK commented, "I am very excited to have this opportunity to reconnect with the nursing profession in my homeland, and was very flattered to be approached by Editor Colin Parish from the RCN to undertake this role. Although the systems of healthcare are very different, the USA also has a very dedicated group of nurses working in this field, and we can all learn from each other." Dr. Perkins, is also an active member of the Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association here in the USA, and is an invited speaker at their forthcoming 20th annual education conference, which is in Orlando in May.



Elizabeth Perkins



## Living With Systemic Juvenile Arthritis



*“Parker decided that there needs to be a ‘national campaign’ about autoimmune arthritis because so few understand it, and he made a video all on his own.”*

### Mom and Son Share Personal Journey Through Video and Blogging

Rochelle Lentini, M Ed, Director of the Program-Wide Positive Behavior Support Project within the Florida Center for Inclusive Communities, is very proud of her son Parker! He recently posted a video to YouTube so others can gain a better understanding of what he and over 300,000 children in the U.S. must face each day as they battle juvenile rheumatoid arthritis (also known as juvenile idiopathic arthritis). There are multiple forms of juvenile arthritis (JA) and they are very different than the arthritis that is familiar to many “grandparents.” Parker has a form that affects about 10% of children with JA.

He has systemic on-set juvenile arthritis (formally known as Still’s Disease). This painful autoimmune illness affects joints and internal organs. In addition to affecting all of Parker’s joints, this disease has attacked his heart, lungs, lymph nodes, muscles, and stomach. All organs are at risk, including the eyes. Some children with systemic JA also have other autoimmune complications. Parker also has overlap syndrome consisting of myositis, raynauds, vasculitis, and psoriatic features. He also has severe allergies and asthma.

“Recently, Parker decided that there needs to be a ‘national campaign’ about autoimmune arthritis because so few understand it, and he made a video all on his own,” said his mom Rochelle. “He very much wants it to go viral, and I decided I should share this with my colleagues because I didn’t know about this either until Parker was diagnosed.”

The family also maintains a blog ([www.purpleplayapower.blogspot.com](http://www.purpleplayapower.blogspot.com)) with reflections on activities and links to useful resources.

To hear Parker talk about what this disease is like, click on the YouTube link [www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kEw7cDrMYw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1kEw7cDrMYw) and please share with others!

Great job, Parker!

## Congratulations to our 2011 Outstanding Partner Award Recipients

For CFS to meet our goals of ensuring successful systems and supports are in place to serve the mental health needs of children, youth and their families, we must have strong partnerships with community organizations, schools, and agencies. The 2011 Fall Luncheon recognized several of our outstanding partners. We thank them for the excellence service they provide and look forward to many years of collaboration.



2011 COMMUNITY PARTNER:  
Jason Wallace & Dave Engleman,  
ABA Solutions, Inc.



2011 COMMUNITY PARTNER:  
Dave Bundy & Andry Sweet,  
Children’s Home Society



2011 COMMUNITY PARTNER:  
Dr. Flora Howie,  
All Children’s Hospital



2011 USF PARTNER:  
Jennifer Condon  
Deputy University Controller



SPECIAL GUEST:  
Mario Hernandez with Matilda Garcia, long time supporter and local advocate



## Department of Child & Family Studies

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# Upcoming Events

### March 4-7 • 25th Annual Children’s Mental Health Research & Policy Conference

The annual conference is the focal point for the national dissemination of outcome data, ongoing research and policy development updates in the children’s mental health field. The conference features a wide array of symposia, papers and poster presentations from an international field of scholars, educators, policy makers and families who are integrally involved in shaping the children’s mental health field in America. <http://www.cmhtampaconference.com/>

### March 17 • 2nd Annual Spring Sprint for Autism 5K & 1 mile Fun Run/Walk

The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at USF is hosting the 2nd Annual Spring Sprint for Autism 5K and 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, March 17th at the Shops at Sunlake on Highway 54 in Land O’Lakes. The race is a certified/chip timed 5K race that follows a flat course ending with cheers and shouts from the audience at the finish line inside Sunlake High School Stadium! There will be a School Challenge and a Corporate Challenge award for the School and Organization that brings in the most runners, as well as a Top Donor award for most Donations for Autism! Find the link under Upcoming events at <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>



### March 28-31 • Addressing Challenging Behavior: National Training Institute

The Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention (TACSEI) and the Center on Social Emotional Foundations in Early Learning (CSEFEL) are pleased to bring you this in-depth learning experience built around the Pyramid Model. The Institute brings together experts from around the country who skillfully present workshops offering practical, ready-to-use information on social and emotional development. Find the link under Upcoming events at <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>



## Giving to CFS

Please consider partnering with us to generate hope and solutions for the complex issues confronting individuals, children, and families. Donations to CFS support our commitment to enhance the development, mental health and well-being of children and families through leadership in research and evaluation, theory, policy, and practice innovation. To find out more about donating to our department or specific programs, visit our website at <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu>, or contact Sandra Dwinell at 813-974-0342 or [sdwinell@usf.edu](mailto:sdwinell@usf.edu).

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