

## We Do What We Do Because Each Day in America Every...

- 1 second** a public school student is suspended
- 10 seconds** a high school student drops out
- 17 seconds** a public school student is corporally punished
- 25 seconds** a child is arrested
- 35 seconds** a baby is born into poverty
- 40 seconds** a child is confirmed as abused or neglected
- 1 minute** a baby is born to a teen mother
- 5 minutes** a child is arrested for a drug offense
- 9 minutes** a child is arrested for a violent crime
- 3 hours** a child or teen is killed by a firearm
- 5 hours** a child or teen commits suicide
- 6 hours** a child is killed by abuse or neglect

(Figures from Children's Defense Fund)

## In addition:

**1% of US children ages 3-17** have an autism spectrum disorder, an estimated prevalence of 1 in every 91 children.

As many as **5 out of every 100 children** in school may have ADHD.

## Looking Back as We Move Forward

Greetings from the Department of Child and Family Studies! Another year has come and gone with CFS still strong. Our accomplishments for last year are impressive given the overall economic challenges we faced both personally and professionally. Last year our grants and contracts totaled nearly \$13 million. In addition, our faculty and staff gave 262 national and local conference presentations and workshops. Our faculty was also invited to give 112 keynotes at conferences while writing 44 peer-reviewed publications, 31 technical reports and 60 book chapters. Our department is actively engaged with the community in a variety of ways. Some examples of this engagement include:

- Florida's Center for the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice Web Portal increased their registered users to 6,355 professionals.
- The Florida PBS program worked with 745 schools across Florida to address problem behaviors using Positive Behavior Support.
- The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities provided over 2,000 hours of assistance to individuals and organizations and over 2,500 hours of training focused on supporting individuals with developmental disabilities to achieve full inclusion and participate in society.
- The Center for Autism and Related Disabilities worked with Florida families, schools and agencies to provide specific strategies and resource assistance serving over 11,460 individuals.
- The Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters program was given a "stellar" rating from HIPPI USA and served over 2,500 Florida children in seventeen counties.
- CFS' Applied Behavior Analysis Master's program graduate students provided over 37,000 hours of community service hours as part of their practicum experience.



Florida Senator Nan Rich addresses CFS at its 2009 Fall Luncheon via webcam. Details inside.

These examples of CFS' community engagement are evidence of our department's dedication to improving the well-being of individuals, children, families and communities through promoting research and training. Inside this newsletter you will learn about our department and its award winning staff. This issue profiles upcoming conferences sponsored or hosted by CFS. Each of the conferences attract more than 500 attendees, and each plays an important role in the dissemination of research and facilitation of networking among professionals.



I want to congratulate several of our faculty who achieved professional success this year. Dr. Mary Armstrong received tenure and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor. Drs. Sharon Hodges and Svetlana Yampolskya were also promoted to the rank of Research Associate Professor. In addition, Shelley Clarke was promoted to an Associate in Research and Karen Childs, Rochelle Lentini, Dr. Mary Lindsey, Stephanie Martinez and Dabaram Rampersad achieved promotion to Associates in Technical Assistance.

CFS' Applied Behavior Analysis Program graduated 16 new masters level professionals and all have passed the Board Certified Behavior Analyst exam.

Our research and training efforts are important for the well-being of our communities. Recently, the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality reported that the number of Americans under care for mental health issues nearly doubled. Also reported are rising rates of mental and emotional problems among children and teenagers who are increasingly faced with depression, anxiety, conduct disorders, suicidal thinking and other serious psychological and/or behavioral conditions. These concerns, combined with our current economic climate are challenging to our country's families. According to the National Center on Family Homelessness, 1 of every 50 children is without a home. While these social challenges paint a daunting picture it is important to remember that early investments in our children and their families help to later prevent problems such as substance abuse, incarceration, and many other negative social consequences. What Louis de la Parte said over 30 years ago, "It costs more to keep a man in prison than to keep a boy in college" is still true today. We must not let our current economic situation deter us from doing excellent research and providing outstanding training that contributes to solutions that improve the lives of all in our communities.

—Mario Hernandez, PhD, CFS Department Chair

## The Department of Child & Family Studies

(CFS) is dedicated to providing a national forum for dialogue, debate and learning about innovations in research and policy focused on children's emotional and behavioral well-being. Below are upcoming conferences and trainings hosted and/or supported by CFS.

## Center for Autism and Related Disabilities 17th Annual CARD Conference January 29 - 31, 2010 • Lake Mary

The Annual Autism Conference provides information on best practices in education, early intervention, and quality community based life-styles for individuals with autism, deaf-blindness, and related disabilities. Through a series of breakout sessions and keynote presentations, participants will learn about current research findings and their implications, as well as practical strategies related to communication and social interventions, transition to adulthood, education, early intervention, and school and community inclusion. More information can be found at <https://ucf-card.org/conference/brochure.php>.

CARD-USF serves Charlotte, Collier, Desoto, Glades, Hardee, Hendry, Highlands, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, & Sarasota counties. It is one of seven service regions funded through the Florida Department of Education. For more information, visit <http://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu>.

**April 23, 2010**

USF's Center for Autism and Related Disabilities) invites you to the **5th Annual Fiesta by the Bay** at Gaspar's Grotto in Ybor City, Tampa. Proceeds benefit special activities that support individuals with autism and related disabilities and their families. For more information, contact Christine Rover at 813-974-9264 or [crover@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:crover@fmhi.usf.edu)

## The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities (FCIC) Training

The FCIC workshops are for early childhood coaches, administrators, teachers, therapists, and mental health counselors and provide effective strategies for supporting families and their young children with challenging behavior. Upcoming workshops include:

**January 20, 2010** - *When Children Don't Have Words: The Power of Alternative and Augmentative Communication*

**February 17, 2010** - *Quality of Life for Older Caregivers of Adults with Intellectual Disabilities*

**March 17, 2010** - *The Population Health Perspective on Child Health & Development*

**April 14, 2010** - *Implementing Classroom-Wide PBS: Using Coaching to Change Preschool Teacher Behavior*

For specifics, visit <http://ffccic.fmhi.usf.edu/pages/calendar.htm>

## 23rd Annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference March 7-10, 2010 • Hyatt Regency • Tampa

For over two decades, the Research and Training Center (RTC) for Children's Mental Health has hosted a research conference in Tampa to share what has proven to work in child-serving systems throughout the nation. This year's conference will be hosted by CFS and represents an exciting step forward to sustaining the RTC quest to provide a forum for constructive dialogue about key innovations in the field of children's mental health.

On Monday, March 7 keynote speaker Frances Dunn Butterfoss, PhD, MSEd will address policy interventions that influence community health behaviors and outcomes. She has conducted much of the seminal research in coalition and community empowerment and applies it in practice — making her one of the most highly sought consultants today. <http://rtckids.fmhi.usf.edu/cmhconference>

## GEAR UP Efforts Take New Direction

When the funding cycle ended last year for the GEAR-UP programs at Blake and Hillsborough High Schools in Tampa, it didn't keep Roderick Barnes from his quest to assist students with completing their educational and career goals. Roderick, who worked at CFS and served as the Academic Coordinator with GEAR UP since 1999, is now the CEO for The Project SHINE Inc., which offers many services and programs to motivate, educate and engage students as well as their parents (i.e., tutoring for FCAT, ACT, SAT, math and reading). Roderick continues his work at Hillsborough and Blake High Schools, and now also helps students from Pasco County's Wiregrass High School.

Financial assistance from Tampa Bay Buccaneers' wide receiver Michael Clayton's Generation Next Foundation has helped Project SHINE implement after-school and Saturday tutoring sessions for approximately 100 students. Students have also participated in life skills and college application help sessions, as well as community service activities including the Mayor's Beautification Clean-up, where they cleaned around the Lowry Park boat ramp. To find out how you can help Project SHINE with their commitment to the community and individual student advancement, contact Roderick Barnes at 813-810-3196.

## 7th Annual National Training Institute on Effective Practices: Supporting Young Children's Social Emotional Development March 17-20, 2010 • Sheraton Sand Key Resort • Clearwater Beach

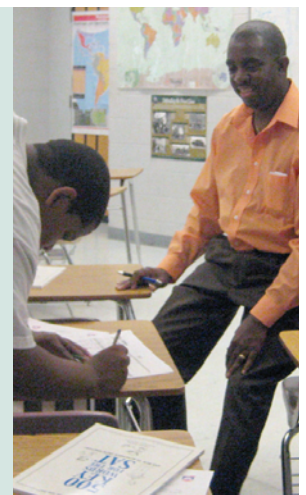
The Training Institute provides cutting-edge information on challenging behavior in an in-depth, intensive learning experience. Each workshop is three hours long and provides creative and effective ways to manage challenging behavior. Participants have many opportunities to practice new strategies, interact with experts, and engage in lively discussions with colleagues. Information about sessions, travel, and registration will be posted on the web as it becomes available.

<http://www.addressingchallengingbehavior.org/>

## TACSEI Implementation Academy April 26 - 29, 2010 • Tampa

The Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI) is hosting an intensive Implementation Academy for district or program-level teams who are interested in implementing the Pyramid Model in preschool programs or classrooms with a focus on children with or at risk for delays or disabilities. The Academy provides training and materials needed to support program-wide implementation and sustainability.

<http://www.challengingbehavior.org/>



Barnes tutoring student at Hillsborough High School.



# 2009 Awards & Recognition

## Special Recognition

Congratulations to the outstanding achievement award winners for 2009. They were recently recognized at our Fall Luncheon in November for their extraordinary efforts.

### Outstanding USF & Community Partners

#### Senator Nan Rich

Although unable to attend, webcam technology provided the next best thing to being there for Florida State Senator Nan Rich. The Florida Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters (HIPPY) Program presented Senator Rich with a special award to recognize her years of service advocating for Florida's children and families. She has been involved with HIPPY for the past 18 years and was the first President of the HIPPY USA Board of Trustees from 1991-1994. Senator Rich was also the first Chair of the Florida HIPPY Advisory Committee in 1995. She has been an advocate for Florida HIPPY since 1994. Visit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BtUsOCLOYE>



Travel Team: Pat Uber, Sonya Jones, Rachel Schelb, Julie Franklin, Sharon Denninger, Glenda Kilpatrick, Nancy Van Trump, Marty Kledzik, Marlene de Jesus, Shirley Baer, Nancy Burrus, Selecia Watson, Maricel Hernandez, Not pictured: Flora Kilpatrick

### Outstanding Team Awards

#### Travel Team

Within the last year, the Department has gone online with a new Travel Module, allowing us to know the volume of travel done by faculty and staff. Since approximately November 2008, CFS Travel Delegates have input 17,893 rows of information for Travel Expense Reports. (A comparable department did 9,273.) 45% of all CFS Travel was for DARES faculty and staff and most of that travel was input by Selecia Watson, who received special recognition at the luncheon.

#### Teaching Pyramid Research Project Team

This study, funded by the Institute for Education Science, is a collaborative research study conducted by investigators at Vanderbilt University, the University of South



Teaching Pyramid Team: Krystal McFee, Stephanie Demian, Shelley Clarke, Amye Bock, Denise Binder (Not pictured: Theresa Skipper, Lise Fox, Jillian Penrod)

Florida, and the University of Florida. It examines the effects of implementing the Teaching Pyramid Model, a tiered prevention/intervention model which promotes young children's social competence and addresses challenging behavior. The team completed the first year of a randomized study with teachers of preschool children in Pasco County, FL and developed a standardized protocol for measuring intervention and coaching fidelity. Denise Binder provides leadership in the day to day management of this complex study and serves as a coach to experimental teachers. Shelley Clarke also provides training and coaching. Jillian Penrod and Krystal McFee are the project's "gold standard" for measures and serve as data collection team leaders and the project is in good hands with its master team of data collectors – Amye Bock, Theresa Skipper, and Stephanie Demian. <http://www.challengingbehavior.org>

#### ABA Program Team

The master's degree program in applied behavior analysis (ABA) led by Director Ray Miltenberger, PhD and Practicum Coordinator Tim Weil, PhD is designed to meet growing needs in Florida and nationally for practitioners who can work effectively in the fields of developmental disabilities, education, child protective services, rehabilitation, mental health, and business and technology. Each student balances classroom work with 1,000 hours of behavior analysis in the field during the two-year degree program. Approximately 37,000 community service hours are given each year to help individuals, including runaways, those with autism spectrum disorders, acquired brain injuries, Down syndrome and mental retardation. More than two-thirds of the students work with children.

ABA Team: Ray Miltenberger, Tim Weil, Aleatha Neal, Kwang-Sun Blair, Rusty Clark, Kim Crosland, Victoria Fogel



### Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. Robert Friedman was presented with a lifetime achievement award at the 2009 Fall Luncheon. Among his many accomplishments, Dr. Friedman served as Director and Principal Investigator of the Research and Training Center for Children's Mental Health for 25 years, as well as CFS Department Chair from 1984 - 2006, and FMHI Interim Dean from August 2006 - August 2007. As a Principal Investigator, his total research contributions to USF are over \$28 million dollars. He has contributed to over 45 publications, authored 31 books and book chapters, and his seminal work with Dr. Beth Stroul and others in 1986 established the System of Care model for children's mental health. This year marks Dr. Friedman's official retirement from the University of South Florida.

### Endowed Professorship

CFS is pleased to announce that in recognition of his remarkable career, a *Robert Friedman Endowed Professorship in Child Mental Health Services & Policy* is being established. Dr. Friedman's many efforts have made a remarkable impact on the lives of countless individuals throughout our communities and served as a national model for progress in regards to the welfare of children. As competition for world-class faculty continues to intensify among leading universities, endowed chairs and professorships have become the most effective tool available to recruit and retain eminent scholars, clinicians and teachers from across the globe. Please consider contributing to this special endowment – and help continue the efforts to broaden the knowledge base for improving child-serving systems through research-informed policies and practices. For additional information, contact Nancy Burrus at 813-974-4640.

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Would you like 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 integrating research, theory & practice. To find out more, visit our website at <http://cfs.fmhi.usf.edu>, or contact Sandra Dwinell at 813-974-0342 or [sdwinell@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:sdwinell@fmhi.usf.edu).



HIPPY student Dashiah Meadows and HIPPY mom Shanica Meadows make special award presentation to Senator Nan Rich.

### Family and School Support Teams

The Family and School Support Teams (FASST) program is a community collaborative initiative, sponsored by the Children's Board of Hillsborough County with supplemental funding from the School District of Hillsborough County and Medicaid. CFS has developed a toolkit for FASST members to use as a best practice guide for positive child and family outcomes. (See more details under Team Award: Sustainable Infrastructure Project.)



FASST Members: Chris Swigon, Mental Health Care, Inc.; Mike Cornelius, Children's Future Hillsborough; Lydia Reyes, Hispanic Services Council; Tara Turpen, The Children's Home, Inc.; Antoinette Hagley-Nanton, Northside Mental Health Center; Chamain Moss-Torres, Children's Board of Hillsborough County (not pictured).

# Congratulations CFS!

## Florida Interagency Implementation on Trauma-Informed Care Team



Norin Dollard and Vicki Hummer have been champions throughout the year in promoting trauma-informed care in Florida's residential settings funded by child welfare, juvenile justice, children's mental health or Medicaid. After careful development and piloting of a curriculum "Creating Trauma-Informed Care Environments," they traveled throughout the state to promote its use in all residential settings. One of their successful strategies was to assist with convening Florida's Statewide Interagency Taskforce on Trauma, a workgroup composed of representatives from all child serving agencies, family members and advocates. They also organized an exhibit of artwork created by children in the custody of juvenile justice. This artwork was framed and presented to the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families at a recent meeting.

## Sustainable Infrastructure Project

The Developing Sustainable Infrastructure in Support of Quality Field-Based Practice (SIP) project is a collaborative effort of The Children's Board of Hillsborough County, Children's Future Hillsborough, Family and School Support Teams (FASST), and the USF Department of Child and Family Studies. The FASST program works to strengthen the functioning of children, families, and communities by enhancing protective factors and reducing risk factors. The focus of the SIP project is to identify key intervention and implementation factors critical to FASST and to develop a toolkit that supports FASST in carrying out the program with fidelity.



SIP Team: (l to r) Bobbie Vaughn, Debra Mowery, Tracy-Ann Gilbert-Smith, Mario Hernandez. Other members are Sharon Hodges, Kathleen Ferreira, Richard Briscoe, Janis Prince Inniss, and Victor Trinidad.

## Outstanding Individual Awards

### Maricel Hernandez (Administration)



Maricel has such an attitude of willingness and a natural positive attitude that people at all levels appreciate her. She interacts with a wide variety of levels and cultures within the department and community contacts, and brings to everyone the same positive, respectful and helpful approach. Because of her interpersonal skills and bilingual abilities, she has been requested by two of our faculty working on different projects to assist with translation (Spanish to English) of the work of their focus groups composed of community members. She is always looking for a better way to do things and ways to improve our processes. In addition to the CFS Achievement Award, Maricel also received the November USF Quiet Quality Award the very next day!

## Pam Menendez (Knowledge Management Administrator)

Pam has headed the Center's Knowledge Management area for more than 3 years. Under her leadership, the Florida Center for



the Advancement of Child Welfare Practice has exponentially expanded the scope and depth of information and training resources available to the current 6,500 Florida child welfare professional user group. The Center has implemented new Video Training resources that now include a library of several hundred offerings, most of which now offer child welfare in-service training credits. Pam has also had the overall responsibility for more than 18 field trainers over the course of 20 months and the service has trained more than 7,000 child welfare staff on the use of this new automated case management system.

## Svetlana Yampolskaya (TREaD)



The brightest light in Dr. Svetlana Yampolskaya's office comes from her computer screen, where she can usually be found conducting advanced statistical analyses on large administrative databases. As a Research Associate Professor, Svetlana works on numerous studies involving child maltreatment issues, prevention of violence against children, and

adolescents at risk. TREaD was pleased to pull her away from her computer screen during the CFS Fall Lunch to honor her with a 2009 Outstanding Achievement Award for the numerous contributions she has made to research involving the child welfare system and adolescents with serious emotional disturbances. Svetlana was nominated for this award by the faculty and staff of TREaD.

## Janet Reyes Honored



Congratulations to our own Janet Reyes, who was honored in October for her work on The Research Administration Improvement Network (TRAIN), a university-wide network of administrative personnel known for their expertise and recognized for their professional commitment to research administration. Janet, along with Elido Porro in MHLF were nominated by their TRAIN colleagues for devoting much time and effort in the past year creating standardized business processes, improving communications and reporting, and improving research administration across the USF campuses. Award recipients were honored at a special luncheon hosted by Karen A. Holbrook, VP of Research & Innovation and Ralph C. Wilcox, Executive VP & Provost. In addition to the award, they were surprised with a \$500 bonus! Thanks to both Janet and Glenda Kilpatrick for representing CFS on TRAIN.

*Questions or comments about the CFS Quarterly can be directed to Storie Miller at 813-974-5468 or [smiller@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:smiller@fmhi.usf.edu).*



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