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The third annual all-day community conference sponsored by the Schubert Center will be on Friday, October 12, 2001, on *Understanding the Impact of Violence on Children and Adolescents*. The conference will be held in downtown Cleveland at The Forum on the corner of St. Clair Avenue and Ninth Street.

Two internationally known experts on the topic of violence will give keynote addresses:

James Garbarino, Ph.D. and **Alvin Poussaint, M.D.** Dr. Garbarino is professor of Human Development and co-director of the Family Life Development Center at Cornell University.

Author of *LOST BOYS: WHY OUR SONS TURN VIOLENT AND HOW WE CAN SAVE THEM* (1999) and *RAISING CHILDREN IN A SOCIALLY TOXIC ENVIRONMENT* (1995), Dr. Garbarino studies the impact of family and community violence and trauma on child development. He also examines interventions designed to address these problems and their effects.

Dr. Poussaint is director of the Media Center of the Judge Baker Children's Center in Boston, which designs publications, productions, and events to improve the well-being of children

and prevent mental and physical illnesses. Dr. Poussaint is also Faculty Associate Dean for Student Affairs at Harvard Medical School. Co-author of 192.(1cm /110 D2 Q BT /F7 9.75 Tf 0 g 0 G 792.372 147



Jill E. Korbin, Ph.D., Department of Anthr

SCHUBERT-SPONSORED LECTURES

The Schubert Center and the Baker Nord Center of CWRU began a collaboration by jointly sponsored lectures during the Spring, 2001 semester. These lectures represent the Schubert Center's interest in engaging a wide segment of the CWRU community in issues related to children.

The first lecture on February 1, 2001, "Other People's Children: Creating Child Protection in America, 1870-1930," was presented by **Michael Grossberg**, Professor of History at Indiana University and editor of the *American Historical Review*. This lecture was also co-sponsored by the Armington Program, the Childhood Studies Program, and the Department of History. Professor Grossberg was formerly a faculty member in the Department of History and School of Law at CWRU. Professor Grossberg argued that the turn of the twentieth century was a particular time when the question of what to do about other people's children haunted countless Americans and spurred many of them to act. Out of their efforts came a powerful new movement to protect children that fundamentally rearranged the relationships among children, parents, the state, and civil society. Dr. Grossberg used examples drawn from struggles over child abuse, adolescent sexuality, and mental illness.

The second lecture, "The Global Child: Books without Borders: The Reach of Children's Literature" was presented by Professor

Research Updates

Eight new research projects were funded for the 2000-2001 academic year. As in prior funding cycles, the projects address a range of issues bearing on the development and social adjustment of children and youth, including those with implications for social policy as well as practice. They also represent a range of medical specializations and social science disciplines.

Development of a Method of Assessing Maternal Attachment

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Lydia Furman, M.D., *Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, CWRU School of Medicine*

This project extends Dr. Furman's prior validation work on this questionnaire instrument to ascertain indicators of degrees of maternal attachment with a sample of very low birthweight (VLBW) infants.

Adoption and Health Services Study of Young International Adoptees

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Karen Olness, M.D., *Director, The Rainbow Center for International Child Health, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, CWRU School of Medicine*

CO-INVESTIGATORS Barbara Baetz-Greenwalt, M.D., Anna Mandalakas, M.D., M. Adele DiMarco, M.A., Robert Needlman, M.D.

In this project, Dr. Olness heads the RCICH team, comprising medical specialists and an anthropologist, in an Adoption Health Services study to assess and trace the developmental progress of children in the Cleveland area adopted from Russia.

Risk and Resilience in Juvenile Offending: The Role of Emotions and Adaptive/Nonadaptive Personality Traits

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Eric Youngstrom, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Psychology, CWRU*

Part of a projected continuing program of research, with anticipated state and foundation support, this project addresses both basic research issues on the role of emotions in personality development and social policy and practice issues involving mental health needs of youth who have committed delinquent acts and are placed in a correctional facility.

Evaluation of the Children's Witness to Violence Intervention Program

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Stephanie Reiter, Ph.D., *Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital, CWRU School of Medicine*

This purpose of this project is to conduct a systematic evaluation of the Children Who Witness Violence Program, a program in which mental health workers collaborate with local police and Family and Children's Services workers to link children affected by domestic or neighborhood violence with appropriate mental health services.

Genetic Testing Attitudes of Normal Hearing Parents of Deaf Children

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR Nathaniel Robin, M.D., *Assistant Professor of Genetics, Pediatrics, Reproductive Biology, and Otolaryngology, CWRU School of Medicine*

With the cooperation of leading audiologists and otolaryngologists, the purpose of Dr. Robin's project is to ascertain the knowledge about the genetic basis of hearing loss and attitudes toward genetic testing of a national sample of approximately 600 hearing parents of deaf children. In view of opposition in the Deaf community to such assessment, predicated on a view of deafness as disability, while about 95 percent of deaf children have hearing parents, findings of this study are expected to have important implications.

Shelter Care Peacemakers: A Research-Based Violence Prevention Program for Violent Juvenile Offenders



Early Childhood Mental Health Pilot Project

by Philip L. Safford, Ph.D.

Another collaborative effort that is related and complementary to the Early Childhood Initiative is the Cuyahoga County Early Childhood Mental Health Pilot. Its purpose is to demonstrate the viability of diagnostic processes and service models that are developmentally appropriate, family-focused, and optimally effective for infants and toddlers with mental health needs and their families. The project is considered ground-breaking and potentially an important step toward making such services more available and affordable in the community, as well as being a possible model for Ohio and for other states.

This project emerged from the work of two of the Cuyahoga County Early Intervention Collaborative (CCEIC) committees: Early Childhood Mental Health and Assessment/IFSP and is co-directed by Terri Oldham, Children's Project Administrator for the Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board, and Karen Mintzer, CCEIC/Interlink Special Projects

Coordinator. Financial support has been provided by the Ohio Department of Mental Health, Cuyahoga County United Way through its Success By Six Committee, Cuyahoga County Community Mental Health Board, and the Cleveland Foundation.

In the first phase of the project clinical personnel in child-serving agencies were trained in use of Diagnostic Classification of Mental Health and Developmental Disorders of Infancy and Early Childhood (DC: 0-3). This is a multi-axial, developmental and transactional, designed specifically for very young children in the context of families. Still essentially in experimental use, it was developed by the Assessment Task Force of Zero-to 3/National Center for Clinical Infant Programs.

A parallel phase entailed determining the extent of need and availability of infant mental health services in Cuyahoga County. Next, eligible agencies were invited to submit proposals in response to an RFP dissem-

inated by the United Way Success by Six Committee.

The selected proposals were submitted by Applewood Centers, Beech Brook, and the Positive Education Program. Each of these agencies has designed a model for (1) developmentally appropriate and family-friendly assessment of developmental and mental health needs of infants and very young children using the multi-axial DC: 0-3 system; (2) incorporating assessment data in the development of a unified, family-driven plan, the Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP), that also satisfies the Individual Service Plan requirements of the mental health system; and (3) providing coordinated services based on that plan for vulnerable young clients and their families.

Philip Safford, Ph.D., Schubert Center Consultant, is conducting the evaluation of the project, in collaboration with Drs. Gerald Mahoney and Marilyn Escherwindt of Akron Children's Hospital's Family Child Learning Center and a community-based Research/Evaluation Committee. ©