



Foster Children in the U.S.

- On any given day, more than half a million American children are living in foster care
- Nearly 300,000 American children enter the foster care system each year
- Many children in foster or kinship care have a history of exposure to trauma
- Every year, approximately 30,000 young people leave the foster care system without lifelong families – most at age 18.
- The U.S. has an estimated 12 million foster care alumni
- Research shows that young people who age out of foster care are far more likely than their peers in the general population to endure homelessness, poverty, compromised mental and physical health, insufficient education, unemployment, incarceration, and early pregnancy and parenthood. (www.fostercaremonth.org)



Educational Achievement of Foster Children

- Between approximately 170,000 to 345,000 foster children are functioning below grade level
- More than one-third never receive a high school diploma or GED

Definition of the Term “running away”

“A child who has left a relative placement, nonrelative placement, shelter home, foster home, residential group home, any other placement alternative, or their in-home placement without permission of the caregiver and who is determined to be missing.”

—The Florida Department of Children & Families

Message from the Chair



The month of May holds several important national observances, National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week and National Foster Care Month.

Organizations including the Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the National Association for the Mentally Ill, and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NTCTSN) join forces to focus on urgent needs of children and youth. This year’s focus was how to build resilience in young children dealing with trauma.

Whether experiencing a trauma through physical and sexual abuse, domestic or community violence, natural disasters, or economic hardships within families, childhood exposure to traumatic events has become a major public health problem in the United States.

A report released in May from SAMHSA reveals that 26% of children in the United States will witness or experience a traumatic event before the age of 4. The price to our society is an annual \$103 billion financial burden – stemming from both costs that are associated with the immediate needs of children who have experienced trauma, as well as costs related to long-term and/or secondary effects such as poor school performance, involvement in the justice system and substance abuse.

Early identification and intervention are keys to avoiding the more serious and costly long-term consequences of trauma experienced by our nation’s children. According to SAMHSA, among children

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Why They Run

\$1.3 Million Grant to Help Find Answers from Youth in Child Welfare System



Most people will tell you the reason they run is for exercise and to stay healthy. Ask a child in foster care why they run, and it’s a whole different conversation. Now, thanks to a grant from the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE), it’s a conversation that is going to be happening more often.

Assistant Professor Kimberly Crosland from the USF Department of Child & Family Studies has received a \$1.3 million, 3-year research grant from the USDOE Special Education Research Program to develop an effective intervention model focused on addressing runaway behavior in children in the child welfare system.

“Children living in foster and group homes are at great risk for school failure, due in part to a high frequency of running away,” said Dr. Crosland. “They are twice as likely to run away as those of the same age in the general population. This is a significant problem that not only affects their social, emotional and physical health, but it has a tremendous impact on academic performance as well.”

Runaway behavior is associated with low educational achievement, high levels of disrupted education, and difficulties in school adjustment and performance.

According to Dr. Crosland, research activities will include the refinement of a current behavior assessment tool used to interview youth with disabilities or at-risk for disabilities (including social and

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Message from the Chair

and youth who have experienced a traumatic event, 44 percent improved their school attendance and 41 percent improved their grades after 12 months of accessing services from community-based systems of care funded by SAMHSA. Also, the number of youth reporting arrests in the past 6 months fell by 36 percent, and there was a 59 percent drop in the number of youth suicide attempts.

Until we treat mental health conditions the same as we do other health conditions, negative effects from childhood trauma can and often will continue throughout childhood and adolescence, and into adulthood.

I urge all community members, agencies, and organizations to focus on the fundamental necessity of improving access to services for traumatized children, their families, and communities throughout the United States.

—Mario Hernandez

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Why They Run

emotional disorders) and evaluate the reasons they run away from their foster placements. The tool involves a pre-intervention assessment of environmental conditions that serve to maintain a specified behavior and then uses that information to devise an intervention plan tailored to meet the circumstances and needs of the individual.

Once refinements of the assessment are in place, an intervention training manual will be developed (for use by both school and child welfare personnel) to increase placement stability and improve academic outcomes for youth with disabilities in foster care.

“The goal of this project is not only to reduce the rate of running away and the resulting consequences of that behavior, but more importantly to stabilize these young people in settings that they would prefer or with arrangements that make their placements more livable and academic experiences more successful,” added Dr. Crosland.

CFS Conducts Learning Collaborative in Florida’s Residential Facilities for Children and Youth

The Florida Department of Children and Families has called for state funded mental health residential treatment facilities serving children and youth to put into practice by June 30, 2011 a plan to improve their effectiveness in the treatment of children who have experienced trauma and their families. The plan requires processes for implementing, monitoring, evaluating and sharing practices consistent with guiding principles of trauma-informed care.

To help in these efforts, a CFS team including Principal Investigator Dr. Norin Dollard, Project Coordinator Stephen Roggenbaum and Data Analyst Shauna Bisson worked with staff from facilities in Central Florida who provide services through the Statewide Inpatient Psychiatric Program (SIPP). The CFS team consists of members from the Creating Trauma-Informed Care Environments Learning Collaborative (CTICE-LC), a project of CFS and one outcome of several statewide strategies addressing trauma and recovery. These strategies included reducing the need for seclusion and restraint in residential treatment settings, disaster response, crisis intervention training for law enforcement officers, technical assistance to providers, interagency agreements among those serving trauma survivors, and the implementation of trauma-informed care across multiple service sectors.

The participating facilities were the Tampa Bay Academy (before their closing), Manatee Palms Youth Services in Bradenton, University Behavioral Center and Devereux, both in Orlando. During the one-year Learning Collaborative program, CFS assistance included three two-day training sessions, monthly conference calls, visits to each participating facility and on-going consultation. Activities focused on youth and family involvement, sensory processing activities, pro-social skills training, and small group activities that promoted positive engagement. Each SIPP team was exposed to trauma-informed principles and practices, identified practices that were specific to their organization and tested these change strategies.

“Focus group findings indicated many positives about the Learning Collaborative project,” said Vicki Hummer, faculty member of the CTICE-LC. “Specifically, participants lauded the diversity of staff roles within their own team, gaining access to practical tools and resources, goal-driven work plans that also addressed barriers, and the accountability factor within the Learning Collaborative framework.”

Vicki added that participants also valued the sharing of ideas across teams, meeting away from the workplace, the availability of tools they could use right away, changes in staff confidence and effectiveness, improved morale, and greater family involvement. Plans are in place to offer a second Learning Collaborative to additional SIPPs next fiscal year.



SIPP teams from Manatee Palms (top), University Behavioral Center (middle), and Devereux Orlando (bottom) create visual strategies for effective treatment.



2011 Graduates

CFS's Newest PhD!

Congratulations ABA Graduates!



Laura Hanratty



Fran Echeverria



Errity Jones



Jenny Rodriguez

Congratulations to the spring graduates in the Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Master's program: Laura Hanratty, Fran Echeverria, Errity Jones, and Jenny Rodriguez. They have completed their practicum and thesis work, proudly added "MA" to the end of their names, and will no doubt soon find employment. (Students from the ABA program at USF have a 100% success rate for employment soon after graduation.)

The ABA master's degree is designed to meet the growing need in Florida and nationally for practitioners who can work effectively within organizations to improve the quality of services in the fields of developmental disabilities, education, child protective services, rehabilitation, mental health, and business and technology.

As part of their practicum, students work 10-25 hours per week with community partners under the direct supervision of a Board Certified Behavior Analyst. A poster fair, held each spring, highlights the work of the students and shares research conducted for their practicum and/or thesis work.

"The ABA program is very well structured, giving students ample experience both in and outside of the classroom," said Fran Echeverria. "Our professors went above and beyond to ensure all our needs were met, and it is truly unlike any other collegiate experience I've encountered."

"It is the rigor with which we were trained in this program that makes me feel like a competent behavior analyst," said Jenny Rodriguez, who is currently focusing her job hunt in the area of Organizational Behavior Management, the application of behavioral principles to individuals and groups in business, industry, government, and human service settings. Jenny added that a piece of advice given to her as an incoming student was to learn how to multi-task. "I took this advice and it really worked out for me. You would be surprised when and where you will find the unexpected time to study, so always have work with you!"

The course sequence and practicum are both approved by the Behavior Analysis Certification Board. Visit <http://aba.cbcs.usf.edu> for more information.



Congratulations to the newest PhD in the Department of Child & Family Studies – **Dr. Kathleen Ferreira!** She received her doctoral degree in Curriculum

and Instruction through USF's College of Education, with an emphasis in Interdisciplinary Education at the 2011 Spring graduation ceremony.

The knowledge Dr. Ferreira has gained through her academic career is enhanced by her extensive hands-on experience in the field of mental health. Since obtaining her BS in Special Education in 1991, Dr. Ferreira has worked with children and youth with serious emotional disorders, both in public schools and in the private sector. She obtained a Master's in Educational Administration in 1996, and became a program director for a mental health agency in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dr. Ferreira's dissertation involved developing a framework for engaging families in system level decision making within systems of care (SOCs) serving youth with emotional and behavioral challenges. The dissertation has been submitted for publication, and Kathleen hopes to continue and expand her work in this area through additional grant funding. For more on this story, visit <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>

ABAI Conference

The Association for Behavior Analysis International (ABAI) conference was held May 27 - 31 in Denver Colorado and was a big success for the USF ABA program.

- 32 current and former students attended – our highest number yet.
- 15 papers were presented
- All USF ABA faculty served as chairs or discussants of symposia
- 12 different grad students were presenters or authors on the papers

The conference has been the largest gathering of behavior analysts for all of its 37-year history. The event gathers more than 4,000 behavior analysts from all over the world; typically, more than 40 countries are represented.



Kathleen's Committee

From left to right, sitting: Dr. Elizabeth Shaunessy, Dr. Kathleen Ferreira, Dr. Sharon Hodges, Dr. Harold Keller; standing: Dr. Roger Boothroyd, Dr. Robert Dedrick, and Dr. Al Duchnowski.



Grad Student Reaches Milestone: A Published Paper!

Richard Chapman, a former graduate research assistant within CFS, and Claudia Dold of the FMHI Research Library had their paper, "Hearing a



Voice: Results of a Participatory Action Research Study," published in the *Journal of Child and Family Studies*. The journal is an international forum for topical issues pertaining to the mental well-being of children, adolescents, and their families.

The authors gathered qualitative data about the level of understanding, and expectations for, youth participatory action research. The data offers insight into the world of service providers, beneficiaries, and advocates for children with mental health disorders. The paper presents the results of a pilot study and survey administered to two different conference populations during 2008.

Richard is a second year student in Rehabilitation and Mental Health Counseling. He is also a coordinator for Adapt of Florida and the Florida Self-Advocate Alliance, organizations dedicated to protecting the rights of all individuals with disabilities.

To view the paper, visit <http://www.springerlink.com>. This, we're sure, is first of many papers from Richard!

The USF Learning Academy Graduates

Graduation is a time of celebrating accomplishments. That was certainly the case for students on May 10, who graduated from The Learning Academy at the University of South Florida, a customized transition program for young adults diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. For some students, the graduation will serve as a stepping-stone to continued education and training. For others, skills gained during the two-semester program will be used to seek employment.

For the parents, it was an opportunity to celebrate just how far their children have come, and to see the potential emerging for their successful transition to adult roles.

Designed to help students achieve a life of opportunity, independence and success, the thirty-week program consists of modules aimed at helping students better understand themselves while gaining skills needed for both college life and



Several 2011 Learning Academy Grads pose proudly with their certificates. From L to R: Justin Reh, Aaron Mack, and Justin Davis.

adulthood, such as organization, time management, goal setting, conflict resolution and community contribution.

Students were exposed to real-life experiences including internships and peer mentoring, which provided increased opportunities for self-discovery and career exploration. Internship sites were matched after the first semester, once the Learning Academy staff gained an understanding of each student's interest.

For more on this story, visit: <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>

New Health Advocacy Document

The Florida Center for Inclusive Communities is excited to announce the dissemination of *My Health Passport*, authored by Dr. Elizabeth Perkins, Research Assistant Professor and Health Coordinator. *My Health Passport* is designed to support individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) to share critical health information that might be needed for inpatient hospital/clinic visits.



"During these circumstances, an individual will interact with several health care professionals who might not be very familiar with providing care to someone with IDD. My Health Passport is an effort to overcome such barriers to optimal care, by providing pertinent and easily accessible information regarding that individual's unique support needs," said Dr. Perkins.

Both English and Spanish versions and can be downloaded at <http://ffccic.fmhi.usf.edu/projects/health.htm>

Just Published:

Behavior Modification: Principles and Procedures, 5th Edition

A fifth edition of Dr. Raymond Miltenberger's textbook has been published. *Behavior Modification: Principles and Procedures, 5th Edition* uses the principles of behavior modification to teach the procedures of behavior modification, illustrating them with key case studies and examples.

Its precise, step-by-step approach includes practical information on the technologies used to measure and record behavior changes. The book also provides numerous opportunities for students to practice, including practice tests, application and misapplication exercises, and three quizzes at the end of every chapter.



The text is available through Cengage Learning at <http://www.cengage.com/us/>.



Two New Faculty Positions to Strengthen CFS Research

Internal Research Faculty Pathway Grant

A grant successfully submitted by Dr. Tom Massey will enable CFS to strengthen and enhance efforts to address critical and emerging issues in children's mental health services. The Research Faculty Pathway Grant is offered through the USF Office of Research & Innovation and the USF Faculty Senate Research Council. The two year, \$100,000 award will be used toward the recruitment of an Assistant Research Professor who will focus on school based mental health services and how to ensure effective interventions are adapted and integrated at the school level.

"CFS has a long history of community based mental health research, associated with the development, dissemination, and evaluation of evidence based practices, and is uniquely positioned to strengthen our research capacity in translational science," said Dr. Massey.

Applicants must hold a terminal degree in a behavioral or mental health field and have a demonstrated record of research experience and interest in child and adolescent behavioral health, mental health services, policy research, and evaluation. A specific interest and experience in and translational/implementation science is required. The applicant may also have a secondary interest in school based mental health services. For additional information, contact Dr. Tom Massey at 813-974-4640.

Research Director for HIPPY USA

The USF Department of Child and Family Studies in partnership with HIPPY USA (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) is seeking a Research Director. The ideal candidate is a researcher with strong leadership and collaborative skills who can develop a national research agenda for HIPPY USA, as well as conduct research with HIPPY USA and other affiliated partners. In addition to the research and national leadership, the incumbent will be expected to engage and mentor junior faculty and graduate students.

Preferred qualifications include history of successful research grant awards in a related field, experience working with community and/or school based programs; experience in managing multisite research studies; experience integrating quantitative and qualitative research designs; experience with advanced statistical data analysis methods such as multivariate statistics and/or hierarchical linear modeling (HLM).

Applicants must apply for this position through the USF online employment application system, Careers@USF, https://employment.usf.edu/applicants/jsp/shared/Welcome_css.jsp. View the faculty positions for the College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, Department of Child and Family Studies, position 00018108, Research Associate Professor.

Dr. Lise Fox Receives Tenure

Congratulations to Dr. Lise Fox, who was granted tenure by the USF Board of Trustees at its meeting on June 8, 2011.



Since becoming Division Director of our FCIC-DARES Division in 2004, both she as an individual researcher and the Division as a whole, have been highly productive in sponsored research dollars awarded. Since FY 2006-07, Dr. Fox's leadership has guided her Division, FCIC-DARES, to great productivity in receiving over \$33M in grants and contracts. Within this fiscal year alone, FCIC-DARES has submitted 21 proposals while having 17 active grants/contracts with a combined budget of \$7,293,372. Some of these grants are multi-year, bringing this total dollar amount for grants active this year to \$12,494,573. Dr. Fox herself is PI on 6 of these grants/contracts.

Dr. Fox has made a substantial contributions to teaching within both the USF Department of Special Education and CFS' Applied Behavior Analysis Program. She has numerous peer reviewed publications and has also co-authored a highly regarded textbook which is in its fourth edition. Her national impact is reflected in the numerous invited and peer reviewed presentations she gives at national and international conferences.

Dr. Perkins Selected for Editorial Board

Congratulations to Dr. Liz Perkins who was recently appointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Policy and Practice in Intellectual Disabilities*. It is the official journal of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities—an international association devoted to worldwide research and exchange of information on intellectual disabilities.



Geoffrey Canada Brings Standing Room Only Crowd at Children's Mental Health Conference

By Barbara Melendez USF News

The 24th Annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference, held in March, hosted nearly 700 researchers and child advocates. During the keynote address, Geoffrey Canada, director of Harlem Children's Zone, spoke of his deep concern for the future of children.

"We have this sort of schizophrenic view of ourselves where we see some kids as our kids and some other kids as 'their' kids, as if they're not all our kids. We talk about our children in segments like it's okay." He linked this idea to

the "cradle to prison pipeline," a term coined by the Children's Defense Fund. "In our nation, we incarcerate more people than any other place on the face of the earth," he said. "When you think of the most repressive, most backward places, like North Korea – not even close. We have a situation where we're not offering our children education but will certainly offer them a jail cell."

He contrasted the \$5,000 his Harlem Children Zone spends per child with the \$37,000 spent to keep a person in jail each year in New York City and decried the practice of

claiming there's no money for education while willingly spending any amount of money to keep people imprisoned.

The annual conference draws from an international audience of leading researchers, policy-makers and family advocates who are focused on efforts to improve the opportunity for children and families to realize their potential in the communities in which they live. The 2012 conference will be held March 4-7 at the Hyatt Regency Tampa. For additional information, visit <http://cmhtampaconference.usf.edu>.

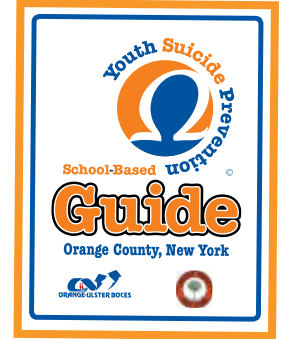


Youth Suicide Prevention Community Training

School faculty and administrators, community members, agency staff, survivors and others are invited to attend a special training hosted by the authors of the Youth Suicide Prevention School-based Guide, Kathy Lazear and Stephen Roggenbaum. The interactive training is designed to target community individuals or groups (e.g., suicide prevention task force members) who want to address the issue of youth suicide in their communities. It will be held September 13 & 14, 2011 at the USF College of Behavioral & Community Sciences in Tampa. The fee is \$175, with special discounts available for survivors and family members. Space is limited. For information, contact Stephen Roggenbaum, rogenba@usf.edu or 813-974-6149.

Orange County, NY Looks to CFS for Suicide Prevention

Several recent youth suicides and suicide attempts has led agencies in Orange County, New York to concentrate efforts on youth at-risk of suicide county-wide. As part of a comprehensive approach, the Orange County Department of Mental Health and the Orange-ULSTER BOCES are sponsoring efforts to adapt the CFS-produced Youth Suicide Prevention School-Based Guide (The Guide) to use as a resource for their county's schools. (Orange-ULSTER BOCES functions as an extension of local school districts, providing services that school districts may be too small to offer on their own or that would be more economical to offer collaboratively and share costs with other districts.)



Amanda LeBlanc, Kathy Lazear, and Steve Roggenbaum have tailored the Orange County Guide to incorporate newer research findings since the original publication. Local resource information has also been added, including local statistics, a comprehensive listings of schools and mental health service providers. Organizers in Orange County will print and distribute copies of the updated Orange County Guide and distribute to school staff and others focused on youth suicide prevention.

The Guide provides a framework for schools to assess their existing or proposed suicide prevention efforts (through a series of checklists) and provides resources and information that school administrators can use to enhance or add to their existing program. First, checklists can be completed to help evaluate the adequacy of the schools' suicide prevention programs. Second, information is offered in a series of issue briefs corresponding to a specific checklist. Each brief offers a rationale for the importance of the specific topic together with a brief overview of the key points. The briefs also offer specific strategies that have proven to work in reducing the incidence of suicide, with references that schools may then explore in greater detail. Visit the website at <http://theguide.fmhi.usf.edu/>

Children's Home Society of Florida Partners with CFS

According to the Children's Home Society of Florida (CHS), it is the oldest and largest statewide not-for-profit provider of services to children and families in Florida and the second largest private organization in the United States and Canada accredited by the Council on Accreditation. CHS services include foster care, adoption, child abuse prevention, emergency shelters, residential group homes, independent and transitional living for teens, early education and care, parent education, counseling, mentoring, and treatment for developmentally disabled children and adults. Headquartered in Winter Park, Florida, CHS services are delivered throughout Florida by more than 1,800 staff members providing child-focused, family-centered care. In 2010, more than 126,000 children and family members were served.

Florida's Community-Based Care (CBC) lead agencies contract with CHS to support children and families who are receiving services through the child welfare system. To ensure case management services are delivered successfully, CHS is contracting with USF and CFS to conduct an independent assessment of its statewide CBC case management program in support of their goal of strategically strengthening their on-going Quality Improvement system and case practice design.

A CFS team consisting of Mary Armstrong, PhD, Don Policella, and 4 other research staff will focus on five core areas: Quality Management, Case Management Practice, Supervision, Training, and Organizational Culture and Structure. Both internal and external components will be reviewed to identify strengths that can be maximized for positive change.

"Knowing how external stakeholders understand, interact, and perceive child welfare staff and the agency can provide great insight to the overall systems outcomes," said Don Policella.

CFS will also complete a limited review of national "best practice" literature and protocols as they pertain to the focus areas of this assessment.

The assessment will be conducted through review of two different CHS case management programs in Panama City and Orange County.

"These locations differ in their demographic representation as well as their local internal and external practices and supports," added Policella, "and will serve as excellent representation of the programs."

At the conclusion of the review of the two sites, a comprehensive overall systemic report will be generated and provided to CHS leadership. The assessment is expected to take approximately 7-9 months from start to finish.





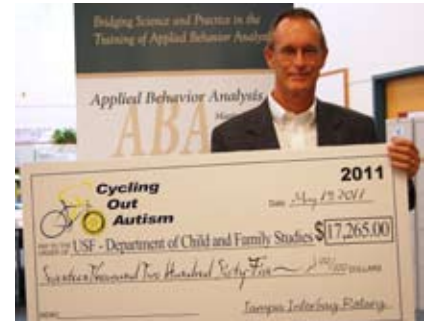
ABA Program Receives Check from Tampa Interbay Rotary Club

The Tampa Interbay Rotary Club, an affiliate of Rotary International, has donated \$17,265.00 to the Applied Behavior Analysis Program in the Department of Child and Family Studies at USF's College of Behavioral and Community Sciences, as part of funds raised through its second annual biking event, Cycling Out Autism.

The Cycling Out Autism event began after the Tampa Bay Rotary learned the daunting facts: Autism affects 1 in 150 children – outpacing pediatric cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined, and still receives less than 5% of the research funding childhood medical concerns.

“With the money raised by the Interbay Rotary Club’s Cycling Out Autism event, we can provide free training to children with

autism whose families could not afford it,” affirms Dr. Raymond G. Miltenberger, Director of the ABA Program. “This training will help the children develop the skills and abilities they need to live more normal and fulfilling lives.” (Funds are used as stipends for students working at practicum sites that support the services for these children and families.)



Dr. Ray Miltenberger receives check from Tampa Interbay Rotary Club.

Spring Fundraisers Support Center for Autism and Related Disabilities



Top Row: Bryan Wooten, Advanced Behavioral Systems; Ryan Ayres, Bay Cities Banks; Amy Ayres, Advanced Behavioral Systems; Patrick Shea, Bay Cities Bank; Dr. Tim Weil, USF; Bottom Row: Jennifer Wooten, Jessica Shea, Krystal McFee, Advanced Behavioral Systems

Proceeds from several recent fundraising events will help to make many additional programs and projects possible for the over 6,000 families and professionals served by CARD-USF across southwest Florida.

- The Jules Burt Foundation **High Heel Hike™** was held May 14 at Westshore Plaza in Tampa, and benefitted both the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities at USF (CARD-USF) and the Easter Seals Florida. For more on this story, visit: <http://cfs.cbcs.usf.edu/news-events/>
- 200 families, professionals and community supporters enjoyed **CARD’s 6th Annual Fiesta by the Bay**, held Friday, April 29th at Gaspar’s Grotto in Ybor City. Sponsors, donors, guests and silent auction winners helped to raise over \$10,000 for CARD’s Autism Services Fund through the USF Foundation.



Joey Satelo’s team raised the most money for the High Heel Hike, making him king.



Geoffrey Canada & Luanne Panacek, CEO, CBHC

Tampa Bay Community Supports Conference Activities

The special keynote address by acclaimed educator Geoffrey Canada at the 24th Annual Children’s Mental Health Research & Policy Conference was sponsored by the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County (CBHC), Tampa Metropolitan YMCA, and the United Way of Tampa Bay. Organized by Dr. Luanne Panacek, CEO of the CBHC (pictured left with Canada), the keynote was preceded by a luncheon meeting presented an opportunity for Canada to meet with the sponsoring organizations’ local leaders and community partners who work on the “Promise Neighborhood” project. This project, a local effort in the Sulphur Springs community, operates similarly to Canada’s model with the Harlem Children’s Zone, closely aligning education to social services from early childhood to early adulthood.

A special feature of the keynote presentation was the inclusion of two USF undergraduate Latino Scholarship recipients. Formerly from New York City, Kristen Robinson and Carolissa Salcedo introduced USF President Dr. Judy Genshaft and hosted the keynote and panel presentations.

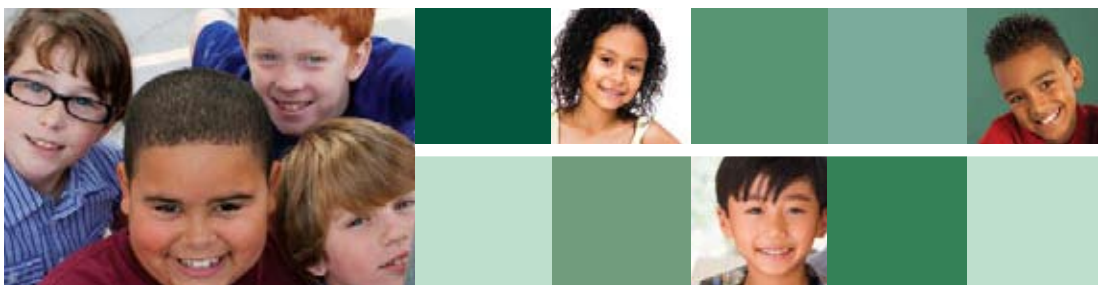


Kristen Robinson and Carolissa Salcedo host the plenary featuring Geoffrey Canada.



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The 25th Annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference



Save the date
for the *Tampa Conference*

March 4-7, 2012

Proposal Submission Process
Closes October 15, 2011

Research Highlights

DON'T MISS!

Research Highlights brings you a closer look at published articles from featured presentations at the annual Children's Mental Health Research & Policy Conference.

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.fmhi.usf.edu>, or contact Sandra Dwinell at 813-974-0342 or sdwinell@usf.edu.

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