

## **CARIBBEAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2013-2014**

### **WORK OF THE SECTION**

Since 2008 the Caribbean Child Development Centre (CCDC) has been a part of the Consortium for Social Development and Research (CSDR), a division of the University of the West Indies, Open Campus. While maintaining its traditional focus on issues of child development, covering the birth to 18 years age group, over the past 6 years, issues of children's rights have been an important aspect of the Centre's work. During the academic year 2013-2014, CCDC continued its work in research, teaching/ training, networking and information dissemination and public service. In addition proposals for new projects were developed and submitted to identified Local and International Development Partners.

Continuing our drive to create and foster collaborations, activities were also undertaken with other Open Campus sections, UWI campuses, partner universities and other institutions.

### **RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCIES**

1. *British Academy International Partnership and Mobility Scheme 2012*: Following the successful collaboration with Anglia Ruskin University in the United Kingdom, in a series of exchange activities looking at youth violence and gang, a concept paper for research to reduce youth violence and gang involvement was developed and submitted for consideration for funding.
2. *JSIF Bridge Jamaica Project Phase II*: During this academic year, CCDC assisted the Jamaica Social Investment Fund with the evaluation of Phase II of the BRIDGE Jamaica Project. This included reviewing the data collection instruments, conducting focus groups and interviews with the stakeholders of the project on poverty alleviation as well as transcribing and editing the data collected.
3. *Construct and manage a Caribbean Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) Website*: During this academic year the CCDC moved into Phase 2 of the UNESCO commissioned project which aimed to support HFLE school practitioners, stakeholders and other partners. This phase included the continued documentation of good practices in HFLE delivery, sourcing content for the multimedia library, preparing the HFLE website for launch and developing a sustainability plan.
4. *Re-establishment of a model early childhood institution*: CCDC received a grant of JA\$44 million from the CHASE Fund, Jamaica for infrastructural upgrading, expansion and equipping the early childhood centre, located at CCDC on the Mona campus.
5. *Transitional Living Programme for Children in State Care*: CCDC succeeded in receiving a grant of US\$1,388,000 from USAID for a project which will expose children in state care to vocation and life skills training and mentoring to improve their independent living outcomes. The project is for 3 years and will include the development

of a facility to house 40 girls upon graduation out of care. Monitoring and evaluation of all aspects of the programme are integral to the project. The project was initiated by CCDC as lead organization, in partnership with the Child Development Agency (CDA) of the Government of Jamaica. The UWI partners on this project include the Social Welfare Training Centre (SWTC) and The UWI Projects Office.

## **TEACHING/ TRAINING**

Staff members carried out a number of teaching and training activities, both individually and jointly as described below.

1. The CCDC received further funding from UNICEF to support the Child Rights Education Project; *Child Rights Training of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), a sustainability initiative*". By July 2014, some 340 police officers were equipped with knowledge and tools to uphold child rights and support JCF's institutionalization of rights-based service delivery.

UNICEF's 2014-2015 commitment of support for JCF's rights-based capacity building, entitled *JCF Child Rights Sustainability Initiative*, provide for CCDC's technical input in the design and development of a sustainable Child Rights Education and Training Framework within the National Police College of Jamaica. This includes

- A. streamlining the Child Rights & Responsibilities Training Programme into the National Police College of Jamaica's curricula (across basic, probationary and in-service training levels) in keeping the with Child Interaction Policy and Procedures being developed;
  - B. expansion of corps of Police trainers (training of an additional 60 Child Rights Trainers);
  - C. development of teaching and learning resources, and job aids
  - D. cascading rights-based performance monitoring within existing performance management; and,
  - E. rights-based programming throughout operations and administration
2. In November – December 2013, *Module 11 - Child Rights and Responsibilities* of the Restorative Justice Facilitators Course was designed, developed and delivered to 40 Restorative Justice Facilitators, for the Restorative and Child Justice Reform Unit of the Ministry of Justice.
  3. CCDC assisted with the development of the Early Childhood Education Continuing Education Unit programme for APAD to be delivered both face to face and online.

4. During this academic year, CCDC started the transformation of the Open Campus early childhood institutions into laboratory preschools. A company, The UWI OC Early Childhood Centres of Excellence Ltd, is in the process of being registered in Jamaica, and will also be registered in Antigua and Trinidad and Tobago.
5. J. Thomas provided training workshop in programme evaluation for NGOs, in collaboration with Psychology Unit, UWI Mona, January – May 2014.

**Student supervision**

CCDC staff supervised students of various disciplines at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. The Centre also hosted a number of interns (Table 1), whose assignments were geared at developing specific skills while contributing to targeted areas of Centre’s work.

**J. Meeks**

1. Vanessa White, Ph.D. (Nutrition) Adolescent health and nutrition in two Caribbean countries.
2. Cerita Buchanan, Ph.D. (Social Work) Challenges of professional women in the workforce in Jamaica.
3. Darran Newman, Ph.D. (Social Policy) An examination of child policy in Jamaica and Barbados. Submitted.
4. Joan Thomas, Ph.D. (Applied Psychology) Assessment of illness related stigma among children and adolescents.
5. Julie Nurse, PhD. (Social Policy) Clemson University. Adverse childhood experiences and delinquency among youth in St. Lucia.

**Table 1. Interns attached to the CCDC August 1, 2013 – July 31, 2014**

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>	<b>Institution</b>	<b>Assignment/Project</b>	<b>Name of Supervisor</b>
1.	Danyelle Dailey	29-Jul-14	22-Aug-14	Pre-University - Accepted to FMS (GoJ Summer student)	Literature search	Ceceile Minott
2.	Seya Lewis-Meeks	7-Jul-14	18-Jul-14	American International School of Kingston	Acting Deputy Principal, Support	Julie Meeks Gardner
3.	Varsha Gokare	1-Jul-14	18-Jul-14	Volunteer, Alpharetta High School, Georgia USA	General	Marva Campbell
4.	Shianne Sutherland	16-Jun-14	25-Jul-14	Meadowbrook High School	BRIDGE EVALUATION	Ceceile Minott

5.	Kristina Phillpotts-Brown	2-Jun-14	31-Jul-14	Princeton University, USA	Database	Joan Thomas
6.	Rashanna Sinclair	3-Feb-14	14-Apr-14	The Mico University College	Library (Practicum)	Kisha Sawyers
7.	Roena Williams	6-Jan-14	4-Jul-14	Volunteer	Support	Julie Meeks Gardner
8.	Shianne Sutherland	7-Aug-13	23-Aug-13	Meadowbrook High School	BRIDGE EVALUATION	Ceceile Minott
9.	Lamoine Samuels	January	May - 14	UWI Mona	Workshop on Programme evaluation for NGOs	Joan Thomas
10.	Kimberley Leon	January	May - 14	UWI Mona	Workshop on Programme evaluation for NGOs	Joan Thomas

## PUBLICATIONS

1. Gordon Stair A, **Minott C**, Williams-Brown S, Whyte H, Mullings J, Anglin-Brown B. *Counselling Jamaica's millennial generation*. University & College Counselling. February 2014. 20-21.

### *Newsletters*

1. Sawyers, K. The Caribbean Child Development Centre, e-newsletter 2013.
2. Sawyers, K. *Caribbean Child Development Centre. Socio-Economic Information Network (SECIN) News*. Vol. 28, No. 3, July - December 2013.

### *Manuals*

1. **Minott C**, Whyte H, Williams-Brown S, Gordon Stair A, Mullings J, Anglin-Brown B. *Using technology to offer student support in a university setting in Jamaica*. Unpublished report, August 2013.
2. **Sawyers, K.** *Disaster Preparedness And Mitigation: A manual for the staff at The Caribbean Child Development Centre, University of the West Indies, Open Campus CCDC/UWIOC and the Kids on Campus (KOC)*, 2014
3. **Sawyers, K.** "Child Rights in the Caribbean: An annotated bibliography of online resources." 2014.
4. **Gallimore H.,** *Child Rights and Responsibilities Training Guidelines – Building the capacity of police officers to support the best interests of children*, October 2013.

## STAFF ACTIVITIES

### Conference presentations and attendance

#### *Invited presentations*

##### J. Meeks

- *Influencia en la calidad de vida: Desarrollo en al niñez temprana.* Childwatch International Latin American and Caribbean network annual meeting. Buenos Aires, October 16-17, 2013.
- *An Overview of Early Childhood Development.* WHO Meeting on Violence Prevention, Mexico City, November 12-14, 2013.

##### C.Minott

- *Development of common terminologies in early childhood development in the Caribbean.* CARICOM Fourteenth Meeting of the Working Group on Early Childhood Development (An ECD Roundtable). The Courtleigh Hotel and Suites, Kingston, Jamaica: May 29-30, 2014.
- *Understanding a Baby's Development.* Ministry of Education Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) Teacher Training Workshop. April 22-25, 2014.

##### H. Gallimore

- *Child Rights Education of Families and Communities – Innovative, generative and unconventional thinking and 'participaction'.* 19<sup>th</sup> Annual International Democratic Education Conference, The University of Colorado, Boulder, CO: August 4-8, 2013
- National Child Month Committee's Annual Youth Forum keynote address: *Child Rights & Responsibilities – A fi wi mission.* Kingston, JA, November 1, 2013

### **Papers Presented at Academic Conferences:**

##### C. Minott

- *Promoting Biodiversity in Jamaican Early Childhood Institutions.* Poster. Global Summit on Childhood, Vancouver, BC, Canada; April 10-13, 2014.
- *Engaging families to promote child development,* The 2014 World Forum on Early Care and Education. San Juan, Puerto Rico. May 6-9, 2014.

##### M. Campbell

- *Developing a Systematic Framework to Respond to Children and Violence: A Comparative Analysis.* CSDR Research Teleconference, November 27, 2013.

##### P.Anaokar

- *Responding to Implementation Barriers to Health and Family Life Education in the Caribbean.* Caribbean Child Research Conference, Kingston, Jamaica. November 6-7, 2013.

- *Engaging families to promote child development.* The 2014 World Forum on Early Care and Education, San Juan, Puerto Rico. May 6-9, 2014.

#### H. Gallimore

- *Education for Child Rights.* Caribbean Child Research Conference, Kingston: November 6, 2013

#### J. Thomas

- *Perceptions of Stakeholders on Developing a Caribbean HFLE website.* Paper presented at Caribbean Child Research Conference, Jamaica. November 6-7, 2013.
- *The Caribbean's response to the 2006 UN Study on Violence against Children: An Overview.* Paper presented at Consortium for Social Development and Research Teleconference. November 27, 2013.

### **Conferences and Workshops attended**

#### **Conferences**

- K. Sawyers. *Power Searching with the Pros* Conference in Washington, September 9-11<sup>th</sup>, 2013.
- K. Sawyers. *Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA) 2014 – Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica – “Harnessing Information for National Development” - - January 30-31, 2014*
- K. Sawyers. *Associations of College, University, Research, Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) 2014. Libraries, Archives and Museums: Gateway to Information Literacy & Cultural Heritage.* 8th - 12th June 2014, Nassau, Bahamas.

#### **Workshops**

Several members of staff attended workshops including:

- C. Minott. ‘*Defining gender socialisation*’ Regional Workshop on ‘Gender Socialisation for Early Childhood Development Practitioners’. Dominica, December 9-10, 2013
- K. Sawyers. *USAID/Jamaica's - "Bringing Your Success Story to Life" Writing Workshop.* US Embassy, Kingston – July 9, 2014
- K. Sawyers. “*Pathways to Prosperity*” by Dr. Leachim Semaj. A Hugh Lawson Shearer Trade Union Education Institute (HLSTUEI) Open Campus Forum. Thursday, June 26, 2014 at the HLSTUEI lecture room
- M. Brown and K. Sawyers. “*Communicating for Efficiency and Effectiveness in a Dynamic Work Environment.*” HLSTUEI's lecture room, UWI Open Campus
- P. Anakoar, J. Thomas and K. Sawyers. “*WordPress*” by Philmore Walker at CCDC
- K. Sawyers, C. Minott, H. Gallimore, M. Campbell and M. Brown. *Fire Warden Training, Jamaica Fire Brigade*

#### **Service to UWI**

CCDC Head, Prof. Julie Meeks was appointed Acting Deputy Principal from May to July 2014 and Ceceile Minott was appointed Acting Head of CCDC for June and July 2014.

J. Meeks continue to serve on the following:

- Campus Coordinator for Graduate Studies and Research (Open Campus)
- Open Campus Appointments Committee, Member
- Open Campus Evaluation and Promotions Committee, Member
- Open Campus newsletter: “Open Letter”, Member of the Editorial Team
- Open Campus Marketing and Communications Department Task Force, Member
- The University of the West Indies Press, Open Campus representative on the Board
- University Council, Open Campus representative

K. Sawyers continued to serve on:

- UWI Open Campus Web Development Team.
- UWI Open Campus Marketing and Communications Team.

Members of staff carried out the following activities in addition to regular duties:

- 1) C. Minott continued to provide technical assistance to the UWI Health Centre in implementing and evaluating a telephone/online counselling service for UWI Mona students and staff. (2013-2014)
- 2) C. Minott served as the UWI Representative on the Technical Advisory Committee for the Revision of the Child Care & Protection Act. (2013-2014)
- 3) M. Campbell served as marker for Secondary School research papers, submitted for the Caribbean Child Research Conference student award. November 2013.
- 4) C. Minott served as Chief Judge for the Caribbean Child Research Conference November 2013.
- 5) C. Minott and M. Campbell served on the Planning Committee for the Caribbean Child Research Conference (2013-2014).
- 6) C. Minott served as member of the Community Intervention and Parenting Sub-Committee of the Early Childhood Commission (2014)

## **STAFF DEVELOPMENT**

1. J. Thomas - continued in the Ph.D program at the UWI Mona (Social Psychology).
2. M. Campbell - Attained project management certification in PRINCE2 (Practitioner Level)
3. M Campbell - Online Course in Microsoft Projects
4. K. Sawyers - Online Course in Research Writing
5. H. Gallimore - *Leadership, Organizing and Action: Leading Change*, Harvard Kennedy School, Executive Education Certificate, Cambridge, USA (2014)

## **OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

### **Information Dissemination and Networking**

#### **International**

##### **Global Child Development Group**

The CCDC continued to host the secretariat of the Global Child Development Group (GCDG). The secretariat continued receiving support from the Bernard van Leer Foundation. During the academic year 2013-2014, a number of activities were completed. The Group hosted the 'Global Child Development Group Indicators Meeting' from April 14-16, 2014 in Kingston, Jamaica. The working meeting was attended by 14 international delegates which included lead investigators with cohorts with the necessary data and early childhood experts. The delegates discussed the possibilities of assembling data from 13 cohorts covering 12,000 children in an effort to develop indicators for Early Childhood Development. The activities of the Group also included the upgrade and maintenance of the Group's website and presentations internationally. The Steering committee includes CCDC's Julie Meeks.

#### **Regional**

##### **Representation:**

###### **C. Minott**

1. UWI Vice Chancellor's representative on the CARICOM Working Group on Early Childhood.
2. CARICOM ECD working group representative on the Early Childhood Project Advisory Committee for the Institutional Partnership between Sir Arthur Lewis Community College and Seneca College (2013 to 2014).
3. Member of the Foundation for the Development of Caribbean Children Strategic Planning & Strategic Oversight Committee, the region's first indigenous, private foundation dedicated to early childhood development.

###### **H. Gallimore**

1. Founding member of Encuentro de Nuestra America, a regional inter-disciplinary group advocating alternative (rights-based) educational approaches in the Americas and the Caribbean, led by colleagues in Puerto Rico. The Third Gathering of Our America is scheduled to be held in Guatemala in 2015.

###### **Sawyers, K**

1. Editor and Reviewer of the Caribbean Library Journal. A Publication of The University of the West Indies, University Libraries



## **Activities:**

- For the eighth consecutive year CCDC partnered with the lead agency Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Research and other agencies in hosting the successful Caribbean Child Research Conference in Kingston, Jamaica.
- CCDC developed a plan for the four UWI Open Campus early childhood institutions to become streamlined early childhood laboratory schools to demonstrate best practice in early childhood throughout the region in support of OC training programmes and research across the UWI. A company, The UWI OC Early Childhood Centres of Excellence Ltd is now being registered in Jamaica, with registration in Antigua and Trinidad and Tobago to follow. The first pre-board meeting was held in July. The Company will begin operations in September 2014.
- H. Gallimore - Co-produced Unicef Jamaica's Confidential Report to The United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) on Jamaica's Third and Fourth Periodic Country Report to the UNCRC (2003-2009)

## **National**

### **Representation:**

1. M. Campbell - Member, Parenting Partners Caribbean
2. H. Gallimore - Jamaica National Children's Home Board of Trustee
3. H. Gallimore - Acting Chair, Bob Andy Song Foundation
4. J. Meeks Gardner – Board Member Peace Management Initiative
5. J. Meeks Gardner – Board Member Children's Coalition of Jamaica
6. C. Minott - Board Member of the Dudley Grant Memorial Trust (DGMT)
7. C. Minott - Member of the Community Intervention and Parenting Sub-Committee of the Early Childhood Commission
8. J. Thomas - CCDC Representative at Violence Prevention Alliance
9. J. Thomas - Member, Jamaican Psychological Society
10. K. Sawyers - Member, Library and Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA).
11. K Sawyers - Member, Social and Economic Network of Librarians.

## **VISITORS AND LINKS**

1. H. Gallimore - Dr. Carey Applegate, Assistant Professor, English Department, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire
2. Ade Labinjo, Management and Education Consultant from London visited CCDC October 31, 2013.

## BENEFACTIONS

### GRANT FUNDING

During the year under review CCDC continued to source funding for programme activities and received project grants as highlighted in the table below.

**Table 2. CCDC Active Projects, 2013-2014 Academic Year**

Title of Grant	Funding Source	Duration	Value	
			JA\$	US\$
<b>RESEARCH PROJECTS</b>				
International Partnership - Youth violence and gang research	Concept note submitted awaiting response			
UWI-SUE Caribe Research Group Research on children and violence and early childhood	Seeking			
Transitional Living Programme for Children in State Care	USAID	July 2014 – July 2017		1,388,000
<b>OTHER PROJECTS</b>				
Child Rights Training of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF), a sustainability initiative	UNICEF JA	May 2014 - Aug 2015	5,850,000	
Re-establishment of a model early childhood institution at CCDC	CHASE Fund	May 2014 - September 2015	44,900,000	
Global Child Development Group Secretariat	BvLF	Year 2 - January 2014 to December 2014		82,951

### STRATEGIC PLAN

The work of the CCDC has been aligned to the Strategic Plan of the UWI since 2008. The new Strategic Plan for 2012-2017 was rolled out in 2012 with 6 Perspectives: Financial, Employee Engagement & Development; Internal Operational Processes; Teaching Learning and Student

Development; Research & Innovation; and, Outreach. CCDC had a mid-year retreat in February 2014 and a planning retreat in July 2014 to discuss and review our targets for the year and make plans for the upcoming academic year.

The CCDC staff members attended the CSDR planning retreat which was held December 5 – 6, 2013. The retreat explored opportunities for CSDR to make a contribution to the UWI's Strategic Plan for 2012-2017 and developed a consensus on the main components of the development plan for CSDR.

## **CONSTRAINTS**

CCDC continued to operate in an environment of scarce resources. The University of the West Indies Open Campus covered all staff and operating costs throughout the academic year. However, with no available funding for programme activities, the Centre sought and was successful in obtaining external funding, and continues to aggressively seeking additional funds.

The Government of Jamaica through the Early Childhood Commission, though committed to providing a small subvention towards support staff cost, was unable to disburse funds this year.

### Physical Plant

CCDC submitted a proposal to the CHASE Fund and was successful and will receive a grant to refurbish and extend the existing building to accommodate additional offices and extend the training facility.

### Human Resource constraints

CCDC maintains a relatively small staff complement and has been constrained in its ability to hire additional human resource to undertake special projects. This gap was partially filled by engaging student interns. In so doing we were able to assist students' economic needs, whilst accessing additional human resources.

## PICTURES



Photo: Heather Gallimore, Child Rights Associate at Area 1 Post-Training Consultation October 2013



Photo: Global Brand Manager at GraceKennedy Limited, Anthony Lawrence; Chairperson, National Child Month Committee, Dr. Pauline Mullings; and Child Rights Associate at the Caribbean Child Development Centre, Heather Gallimore, (R) share a light moment at the National Child Month Committee's annual Youth Forum, held on November 1, 2013 at the St. Andrew Parish Church Hall, 16 Ellesmere Road



Photo: Child Rights Training of the Jamaica Constabulary Force (November – December 2013)



*Photo:(l-r) Ms. Heather Gallimore, Child Rights Associate; Mr. Shemar Millwood, student of Jamaica College; Dr. Priya Anaokar, Knowledge Specialist and Ms. Joan Thomas, Research Fellow at Caribbean Child Research Conference held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, Jamaica November 6, 2013*



Photo: Prof. Julie Meeks (L), CCDC's Head at Caribbean Child Research Conference held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, Jamaica November 6, 2013



Photo: Marva Campbell, Programme Officer (L) at Caribbean Child Research Conference held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, Jamaica November 6, 2013



Photo: Ceceile Minott (L), Programme Office, CCDC was one of the judges at Caribbean Child Research Conference held at the Jamaica Conference Centre, Jamaica November 5-6, 2013



Photo: CCDC'S Staff at CSDR Retreat – December 5 – 6, 2013 Runaway Bay Golf Resort



Photo: Ms. Heather Gallimore, Child Rights Associate with Restorative Justice Facilitators at CCDC December 2013



*Photo:(l-r) Ms. Marlene Hinds, Ministry of Education; Kisha Sawyers, CCDC,UWI; Prof. Fay Durrant, DLIS, UWI;and Ms. Tracey Tapper, Bank of Jamaica at The Library & Information Association of Jamaica (LIAJA)/Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) conference held at the Terra Nova Hotel, Kingston, Jamaica – January 30-31, 2014.*





Photo: Ms. Heather Gallimore, Child Rights Associate at Fire Warden Training, Feb 2014



Photo: *Ceceile Minott* at Global Summit on Childhood, Vancouver, BC, Canada; April 10-13, 2014.



Photo: Global Child Development Group's investigators' Working Meeting on Scalable Early Childhood Indicators held in April, 2014 in Kingston Jamaica



Photo: Priya Anakoar, Knowledge Specialist and Ceceile Minott, Programme Officer at the World Forum on Early Care and Education in San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 6-9, 2014.



Photo: Kisha Sawyers, Librarian with the EBSCO Information Services Group at *The Association of Caribbean University, Research and Institutional Libraries (ACURIL) Conference*,  
June 9-13, Nassau Bahamas



Photo: Kisha Sawyers, Librarian at "Pathways to Prosperity" by Dr. Leachim Semaj at the Hugh Lawson Shearer Trade Union Education Institute Open Campus Forum on  
Thursday, June 26, 2014



Photo:Ms. Heather Gallimore, Child Rights Associate (left) at International Democratic Education Conference – *Movers & Shakers*. Boulder CO, Aug 2014