



UWI
OPEN CAMPUS

Caribbean Child Development Centre Newsletter



**CONSORTIUM FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, OPEN CAMPUS**

2012

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VISITORS AND LINKS

The Minister of Education, The Hon. Rev. Ronald Thwaites, accepted an invitation to breakfast at Caribbean Child Development Centre (CCDC) on April 24th, 2012. He participated in a tour of the facility and discussions on Early Childhood Development (ECD) in Jamaica.



Breakfast meeting: Dr. Rose Davies (Senior Lecturer, School of Education), Prof. Julie Meeks (Head, CCDC), Ceceile Minott (Actg. Head, CCDC), Keith Brown (President, Jamaica Early Childhood Association), Prof. Emeritus Elsa Leo-Rhynie, former Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of The UWI, Mona Campus, The Rev. Hon. Ronald Thwaites, Minister of Education, Jamaica.



The Rev. Hon. Ronald Thwaites, Minister of Education, Jamaica greets children at the Kids on Campus (Caribbean Child Development Centre)

On May 3rd and 4th, 2012, the CCDC collaborated with the McCam Child Development Centre on its 4th International Attention Deficient Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) Conference under the theme 'Working Towards Positive Outcomes'. The goal of the conference was to build awareness that a diagnosis of ADHA does not have a negative prognosis but instead can be successfully treated with positive outcomes. The Key note speaker was Dr. Kent McIntosh, Associate Professor of School Psychology, at the University of British Columbia. He spoke on: "School-wide Positive Behaviour Support:

A Systems-Level Approach to Improving Prosocial Skills and Reducing Challenging Behaviour", Other speakers included: Dr. Audrey Pottinger, Clinical Psychologist at the Department of Child & Adolescent Health, The University of the West Indies, who spoke on "ADHA & the College Student"; Dr. Tammy Haynes-Robinson, Clinical Psychologist/Neuropsychology, spoke on "Psycho-neurological presentation of ADHD" and Dr. Ganesh Shetty, Child Psychiatrist, spoke on "Pharmacological Intervention". The conference was shared electronically through Open Campus facilities across the Caribbean.

PUBLIC LECTURE

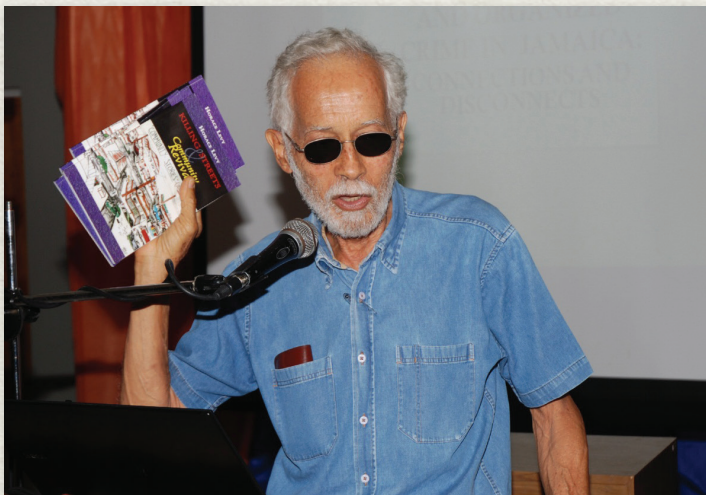
The (CCDC) of the Consortium for Social Development and Research, The University of the West Indies, Open Campus, in partnership with the Childhood and Youth Research Institute at the Anglia Ruskin University in England, hosted a special public lecture on Thursday, November 29, 2012 under the topic, **“Children’s Rights, Gang Culture and Citizenship: Empowerment and inclusion towards reducing youth gang culture”**.

The public lecture which was made possible through support from the British Academy took place at the Registry Undercroft of the UWI Mona Campus on November 29, 2012. The guest speakers were visiting Research Fellow from Anglia Ruskin University, Dr. Darren Sharpe, and Mr. Horace Levy of the Peace Management Initiative in Jamaica. The panel also included presentations by three youth programme representatives from Children’s First and LEAP Heart Trust NTA.



Dr. Sharpe presented on the topic “Children and Young People’s Citizenship: who’s in and who’s out of British democracy” at the CCDC Public Lecture.

Dr. Sharpe visited Jamaica from November 26 to December 7, 2012. During his stay, in addition to the public lecture, he attended meetings, participated in the first of two consultation workshops and visited several violence prevention programmes in Kingston. In March, 2013 Head of CCDC will undertake a counterpart visit to England.



Mr. Horace Levy covered the topic “Youth Violence and Organized Crime: causes and counter measures Project”

PROJECTS

- 1) “Follow-up of the implementation of the recommendations of the UN Study on Violence against Children for the Caribbean.” CCDC accepted a consultancy from the UNICEF Regional Office TACRO to carry out a study on the progress of the implementation of three recommendations from the 2006 UN study on violence against children in the Caribbean. The project was executed as a collaborative effort with the Consortium for Social Development and Research. The findings were shared at the Caribbean Sub-Regional meeting on Violence against Children, held in Jamaica in May, as well as at the 7th Annual Caribbean Child Research Conference, November 7, 2012.
- 2) Child Rights Training Sustainability Initiative: Child Rights Training was delivered to over 600 Juvenile Services stakeholders within the Department of Correctional Services. Participants included 391 correctional officers and civilian staff, and 220 boys and girls (wards) at Metcalfe Street Secure Juvenile Centre and Fort Augusta Female Correctional Centres. 17 DCS staff members were trained as Departmental Child Rights Trainers and worked with Master Trainer, Heather Gallimore to deliver the workshops. Training Guidelines were produced to support the infusion of child rights training across Juvenile Services, including staff of all facilities serving children and recruits at the Carl Rattray Staff College.
In December 2012, a similar initiative commenced with the Jamaica Constabulary Force. A total of 222 security personnel, including: 12 officers as lead JCF child rights trainers; 110 officers as child rights facilitators; 20 commanding officers, 60 school resource officers and 20 deans of discipline are to be equipped with knowledge and tools to protect and promote the rights of children who come into contact or conflict with the law.
- 3) A needs assessment of the Open Campus Early Childhood sites in Jamaica (at CCDC), Antigua and Trinidad (2 sites) was carried out during the month of October 2012. A report with recommendations on developing them into laboratory early childhood institutions was submitted to The UWI Open Campus Principal.
- 4) The CCDC received a small grant from UNESCO to support the continued updating of the CaribECD website <http://www.open.uwi.edu/caribecd/welcome> and the publication of 2 CaribECD Link newsletters (August and December 2012).
- 5) The CCDC successfully bid for a grant to construct and manage a website to support Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) for the Caribbean. The project is funded by UNESCO with an expected duration of 12 months, and will include an online client survey, the documentation of good HFLE teaching practices and the development and maintenance of a website to host HFLE resources for practitioners.
- 6) CCDC Staff assisted in developing the B.Ed. in Early Childhood Development and Family Studies courses offered by The University of the West Indies, Open Campus (<http://www.open.uwi.edu/undergraduate/bed-early-childhood-development-and-family-studies>).



Metcalf Street Secure Juvenile Centre Staff with Master Trainer, Heather Gallimore and DCS Trainers in Training at a Child Rights & Responsibilities workshop, held at CCDC

STAFF AWARDS

During 2012 the CCDC and staff received various awards at both the Centre and individual level.

Ms Joan Thomas, Research Fellow, Caribbean Child Development Centre and PhD Candidate (Social Psychology, UWI) received the Best Student Researcher award at the UWI Ministry of Health's 3rd Annual National Research Conference.



Marilyn Brown of the CCDC, receiving Long Service Award from PVC Professor Alvin Wint. Ms Brown was recognised for 21 years of service to the UWI.



Ms. Marva Campbell, Programme Officer, Caribbean Child Development Centre received the Open Campus 2012 Principal's Award for Excellence, in the Senior Administrative and Professional Staff category. The presentation was made at the Staff Awards ceremony held at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort, St. Kitts on Saturday, October 13, 2012.



Prof. Julie Meeks, Head, Caribbean Child Development Centre received the 2012 Principal's Award for Excellence, Open Campus, for Best Performing Department, at the Staff Awards ceremony held at the St. Kitts Marriott Resort, St. Kitts on Saturday, October 13, 2012



Ceceile Minott, Actg. Head 2011-12 (middle row, sixth from left) at The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre Learning Through Play International Conference. Toronto Canada. May 23-29, 2012.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

During the year, CCDC staff members were involved in staff development activities aimed at enhancing their skills and contribution to the overall goal of CCDC and The University of the West Indies.

C. Minott attended The Hincks-Dellcrest Centre Learning Through Play International Conference. Toronto, Canada. May 23-29, 2012. The conference looked at the role of 'Play' in early childhood development and trained Mrs. Minott: on how to use the new tools which were developed.

INTERNS

During the year CCDC hosted four interns who assisted in various aspects of the Centres operations.

Sherice Roberts: BSc in Hospitality Management, University of Technology - assisted with the updating of the CCDC's Violence Prevention Programmes database.

Alison Bowen: BEd in Library and Information Studies, MICO University College – assisted with records and archival management, updating CCDC's mailing list, cataloguing library books, redesign of the library brochure and updating the CCDC website.

Renee Brown: ACCA student, Accountancy Training College - assisted with stock taking and updating of stationery inventory, verifying location of fixed assets and updating schedules, digitizing of archival records, reconciliation of Banner outputs and local records.

Kai Matthews: Graduate MSc in Public Health, The University of the West Indies – assisted with Updating of databases on Violence and HIV programmes for children, organizing of data gathered for analysis and reporting for UNICEF follow-up study on Violence against children.

STAFFING

Mrs Ceceile Minott, MA has been appointed Programme Officer for two years, January 2013 – December 2014. Ms. Minott acted as Head of CCDC for the period 2011/2012. Mrs. Minott expressed her appreciation and how she is looking forward to continuing to contribute to the CCDC and The UWI.

WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES AND TRAINING SESSIONS

- 1) The CCDC continued to partner with the Sir Arthur Lewis Institute for Social and Economic Studies to host the 7th Annual Caribbean Child Research Conference. As part of the pre-Conference activities, Heather Gallimore, our Child Rights Associate and Joan Thomas, Research Fellow made workshop presentations on "Understanding Child Rights and Responsibilities" and "The Research Process" respectively. The workshops included 27 teachers and 42 students, in Kingston, Montego Bay and Port Antonio, and were held with via video-conference on June 13, 2012.
- 2) Dr. Priya Anaoka and Joan Thomas, CCDC presented at the Caribbean Child Research Conference 2012. Ms. Thomas' paper was entitled, **"An Overview of the Caribbean's response to three recommendations from the UNVAC 2006 Study"** and Dr. Anaoka's presentation was entitled, **"Data-Driven Efforts to address Children and Violence."**
- 3) Ms Joan Thomas made a presentation at the UWI-Ministry of Health's 3rd Annual National Research Conference. Ms. Thomas's paper was entitled, "Documenting HIV intervention programmes for children in Jamaica." The Conference was held November 22–23, 2012. The documentation process led to an online database of which can be accessed at <http://ccdcresearch.mona.uwi.edu/>.