



CARIBBEAN CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTRE NEWSLETTER



**Consortium for Social Development and Research
The University of the West Indies, Open Campus**

About Us

2011



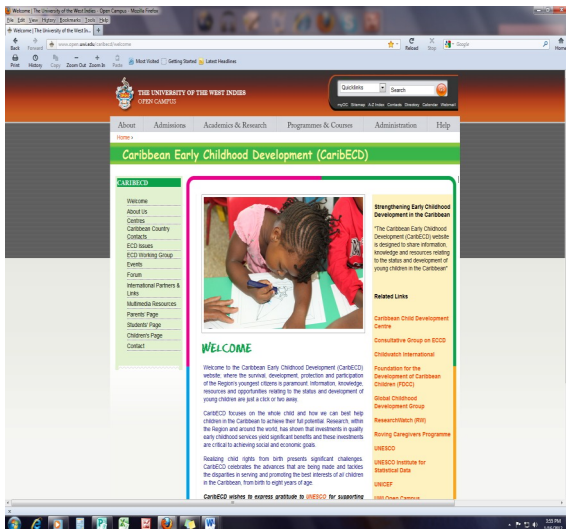
The CCDC is a unit of the Consortium for Social Development and Research (CSDR), of the University of the West Indies, Open Campus. *Our mandate is to provide support for holistic development for Caribbean children through:*

- Research, including collaborative research to inform policy and program development;
- Training;
- Information management and dissemination;
- Public service and promotion of the best possible outcomes for children.

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Re-Launch of the CaribECD Website



CCDC recently re-launched the CaribECD website.

Visit the site at <http://www.open.uwi.edu/caribecd/welcome>.

Staff Awards

- ⇒ **Marva Campbell - 30 Years of Service to UWI**
- ⇒ **Prof. Julie Meeks Gardner -21 Years of Service to UWI**
- ⇒ **Prof. Julie Meeks Gardner -Vice Chancellor Award**

Research

HIV and Child Development

HIV and AIDS-related stigma and discrimination and learning outcomes

A study carried out on behalf of UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office, to assess the nature and extent of stigma and discrimination among children living with and affected by HIV in St. Lucia and Guyana, and the impact on their school experiences. The results indicated that children in both countries experienced some amount of stigma and discrimination which affected their school performance and experiences, and that this may have affected their school outcomes. Funding is being sought for a replication of this assessment with children in Jamaica.

Aggression and Violence and Children

Jamaica Youth Survey (JYS)

This is a self-report assessment tool developed with funding from the World Bank to evaluate individual-level programmes in Jamaica for promoting well-being and preventing violence and aggression among youth 12-18 years old. The instrument measures youth aggressive behaviours and 5 core social competencies for healthy development.

The Kingston YMCA Youth Intervention

An evaluation was carried out of the Kingston YMCA Youth Development Programme using the *Jamaica Youth Survey* to determine the impact of the programme on participants' attitudes and behaviours. A paper on the programme is published in the book, '*Youth Violence Prevention Around the World*'.

Interventions in the Community to Reduce Youth Violence

An assessment was carried out of factors influencing changes in youth crime and violence at the community level in Jamaica. The assessment focused initially on 4 communities: Fletcher's Land in Kingston Metropolitan area, and Russia, Flanker and Norwood, in Western

Research

Jamaica. Whitfield Town and Dunkirk in Kingston were also added to the assessment.

Child Rights

The Situation of Promotion and Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents in Jamaica

A baseline study, funded by IIN/OAS, to evaluate the status of public policies, regulatory frameworks and institutionally addressing matters related to child rights. The assessment focused on Legislative Development, National Plans and Policies, Child Participation, Independent Monitoring Mechanisms, Quantitative and Qualitative Indicators, and Children's Rights in the media. The major findings revealed the while policies existed, gaps existed in the implementation of various systems.

Police procedure with Jamaican children

A survey of law enforcement (in Kingston and St. Andrew, and St. Catherine) encounters with children, and policies and procedures used during the encounters was carried out with support from Minority Health International Research Training programme. Although, the police officers encountered children in a variety of circumstances, there appeared to be no written policy or procedures to guide them.

Early Childhood Development

Early Childhood Training in the Caribbean

Early childhood education, care and development (ECECD) programmes and courses offered throughout the English-speaking Caribbean were identified and catalogued in order to provide information to prospective students and understand the needs for training. This creates the opportunity for expanding the levels, types and delivery modes of programmes offered in the Caribbean.

Research

Early Childhood Development *Cont'd...*

Strengthening Caribbean Early Childhood Development Networks

This project was carried out with the support of UNESCO Kingston Cluster Office, to help strengthen early childhood networks within the Caribbean. Four educational teleconferences on ECCE policy and programmes were held, an electronic forum was developed, and the Caribbean Early Childhood Development website revised and updated.

Support for HIV programme

A proposal to fund a programme of work in this area has been submitted to the CHASE fund. Support is being sought for the following:

- ⇒ To conduct research to determine effective psychosocial support for children living with HIV in Jamaica;
- ⇒ To replicate the assessment of HIV-related stigma and discrimination among children living with and affected by HIV in Jamaica.
- ⇒ To facilitate knowledge sharing among those working on behalf of children living with or affected by HIV in Jamaica and the Caribbean
- ⇒ To update our database of HIV Intervention Programmes for Jamaican children.



Training

Child Rights & Responsibilities

This course, developed with support from UNICEF Jamaica for professionals and paraprofessionals working with or on behalf of children, provides key information and tools required to transform child rights commitment into common consideration and regular practice.

The course has so far been delivered to 4 groups: Social Workers, Children's Officers, Police Officers and Juvenile Corrections personnel, and Training of Trainers course delivered to Education Officers from the Guidance & Counselling and representatives from the Police and Juvenile Corrections. Efforts to have the course incorporated into the course offerings of the Open Campus, and for appropriate development into a blended or distance format have started.

Early Childhood Development

A Bachelors of Education in Early Childhood Development and Family Studies programme is being developed in conjunction with APAD OC and Trinidad and Tobago Country Site. This programme is expected to begin in the new academic year and will be offered using blended modes.

Visit our Library

Conduct your research on child development

Make an appointment to see the Librarian

kisha.sawyers@open.uwi.edu

Technical Assistance

Network-Based Capacity Building on Social Protection

The OAS invited the participation of CCDC as academic advisors of a poverty reduction programme being carried out in Jamaica, Trinidad and St. Lucia.

Situation Analysis of Sexuality Education in the Caribbean

CCDC assisted UWI Consulting in undertaking a baseline study of sexuality education in 15 Caribbean countries.

UWI, Health Centre, Counselling Unit Telephone/Online Counselling Service:

CCDC is assisting UWI Health Centre, Counselling Unit with the establishment of a telephone/online counselling service for students and staff.

Dudley Grant Memorial Trust Early Childhood Expo 2012

Technical assistance provided for with upcoming Early Childhood Expo 2012 and Early Childhood Project proposals.

The Global Child Development Group

This is a group of early childhood development professionals involved in the scientific review, evaluation and dissemination of information on child development. The secretariat for the group is hosted at the Caribbean Child Development Centre, with coordination assistance from the Child Development Research Group of the UWI's Tropical Medicine Research Institute (TMRI).

More information is available on the website www.globalchilddevelopment.org

CCDC Welcomes Acting Head

Mrs. Ceceile Minott

Mrs. Ceceile Minott, a graduate of the University of South Florida, with a Masters in Education. She worked as Project Director of Dudley Grant Memorial Trust for 8 years.

Prior to this, Mrs. Minott served as Social Services Officer at Jamaica Social Investment Fund (2000 – 2003), Executive Director/Project Officer at the Jamaica Foundation for Children (1995 – 2002), Training Officer at Life of Jamaica Ltd. (1990 – 1995), Instructional Specialist at Florida Mental Health Institute (1987 – 1988) and as Technical Consultant with the International Youth Foundation, Peace Corp Jamaica, McCam Child Development Centre and the Women's Crisis Centre (1998 – 2011).

Staff Achievements

- ⇒ Ms. Kisha Sawyers, Librarian - Masters of Arts in Library & Information Studies (MALIS), University of the West Indies, Mona
- ⇒ Ms. Marva Campbell, Programme Officer - Certificate in Applied Project Management, University of the West Indies, Mona
- ⇒ Ms. Marva Campbell, Programme Officer Monitoring and Evaluation of Programmes - University of the West Indies, Mona

Conference Presentations

- ⇒ Joan Thomas - Bahamas - 2011 Caribbean HIV Conference
- ⇒ Julie Meeks - Bahamas- Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology.
- ⇒ Kisha Sawyers - ACURIL, Tampa, Florida - *Disaster Preparedness in Libraries*
- ⇒ Ceceile Minott - Caribbean Child Research Conference, Jamaica - *Promoting Child Rights Through Research*
- ⇒ Joan Thomas - Caribbean Child Research Conference, Jamaica - *Promoting Child Rights Through Research*
- ⇒ Marva Campbell/Joan Thomas - Consortium for Social Development and Research Teleconference

Acknowledgement

We thank all our local and international sponsors and colleagues for their support during 2011, and look forward to even greater and more exciting partnerships in 2012 as we continue to actively seeking funding for research on:

- *Early Childhood Development*
 - *Children and Violence*
 - *Child Rights*
- *Children, HIV & Stigma*

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Consortium for Social Development and
Research

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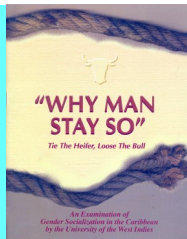
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A key institution of

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RESEARCH NETWORK



PUBLICATIONS FOR SALE

“Why Man Stay So” - J\$400

See <http://www.open.uwi.edu/ccdc/publications> for more

Laying a Solid Foundation