



Quarterly newsletter of the

# The Caribbean Child Development Centre

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

February—April 2015

## UNICEF approves additional US\$2.M for Child Rights Initiative

The United Nations Children’s Fund recently approved an additional US\$1.950 million in project funding support for the Caribbean Child Development Centre (CCDC) Child Rights Sustainability Initiative (CRSI) with the Police, bringing the total present Grant to just over US\$7 million.

UNICEF has supported CCDC’s Child Rights Education Project since 2008, when efforts focused on the development and piloting of the Child Rights and Responsibilities Course for Professionals. The project has evolved over the years, from an inter-disciplinary educational intervention to sector-specific training programmes, to technical assistance for the institutionalization of child rights principles and standardization of rights-based practice.

The Jamaica Constabulary Force (JCF) is not a passive project beneficiary. It is a proactive, professional, dedicated project partner that has demonstrated its commitment to ensure its members uphold the best interests of children, regardless of the nature of their encounters.

The CRSI, which commenced in May 2014, aims to build JCF capacity to develop and sustain rights-based programming throughout the organization. It builds on the training of almost 500 members of the Constabulary, including 60 who are being trained as Child Rights Trainers. Measures are currently being put in place to standardize rights-based practice across police operations island wide.

This major undertaking has the support of members of all ranks and is increasingly gaining

popularity. The level of buy-in is impressive and significant progress has been made in:

- Sensitizing and equipping members of various ranks, with knowledge, tools and skills to uphold child rights;
- Developing a cohort of police Child Rights Trainers;
- Developing of a Child Interaction Policy and Standard Operating Procedures;
- Including a 4-tiered Child Rights Education Programme at the National Police College of Jamaica.

Work also continues on the development of teaching and learning resources, a job aid to

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guide police encounters with children, monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and the strengthening of inter-agency, child-focused cooperation. The additional funding will support complementary programming and sustainability planning for this work.

The justification of the project remains intact and is strengthened by several anecdotal stories of positive results being seen, heard and felt. This is a timely and significant investment amidst the country's challenge to increase the promotion and protection of the rights of every child and represents the CCDC's efforts at inducing a systematic response to violence against children.



Photo: Area 1 Police Trainers engaged in role play at Freeport Station, Montego Bay, April 2015



### **FIELD ASSISTANT APPOINTED TO THE TLP-CSC Project**

Miss Kathi-Ann Thomas is a past student of Campion College and a graduate of the University of the West Indies Mona Campus with a Bachelor of Science (BSc.) in Psychology (Major) and Human Resource Development (Minor), and a Master of Science (MSc.) in Cultural Therapy.

Ms Thomas has several years of experience with non-profit and academic organizations in the areas of research, education, community and social development. She has worked for many years as a Research Assistant and Research Consultant/Tutor in the areas of medicine, psychology, mental health, disability studies and media and communications.

Armed with experience in non-profit administration, she recently completed her tenure as the *Director of Operations* at the National Youth Orchestra of Jamaica (NYOJ), a classical music training programme for at risk Jamaican youth based on the world famous El Sistema Orchestra programme from Venezuela.

Her interests span the areas of psychology and mental health, education and community development. She hopes to apply her training to help youth in state care and vulnerable communities.

## Steering Committee for the Transitional Living Programme for Children in State Care established.

The Project Steering Committee (PSC) for the Transitional Living Programme for Children in State Care (TLP-CSC) project has been installed and commenced meetings this quarter. The primary function of the PSC is to provide guidance on the implementation of the project activities. It is expected that the members, whose background span the child and adolescent, health, education, development and protection sectors will leverage their experiences and expertise in guiding the project team.

The Committee constitutes representatives from Jamaica Money Market Brokers Ltd (JMMB) Advantage Marketing Limited, Ministry of Health (MOH), Ministry of Youth and Culture (MOYC), Planning Institute of Jamaica (PIOJ) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). Ex-officio members include the project sponsors, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and the implementing partners CCDC, The UWI Open Campus and the Child Development Agency (CDA).

## Programme Evaluation Training Workshop

The CCDC, in collaboration with the Psychology Unit, The University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, conducted, for the third year, a training workshop in programme evaluation for non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Six NGOs participated in this workshop.

The workshop was held on March 31 and on April 2, 7 & 10, 2015. It included participants from The Department of Correctional Services, Environmental Health Foundation, The Multicare Foundation, Jamaican Foundation for Lifelong Learning and Mustard Seed Communities. The facilitators were Mr. Stefan Santokie and Mrs. Angela Dalrymple, graduate students from the Applied Psychology programme at Mona, who were on practicum placement at CCDC. Ms. Joan Thomas, Research Fellow, coordinated and supervised the activities of the students.

The feedback received from the participants indicated a high degree of satisfaction with the workshop. Overall, participants thought that the workshop was very informative and valuable, and that the sessions could have been held for longer.

## CCDC Welcomes New Staff

CCDC is pleased to welcome

**Ms. Denise Thomas - Office Attendant**

**Mr. Augustus Francis - Gardener/Attendant**

and

**Ms. Chalanie Stiebel, Project Coordinator**

**for the Global Child Development Group**



# LIBRARY ACTIVITIES

## ALEPH Integrated Library Workshop

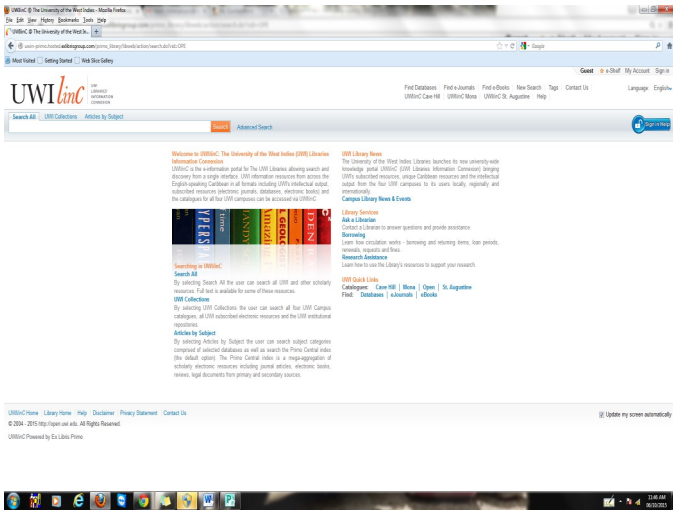


Photo: Print screen of UWILinc

Kisha Sawyers, Librarian, CCDC attended the ALEPH Integrated Library Systems workshop in Trinidad from April 12-17 on the invitation of the Campus Librarian Office.

The Aleph integrated library system provides academic research libraries (like ours) with efficient, user-friendly tools and workflow to configure the library's collection for the UWILinc online system.

Aleph offers the ultimate in resource-sharing capabilities, full connectivity, and seamless interaction with other systems and databases, allowing the four campuses of the University to share resources and databases.

## Library Conference



CCDC Librarian will be at EdMedia 2015 in Quebec, Montreal, June 22-25, 2015

## Library Intern



Tavia Parker, a final year student pursuing the B.Ed in Library and Information Studies at the Mico University College carried out her practicum placement at the CCDC from Feb. 2 to March 13, 2015.

Ms Parker assisted with the cataloguing of library books and updating the CCDC multimedia library.

## Socio-Economic Information Network

Kisha Sawyers, Librarian, CCDC is a member of the Socio-Economic Information Network (SECIN). SECIN is a network of Librarians that meet to discuss issues of national development.

SECIN will celebrate it's 35th Anniversary with a symposium on May 27, 2015 at the Knutsford Court Hotel on "Data Driven Decision Making: an Engine of Growth". The CCDC congratulates SECIN on their achievements.

A congratulatory banner for the 35th Anniversary of SECIN. The banner features the UWI logo on the left and the Caribbean Child Development Centre logo on the right. The text reads: 'Congratulations to the PIOJ on the 35th Anniversary of SECIN With the Compliments of The Caribbean Child Development Centre Library'. Below this, it states: 'The CCDC Library caters to the information needs of users primarily through technology and informational services. Our main aim is to provide current material and quality service to all users who need information on children and families, especially users within Jamaica and the Caribbean.' It also lists websites: 'CCDC http://www.open.uwi.edu/ccdc/welcome', 'CaribECD http://www.open.uwi.edu/caribecd/welcome', and 'HFLE http://www.open.uwi.edu/hflecaribbean/'. It provides contact information for ordering publications and asks a librarian services. The bottom of the banner includes the University of the West Indies, Open Campus Consortium for Social Development &amp; Research I Caribbean Child Development Centre, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica, W.I., and contact numbers: Tel: (876) 927-1618 / (876) 977-6982 / (876) 935-8353 • Fax: (876) 977-7433.