Bridging the worlds of research and policy to improve
the lives of children and families.
Duke University Center for Child and Family Policy

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013

Our Approach: Policy solutions based on science

Our Focus: Real-world problems that limit children’s horizons

Our Goal: Better lives for children and families

www.childandfamilypolicy.duke.edu
Dear Colleagues,

In the past fiscal year, the Center for Child and Family Policy strengthened its commitment to core research priorities while embarking on some promising new pursuits, thanks to new arrivals.

Candice Odgers came on board in July 2012 as the Center’s new Associate Director, bringing with her a dual passion for using new technologies to understand adolescent development and studying how technologies affect adolescent lives. Odgers, Associate Professor in the Sanford School of Public Policy, uses Google Street View to collect information about adolescents’ neighborhoods quickly and efficiently, and employs cellphone text messaging to investigate teens’ daily stressors. By embracing cutting-edge technologies, Odgers’ team is building a more complete picture of the environments and daily realities that help shape adolescent lives.

The Center’s longstanding investment in substance abuse prevention research was enhanced by a five-year, $6.7 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse that was announced in June. Rick Hoyle, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and Associate Director of the Center for Child and Family Policy, leads this new effort. The grant funds the Center for the Study of Adolescent Risk and Resilience (C-StARR), which focuses on neural, genetic and behavioral factors in adolescent substance abuse. Building on the previous work of the Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Center, C-StARR emphasizes the dynamic relationship between self-regulation and substance use.

Center faculty fellows and research scientists continue to study a wide range of critical topics, including violence prevention, early childhood development and learning, development of risky behaviors and education policy. Faculty fellows Christina Gibson-Davis, Anna Gassman-Pines and Elizabeth Ananat, who are now located in the Center’s Rubenstein Hall suite, focus on how economic challenges affect child well-being. All three teach in the Sanford School of Public Policy, and collaborate in studying issues such as the effects of community job loss on student test scores and adolescent child-bearing. Five new faculty fellows also joined the Center this year: William Copeland, Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Amar Hamoudi, Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics; Ahmad Hariri, Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Kenneth Land, John Franklin Crowell Professor of Sociology and Makeba Wilbourn, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience. We welcome each of them.

Undergraduate teaching and public engagement remain important Center priorities, and this year students once again gave high marks to our undergraduate certificate program. The certificate program promotes close collaboration between students and faculty members and provides students with remarkable opportunities for original child policy research. This year’s eight graduates are now working in locations as diverse as Chicago, South Korea and Zambia for organizations such as AmeriCorps, Teach for America and African Impact. Center students also contribute to the community through our School Research Partnership, directed by Jenni Owen and David Rabiner. The Partnership links Duke students and faculty members with schools and other organizations that request strategic research that can have an immediate impact on their policies.

The Center had a unique opportunity to serve North Carolina this past year by hosting a six-month Think Tank on early learning, in partnership with the N.C. Department of Public Instruction. The group of 22 educators and scholars examined how best to assess children’s kindergarten readiness and how to track student performance in the earliest grades. The panel’s recommendations ultimately will help early elementary school teachers tailor their instruction to individual children’s needs. Center staff members and researchers continue to reach out to the community in other ways as well. Two recent examples are Research Scientist Leslie Babinski’s program to train N.C. teachers in how to work more effectively with Latino families and an analysis of substance abuse in Durham County led by Research Analyst Kelly Evans and Research Scientist Elizabeth Gifford.

Finally, Durham Connects, the nurse home visiting program that was born in the Center, is entering a promising new phase. The program grew from The Duke Endowment’s desire to make a lasting difference for...
Durham County children by reducing child abuse rates. The Endowment’s far-sighted 10-year investment, along with collaborations between the Center for Child and Family Policy and a long list of local agencies, resulted in an organization that provides nurse home visits to every infant born in Durham County.

The Center for Child and Family Policy continues to monitor the impact of Durham Connects in several ways. A randomized controlled trial indicated that Durham Connects leads to fewer emergency room visits and fewer overnight hospital stays, resulting in significant healthcare cost savings. Children in that trial are now being followed into elementary school to determine the program’s long-term impact on families. A new randomized controlled trial is also underway to determine whether the findings can be replicated. Furthermore, the Durham Connects model is spreading. The program will expand this fall, bringing its unique service delivery method to four counties in northeastern North Carolina. We look forward to watching this new chapter unfold in the coming year.

As we move into a new year, we are grateful to all who have made this past year such a resounding success. Thank you to the Duke faculty members, research scientists, students and staff members who contribute to our work, and to our community partners who show faith in our collaboration.

Kenneth A. Dodge

BY THE NUMBERS

$7.5 Million in expenditures on externally funded research and evaluation projects

56 Employees, including research scientists, research aides, project managers and administrative staff

51 Externally funded research and evaluation projects

49 Individuals, agencies and foundations that contributed financially to the Center’s work through grants, contracts and donations

48 Faculty fellows with appointments in 12 different academic departments

25 Undergraduate independent studies and honors theses advised by Center faculty and staff

22 Events sponsored by the Center

8 Graduating seniors who received the Child Policy Research certificate in May 2013

3 Office locations on and near the Duke University campus

1 Overarching goal: translating research into policies that benefit children and families
OUR SUPPORTERS

Foundations

Brady Education Foundation
Doris Duke Charitable Foundation
The Duke Endowment
Jacobs Foundation
Jacqueline Anne Morris Memorial Foundation
Josiah Charles Trent Memorial Foundation
Endowment Fund

Oak Foundation
The Pew Charitable Trusts
Pritzker Family Foundation
Smith Richardson Foundation
Spencer Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation
William T. Grant Foundation

State Government

North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
North Carolina Department of Public Instruction
North Carolina State Board of Education

Federal Government

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
Institute of Education Sciences
National Institute of Mental Health
National Institute on Drug Abuse
National Science Foundation
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Public, Corporate and Nonprofit Agencies

Alamance County Department of Social Services
Alamance County Health Department
Alliance Behavioral Healthcare
America’s Promise Alliance
American Institutes for Research
Benchmarks
Council for Children’s Rights
Duke University Office of Durham and Regional Affairs
Durham Center

Durham Public Schools
Durham Together for Resilient Youth
East Durham Children’s Initiative
Futures, Inc.
North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics
Society for Research in Child Development
Wake County Public School System

Individual Donors

Ms. Jacqueline H. Dryfoos
Mr. Robert Dryfoos
Mr. and Mrs. James David Dryfoos
Ms. Carolyn Dryfoos Greenspon
Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Kohn, Jr.
Mr. Dan Levitan
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Morris

Mr. Arthur O. Sulzberger
Ms. Cathy Sulzberger and Dr. Joseph G. Perpich
Ms. Cynthia F. Sulzberger and Mr. Steven Benjamin Green
The Center offers a variety of ways for Duke students to learn about child and family policy. In addition to the programs and courses listed below, Center faculty members advise and mentor many undergraduate and graduate students. In 2012-2013, our faculty members served as advisors on 25 different undergraduate honors theses or independent study projects, on topics ranging from children’s literacy to standards-based grading.

Child Policy Research Certificate Program

In the Center’s undergraduate certificate program, students explore child and family issues through interdisciplinary study, while working closely with faculty members to conduct original research. In response to student input, the program adopted a new name this year, and is now the Child Policy Research certificate program.

Eight seniors completed requirements for the program in May 2013: Victoria Bennett, Adria Kinney, Allison Kratka, Katherine Morrow, Michelle Nguyen, Sarah Rogers, Nichole Schollmeyer and Allison Schulhof.

“The Certificate has truly helped me integrate and apply everything I’ve been learning across departments in my undergraduate career.” – Nicole Schollmeyer ’13
2012-2013
Undergraduate Course Offerings

FALL 2012

Youth, Crime and Public Policy
(CCS 89S/PubPol 89S)
Instructor: Joel Rosch

Children in Contemporary Society
(CCS 250S/PubPol 242S)
Instructor: Clara Muschkin

Making Social Policy
(PubPol 563S/CCS 634S/Soc 634S)
Instructor: Jenni Owen

SPRING 2013

Multi-Method Approaches to Social and Policy Research
(PubPol 241/CCS 241)
Instructor: José Sandoval

Children in Contemporary Society
(CCS 250S/PubPol 242S)
Instructor: Candice Odgers

Multidisciplinary Approaches to Contemporary Children's Issues
(CCS 495S/PubPol 490S)
Instructor: Ken Dodge

Center Director Ken Dodge speaks with Duke public policy major Chinny Sharma.
Jacqueline Anne Morris Fellowship

Jacqueline Morris was the Center’s first undergraduate honors thesis student. After she passed away in a tragic accident in 2000, her parents established the Jacqueline Anne Morris Memorial Foundation to support undergraduate students who, like their daughter, are “dynamic, bright, ambitious and idealistic.”

The foundation has endowed a fellowship program to support students interested in conducting research in child and family policy. Each fellow receives a grant to cover research-related expenses.

**2012-2013 Morris Fellows**

**Cate Auerbach**, Trinity ’13, public policy studies major  
**Eric Emery**, Trinity ’13, psychology major, chemistry minor  
**Julia Quinn**, Trinity ’13, public policy studies major, history minor  
**Sarah Rogers**, Trinity ’13, public policy studies major, Child Policy Research certificate  
**Allison Schulhof**, Trinity ’13, public policy studies major, Child Policy Research certificate  
**Tess Shiras**, Trinity ’13, public policy studies major, cultural anthropology minor
Sulzberger Family/Dan Levitan Social Policy Graduate Research Fellowship

Having made significant contributions to society through publishing The New York Times, the Sulzberger family now contributes to the development of outstanding scholars in child and family policy by supporting the Sulzberger Family/Dan Levitan Fellowships. The fellowships are also supported by Dan Levitan, a 1979 Duke graduate and co-founder of Maveron, a venture capital firm based in Seattle, Washington.

The Sulzberger/Levitan Fellowships support the development of promising students interested in a career that blends social science with public policy.

2012-2013 Sulzberger/Levitan Fellows

Taryn Allen, clinical psychology; mentored by Melanie Bonner, professor of psychology and neuroscience

Regina S. Baker, sociology; mentored by Linda Burton, James B. Duke Professor of Sociology

Sarah Fuller, public policy studies; mentored by Helen Ladd, Edgar T. Thompson Distinguished Professor of Public Policy

Madeleine George, psychology and neuroscience; mentored by Candice Odgers, associate professor of public policy and psychology and neuroscience

Regina Baker, a doctoral candidate in sociology who studies poverty and inequality, describes her research to fellow students. Baker was a 2012-2013 Sulzberger/Levitan Fellow Fellow.
The Duke Endowment
- Prevent Child Abuse and Neglect Initiative/Durham Connects

Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development
- Community Prevention of Child Maltreatment
- Parent Behavior and Child Adjustment across Cultures
- Parenting, Adolescent Self-Regulation, and Risk-Taking Across Cultures

Institute of Education Sciences/U.S. Department of Education
- A Neuroscience-Based Health Curriculum to Promote Academic Success
- Developing Consultation and Collaboration Skills: ESL and Classroom Teachers Working Together with Students and Families
- The Impact of Federal Accountability Sanctions on Student Outcome: Evidence from North Carolina
- Effects of Classroom Management Training on Early Learning Skills (Incredible Years Teacher Training)
- Truancy Prevention Project

The North Carolina Education Research Data Center is a unique portal to an immense store of data on public education in North Carolina. Established in 2000 through a partnership with the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, it includes information on the state’s public schools, students and teachers dating back to the mid-1990s. The Data Center provides university researchers, nonprofit research institutions and government agencies with ready access to data they need for policy-oriented research, making possible studies that otherwise could not be undertaken. Research topics have included the minority achievement gap, the shortage of qualified teachers, the consequences of school accountability and choice, the academic performance of at-risk children and problem behavior in schools.
Each year, alcohol-related incidents kill some 5,000 young people and send nearly 200,000 to the emergency room, according to the National Institutes of Health. Adolescent drug use remains widespread as well: Nearly half of U.S. students have used an illicit drug by 12th grade.

The Center hopes to shed light on the persistent problem of adolescent substance abuse with the aid of a five-year, $6.7 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). The grant, announced in June 2013, will fund the Center for the Study of Adolescent Risk and Resilience (C-StARR), which focuses on the biology and behavior behind teen drinking and drug use.

Rick Hoyle, who will lead the effort, said C-StARR will emphasize the relationship between self-regulation and substance use in the high school years. Among other projects, C-StARR scholars will use brain imaging data to enhance existing research.

“By adding brain imaging data, they can look at particular places in the brain that we know are involved in self-control,” Hoyle said.

In addition to Hoyle, C-StARR’s leadership team includes Kenneth Dodge and Jane Costello. C-StARR builds on the work of a previous Duke organization, the Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Center, which was also supported by NIDA funding.
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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Principal Investigator(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>National Science Foundation</td>
<td>Ken Dodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Collaborative Research: Leveraging Matched Administrative Datasets to Improve Educational Practice and Long-run Life Outcomes: Toward building a national interdisciplinary network</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, with funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance</td>
<td>Anne-Marie Iselin</td>
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<td>• PREA: Demonstration Project to Establish “Zero Tolerance” Cultures for Sexual Assault Program</td>
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<td>The Pew Charitable Trusts</td>
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<td>• Advancing Home Visiting Research to Advance Public Policy</td>
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<td>Smith Richardson Foundation</td>
<td>Philip Cook</td>
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<td>• Educational and Criminal Justice System Involvement Outcome</td>
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<td>Society for Research in Child Development – Victoria Levin Award</td>
<td>Anna Gassman-Pines</td>
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<td>• Daily Variation in Parental Work Experiences, Family Processes, and Young Children’s Behavior</td>
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<td>Spencer Foundation</td>
<td>Helen Ladd</td>
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<td>• Educational Decision-Making: Normative Principles and Empirical Social Science Research</td>
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<td>William T. Grant Foundation</td>
<td>Elizabeth Ananat</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Economic and Social Determinants of the Educational, Occupational, and Residential Choices of Young Adults</td>
<td>Candice Odgers</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Macro-to-Micro Contextual Triggers of Early Adolescent Substance Exposure</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Scholars Mentorship Grant: Odgers and Wang</td>
<td>Elizabeth Ananat</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Teacher Bias in Gifted Identification: The Role of School and Classroom Setting</td>
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Center faculty fellows and researchers produce a wide range of publications, including books, peer-reviewed journal articles, reports and policy briefs on a host of topics related to child and adolescent development and well-being and education reform. Examples from the past academic year include a widely cited study in the journal *JAMA Psychiatry* by faculty fellows Jane Costello and William Copeland on the lasting effects of childhood bullying and a report by faculty fellow Jacob Vigdor and Thomas Ahn on the lessons of the federal No Child Left Behind Act.

“Bullying is potentially a problem for bullies as well as for victims. Bullying, which we tend to think of as a normal and not terribly important part of childhood, turns out to have the potential for very serious consequences for children, adolescents and adults.”

- Jane Costello, quoted in *The Daily Mail* (UK) on February 20, 2013 regarding her recent research with William Copeland and others on the lifelong consequences of bullying.
The Center shares Duke University’s commitment to “knowledge in the service of society.” Center experts continually seek opportunities to share research results in ways that are meaningful and useful to policymakers and practitioners, including consulting with local legislators, legislative staff and service providers.

In 2012-2013, the Duke University School Research Partnership (SRP) continued to serve as an important portal between the Duke research community and area school systems and nonprofit organizations. In addition to assisting Duke researchers with placing their studies in area schools, SRP also responds to local organizations’ research needs by matching organizations with undergraduates interested in education policy. Working under the supervision of Duke faculty members and research scientists, the students conduct research to address real-world questions of interest to their community partners (read more below).

The Center also provided a unique service to the state of North Carolina for six months beginning February 2013, by convening a think tank on early learning (see story on facing page).

Students Present Research to Community Partners

Twelve Duke students presented their original research at the annual School Research Partnership dinner on April 22, 2013. The event drew superintendents from the Durham and Chapel-Hill Carrboro school systems, along with board members from the Durham Public Schools. Students presenting work at the meeting included: Allison Schulhof, Christina Chen, Preston Cotnoir, Shelby Hart-Armstrong, Julia Hoos, Michelle Nguyen, Blake O’Connor, Kirsten Osborne, Lindsay Rosenthal, Alli Smalley, Jacqueline Stedman, and Matt Truwit.

In addition to the above-named students, two additional students, Seung-Yen Park and Markia Bonner, presented research projects at the SRP gathering in fall 2012.

The School Research Partnership, a program of the Center for Child and Family Policy, facilitates collaboration between area school districts and nonprofit organizations and Duke University researchers and students. The program is led by Jenni Owen and David Rabiner.
Center Hosts Think Tank on Early Learning

Beginning in February 2013, the Center hosted a six-month think tank on early learning, in partnership with the state Department of Public Instruction. The effort brought together 22 educators, scholars and education leaders from across North Carolina to examine how best to assess learning in the early elementary grades.

North Carolina currently measures student performance beginning in grade 3. However, by that age, some students are already struggling. State education leaders want to find ways to assess students’ learning earlier.

The K-3 Assessment Think Tank members volunteered their time and expertise, the Center hosted and provided support for the effort, and the meetings were co-chaired by Kenneth Dodge and John Pruette of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction. State education leaders will use the group’s recommendations to design a new assessment plan for grades K-3, with funding from the N.C. legislature and a federal Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction June Atkinson attended the group’s kickoff event in February. She noted that while the new effort aims to spot problems and strengths in children early on, the state is not proposing high-stakes testing for kindergarten students.

“We want to make sure the assessments help take children to a better place, not hold them back,” Atkinson said. “We want this to help us personalize learning.”

“All early education is not created equal, and not all programs are implemented equally well.”

- Jenni Owen, speaking at a forum on Obama’s Preschool Initiative at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., May 29, 2013. The event also featured remarks by U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, former Congresswoman Nancy Johnson and Roberto Rodriguez, an education aide to President Obama.

“We want to make sure the assessments help take children to a better place, not hold them back. We want this to help us personalize learning.”

- N.C. Superintendent of Public Instruction June Atkinson, speaking at the Center in February 2013.
In the Media

Center faculty fellows and researchers look for opportunities to offer insightful public commentary about child and family policy issues, including working with the press. In 2012-2013, we offered commentary in dozens of media outlets on issues ranging from universal preschool to the changing structure of the American family.

“Scientific discoveries tell us that a great deal of brain development occurs in the first five years of life. If we are investing in education from kindergarten onward, we should invest in preschool as a way to improve those outcomes.” – Kenneth Dodge commenting on President Obama’s call for universal preschool. *Kansas City Star*, February 14, 2013.

“This is a dramatic shift in the way families are organized. And whenever you have those kinds of dramatic shifts, it’s going to cause some rethinking.”


“Adderall does not teach you calculus”


“In Bangladesh, a mother will peel an orange or apple very carefully and present the segments to the child. The child recognizes that the mother is doing something special for the child, and clearly interprets the action as an expression of love: ‘My mother loves me so much that she’s making this special effort for me,’ ”

The Center’s Program Evaluation Services arm identifies, implements and evaluates programs that can benefit children and families. Working with a diverse array of nonprofit and governmental organizations, the Center has evaluated large randomized trials, longitudinal studies tracking child development and web-based survey studies.

2012-2013 Program Evaluation Services Projects

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<td>Christina Christopoulos</td>
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<td>• Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children and Their Families Program</td>
<td>Elizabeth Snyder-Fickler</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Developing, Implementing and Evaluating a Comprehensive Family Assessment to Improve Child Welfare Outcomes in Alamance County, N.C.</td>
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<td>Alamance County Health Department</td>
<td>Christina Christopoulos, Katie Rosanbalm</td>
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<td>• Project LAUNCH Evaluation</td>
<td>Ken Dodge, Elizabeth Gifford</td>
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<td>• National Action Strategies Evaluation</td>
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<td>• Evaluation of the East Durham Children’s Initiative</td>
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<td>• Community Nonprofit Capacity-Building Pilot Project</td>
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<td>Alliance Behavioral Healthcare, with funding from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration</td>
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<td>Durham Center, with funding from the U.S. Department of Justice</td>
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<td>Durham Public Schools</td>
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<td>• Evaluation of Bridgescape Academy</td>
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<td>Durham Together for Resilient Youth (TRY)</td>
<td>Elizabeth Gifford</td>
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<td>• Durham Substance Abuse Report</td>
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<td>East Durham Children’s Initiative, with funding from the Oak Foundation</td>
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<td>• East Durham Children’s Initiative</td>
<td>David Rabiner, Elizabeth Gifford</td>
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<td>Futures, Inc.</td>
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<td>• Marine Corps Project</td>
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<td>• Preliminary Evaluation of the National STEM Career Platform</td>
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<td>North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services</td>
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<td>• Evaluation of School-Based Child and Family Support Teams Initiative</td>
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<td>North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics</td>
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<td>• North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Summer Ventures Program Evaluation</td>
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<td>• Foundation-University Partnership: Collaborating for Nonprofit Capacity-Building and Infrastructure Enhancement</td>
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<td>• Policy and Practice Engagement</td>
<td>Jenni Owen</td>
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<td>Wake County Public School System</td>
<td>Katie Rosanbalm</td>
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<td>• Positive Parenting in Wake County</td>
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Special Lectures

September 19, 2012

Mark Fondacaro, Professor of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Toward a Multisystemic Risk and Resource Management Model of Juvenile Justice

Crown Lecture in Ethics

October 25, 2012

Marian Wright Edelman, CEO and Founder, Children's Defense Fund

Getting Everyone On Board – Our Obligation to Children in Poverty

November 2, 2012

Daniel Gitterman, Associate Professor of Public Policy, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Plato, Plumbing and Public Policy: Forecasting our Uncertain Educational Future

Thomas A. Langford Lecture

April 2, 2013

Candice Odgers, Associate Professor of Public Policy; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy

Digital Natives: How New Technologies are Changing Childhood and Connecting us to Kids

Sulzberger Distinguished Lecture Series

November 12, 2012

Pedro Noguera, Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education, New York University

How Schools Can Make a Difference: A Broader and Bolder Approach to School Reform

November 13, 2012

Colloquium featuring Pedro Noguera, Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education, New York University

Education, Inequality and the Future of American Democracy

April 23, 2013

Ronald Dahl, Professor, School of Public Health, University of California-Berkeley

Adolescent Brain Development: How Social, Emotional, and Motivational Changes Create New Vulnerabilities and Opportunities

April 24, 2013

Colloquium featuring Ronald Dahl, Professor, School of Public Health, University of California-Berkeley

Understanding the Adolescent Brain: A Transdisciplinary Approach

Transdisciplinary Prevention Research Center Science-to-Service Series

September 13, 2012

Wendy Slutske, Professor, Department of Psychological Sciences, University of Missouri-Columbia

The Genetics of Disordered Gambling

December 6, 2012

Harold Pollack, Helen Ross Professor, School of Social Service Administration; Faculty Chair, Center for Health Administration Studies, University of Chicago

Substance Abuse Treatment and Health Care Reform

February 28, 2013

Eric Stice, Senior Research Scientist, Oregon Research Institute

Dissonance-based Eating Disorder Prevention Program: Using Persuasion Principles for Health Promotion

March 21, 2013

Jeffrey Arnett, Research Professor, Department of Psychology, Clark University

Why Does Substance Abuse Peak at Ages 18-25? A Developmental Explanation

“Our biggest national security threat is the status of our children.”

- Marian Wright Edelman, Crown Lecture in Ethics, Sanford School of Public Policy, October 25, 2012. Edelman’s appearance was co-sponsored by the Center’s Sulzberger Family Fund.
Adolescents’ intimate relationship with technology can provide new avenues for research into causes of teen behavior problems, Candice Odgers said during the Thomas A. Langford Lecture at Duke Gardens on April 2, 2013.

Odgers’ research uses new technologies, including mobile phones and Google Street View, to enrich the study of behavior problems in children and adolescents.

In one project, the MiLife Study, Odgers’ team receives regular text messages from teenagers describing general activity, stressors and positive events. Those reports allow researchers to build a more fine-textured picture of adolescents’ daily life.

“Most research has focused on the effects of catastrophic occurrences such as abuse,” Odgers said. “We know less about the drip, drip, drip of daily life and how it may be influencing kids’ behavior and health outcomes. You can think of it as a film, versus a snapshot, of daily life.”

In another project, Google Street View gives Odgers’ team a quick, cost-effective way to gather large swaths of data about children’s neighborhoods, such as presence of green space and signs of physical decay.

The Langford Lectures offer new and recently promoted Duke faculty members a chance to address colleagues from other disciplines.

“‘It’s not that they’re fearless. If the roller coaster wasn’t scary they wouldn’t get on it, and if the horror movie wasn’t scary they wouldn’t go see it.’”

- Pediatrician Ronald E. Dahl on how adolescents experience fear and risk. Dahl, who teaches at the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley, spoke on April 22 and 23 as part of the Center’s Sulzberger Distinguished Lecture Series.
Awards and Honors

Selected awards and honors received by Center researchers and faculty fellows

Ken Dodge received the John Paul Scott Award for lifetime achievement in July 2012. Ken Dodge was appointed for a three-year term as the director of Graduate Studies for the Ph.D. program of the Sanford School of Public Policy. Dodge also received special recognition from the International Society for Research on Aggression (ISRA). At its biennial meeting in Luxembourg in July 2012, ISRA named Dodge as the recipient of its John Paul Scott Award, in recognition of “lifetime achievement and contributions to research on aggressive behavior.”

Helen Ladd received the University Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award in September 2012. The award is sponsored by the Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church and recognizes a member of the Duke faculty for his or her “dedication and contributions to the learning arts and to the institution.”

Madeline Hogan Meier received the Enoch Gordis Research Recognition Award from the Research Society on Alcoholism in June 2012. The award recognizes young investigators’ outstanding contributions to alcohol research.

Terrie Moffitt was named to a three-person scientific advisory board for the Avielle Foundation in April 2013. The foundation was established by the parents of Avielle Richman, one of the first-graders killed in the December 2012 shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut.

David Rabiner was named associate dean of Duke University’s Trinity College in June 2013. Rabiner, who has been with the Center for more than 14 years, will continue as a Center faculty fellow and will also contribute to the School Research Partnership office.
Center Researchers and Staff

- Phil Nousak: Database Analyst
- Karen Novy: Staff Specialist
- Edwin Ocampo: Computer Technician
- Laura Otten: Senior Research Aide
- Jenni Owen: Director of Policy Initiatives
- Jenny Park: Senior Data Technician
- Edwin Ocampo: Senior Research Aide
- Laura Otten: Research Analyst
- Raha Sabet: Associate Director for Administration

Barbara Pollock, the Center’s associate director for administration, shown here at a special art-making event at the Nasher Museum for Center staff and their families. Pollock has been with the Center since it opened.

- Karen Pope: Analyst Programmer
- Jeff Quinn: Research Analyst II
- Melissa Ricks: Senior Research Aide
- Marisol Rodriguez-Addison: Family Support Worker
- Katie Rosanbalm: Research Scholar
- Joel Rosch: Senior Research Scholar
- Michael Russell, Jr.: Associate in Research
- Raha Sabet: Senior Research Aide
- Amy Schulting: Research Scientist
- Ann Skinner: Director, Durham Connects
- Nina Smith: Senior Research Aide
- Shannon Smith: Research Scientist
- Elizabeth Snyder-Fickler: Research Project Manager
- Rebecca Stern: Postdoctoral Associate
- Lin (Victor) Wang: Staff Assistant
- Tara Weatherholt: Research Scientist
- Suzanne Valdivia: Teacher Trainer

Center Faculty Fellows
Duke University

Department of Economics
- Thomas Nechyba, Ph.D., Professor of Economics and Public Policy; Director, Social Science Research Institute
- Seth G. Sanders, Ph.D., Professor of Economics; Director, Duke University Population Research Institute
- Frank Sloan, Ph.D., J. Alexander McMahon Professor of Health Policy and Management and Economics

Department of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Avshalom Caspi, Ph.D., Edward M. Arnett Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Philip Costanzo, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
- Ahmad R. Hariri, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Rick H. Hoyle, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
- Scott A. Huettel, Ph.D., Jerry and Patricia Hubbard Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Terrie E. Moffitt, Ph.D., Knut Schmidt Nelson Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- Martha Putallaz, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Executive Director, Duke Talent Identification Program
- David Rabiner, Ph.D., Associate Dean, Trinity College; Research Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Kathleen Sikkema, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
- Timothy J. Strauman, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Makeba P. Wilbourn, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience

Department of Sociology
- Avshalom Caspi, Ph.D., Edward M. Arnett Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience

Department of Statistical Science
- Jerome Reiter, Ph.D., Mrs. Alexander Hehmeyer Associate Professor of Statistical Science

Fuqua School of Business
- Tanya Chartrand, Ph.D., Roy J. Bostock Marketing Professor; Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience
- Gavan J. Fitzsimons, Ph.D., R. David Thomas Professor of Marketing and Psychology
Sanford School of Public Policy
Elizabeth Ananat, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Charles T. Clotfelter, Ph.D., Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of Public Policy; Professor of Economics and Law; Director, Center for the Study of Philanthropy and Voluntarism
Philip J. Cook, Ph.D., Senior Associate Dean for Faculty and Research; ITT/Sanford Distinguished Professor of Public Policy; Professor of Economics and Sociology
William A. Darity Jr., Ph.D., Arts and Sciences Professor of Public Policy; Professor of African and African-American Studies and Economics; Chair, Department of African and African American Studies
Kenneth A. Dodge, Ph.D., William McDougall Professor of Public Policy; Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience; Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
Anna Gassman-Pines, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Psychology and Neuroscience
Christina Gibson-Davis, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Public Policy, Sociology, and Psychology and Neuroscience
Amar Hamoudi, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Helen F. Ladd, Ph.D., Edgar T. Thompson Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Clara Muschkin, Ph.D., Assistant Research Professor of Public Policy; Director, N.C. Education Research Data Center; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
Candice L. Odgers, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Public Policy and Psychology and Neuroscience; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
Jacob Vigdor, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Kathryn Whetten, Ph.D., Professor of Public Policy, Global Health, Community and Family Medicine; Director, Center for Health Policy; Director, Health Inequalities Program

School of Law
Doriane Lambelet Coleman, J.D., Professor of Law

Social Science Research Institute
Jennifer E. Lansford, Ph.D., Research Professor
Desiree Murray, Ph.D., Associate Research Professor; Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Wilkie A. Wilson Jr, Ph.D., Research Professor of Prevention Science

Center Faculty Fellows
Duke University School of Medicine

Department of Community and Family Medicine
Sara Benjamin Neelon, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Community and Family Medicine

Department of Medicine
Allison Ashley-Koch, Ph.D., Professor of Medicine and Biostatistics and Bioinformatics

Department of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology
Cynthia M. Kuhn, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology and Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Rochelle Schwartz-Bloom, Ph.D., Professor of Pharmacology and Cancer Biology

Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
William E. Copeland, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
E. Jane Costello, Ph.D., Professor of Medical Psychology, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Associate Director, Center for Child and Family Policy
John F. Curry, Ph.D., Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Robert A. Murphy, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Executive Director, Center for Child and Family Health
Helen L. Egger, M.D., Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Pediatrics; Chief, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
Scott H. Kollins, Ph.D., Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
Karen J. O’Donnell, Ph.D., Associate Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences; Assistant Professor in Pediatrics
Jeffrey Swanson, Ph.D., Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences
H. Scott Swartzwelder, Ph.D., Clinical Professor in Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences and Psychology and Neuroscience

Center Faculty Fellow
Linda Burton, James B. Duke Professor of Sociology, listens to presentations by Center graduate student fellows.

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