



Fostering Equity and Resilience



SCHUBERT CENTER
FOR CHILD STUDIES

Annual Report
2014-2015



The Schubert Center for Child Studies bridges research, practice, policy and education for the well-being of children and adolescents.



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We believe that by
bridging research
and policy through
community engagement,
we are fostering
equity and resilience for
the advancement of
child well-being.

FOSTERING EQUITY AND RESILIENCE

Message from the Director

Dear Friends of the Schubert Center:

Welcome to the Schubert Center's annual report for 2014-2015. The title, "Fostering Equity and Resilience," reflects our concern with the challenges our children and young people face, our belief in their inherent strengths and our commitment to join the community in efforts to help them flourish.

The work of the Schubert Center is enormously enhanced by individuals and organizations that share our dedication to advancing children's well-being.

Throughout this report, you can read about the research and accomplishments of our nearly 75 Faculty Associates from across Case Western Reserve University. Our work is also enhanced by our increasing

engagement in and partnership with broader community efforts involving parenting programs, children of incarcerated parents, development of children's social and emotional skills, school discipline, young people leaving foster care, police-youth interactions and juvenile justice.

The Schubert Center continues to grow and evolve with support from university alumni. For many years, Robert Mann and Carol Mann have made it possible for undergraduate students to conduct research overseas, work and learn as externs in child policy agencies in Cleveland and travel to Washington, D.C., to learn how child policy is formulated. A recent gift from Christina Welter (a former Mann Fellow) and David



Muzic will enable undergraduates to attend professional conferences as Welter-Muzic Child Well-Being Scholars.

We have been struck by the many events and developments over the last year, both in Cleveland and around the country, that impact the lives of children, their families and the neighborhoods in which they live. We will continue to strive to thoughtfully connect research, education, policy and practice for the well-being of all our children.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jill E. Korbin". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Jill Korbin, PhD
Director

Schubert Faculty Associates



GABRIELLA CELESTE, JD, the Schubert Center's Child Policy Director, received the 2014 Suzanne Brookhart Harrison Award for Exceptional Service to Children from Beech Brook.



MARY PATRICE ERDMANS, PHD, associate professor in the Department of Sociology, is the co-author (with Tim Black, PhD, also an associate professor in sociology) of *On Becoming a Teen Mom: Life Before Pregnancy* (University of California Press, 2015). The authors tell the life stories of 108 Brown, White and Black teen mothers, exposing challenges in their lives often overlooked in pregnancy prevention campaigns.



DANIEL FLANNERY, PHD, director of the Dr. Semi J. and Ruth W. Begun Center for Violence Prevention Research and Education, is leading a team to assist the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's office to implement the Ohio Attorney General's Sexual Assault Kit Initiative. The team is working to have more than 4,000 unsubmitted sexual assault kits from Cuyahoga County tested before the 20-year statute of limitations runs out.

FOSTERING DIALOGUE AMONG RESEARCH, PRACTICE AND POLICY

The Schubert Center Conversation Series connects CWRU faculty, students and staff, visiting researchers, practice and policy experts, and community members whose work impacts children, young people and families. This year's series, "Exploring Equity and Resilience in Childhood," featured several dynamic presenters on youth-related issues.



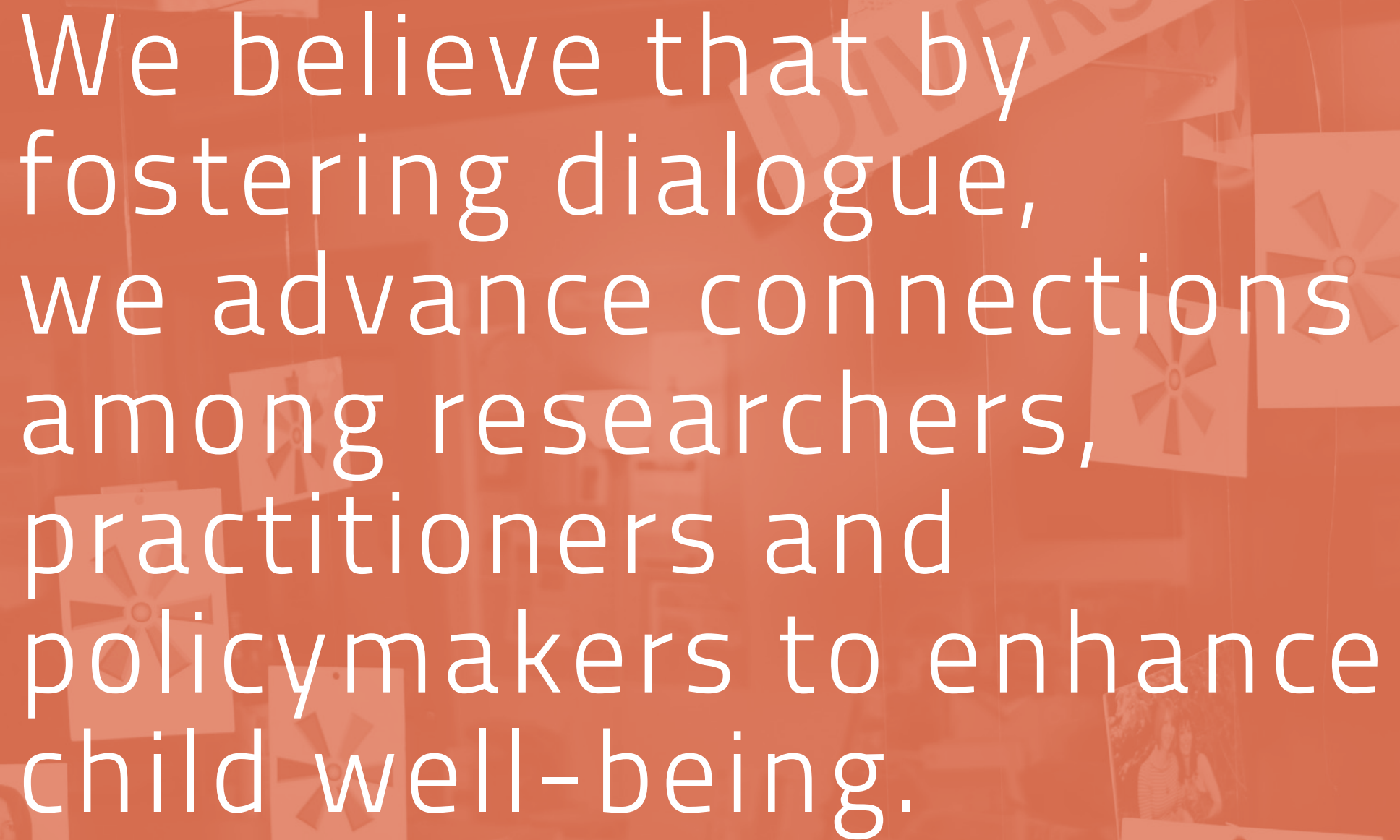
CHARLOTTE PATTERSON, PhD, professor of psychology and director of the Women, Gender and Sexuality Program at the University of Virginia

In her talk *Sexual Orientation and Parenting: Research and Policy Issues*, **Charlotte Patterson** presented results from her recent study of lesbian, gay and heterosexual adoptive parents. Patterson discovered far more

similarities than differences in her subjects' approaches to parenting, and she noted that state and federal policies regarding LGBT equality and equity can have significant impacts on children in LGBT families. Community respondents **Phyllis Harris**, executive director of the **LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland**, and **Amy Przeworski**, assistant professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, discussed advocacy work to support LGBT families and research on gender-variant children. Prior to the lecture, Patterson met with local stakeholders and parents at the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland for "A Conversation Circle for Parents and Caregivers" on parenting and family well-being. Topics ranged from the legal barriers to LGBT parenting to the creation of positive relationships with children's schools and teachers.

Left to right: Community respondent Jakoyla Gordon, addresses the audience. Charlotte Patterson leads discussion at the LGBT center. Dr. Edward Barksdale, pediatrician and expert on health disparities spoke on breaking the cycle of youth violence.



The background is a collage of various papers and photos pinned to a bulletin board. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange color. Visible elements include a large sign that says "DIVERSITY", a photo of a man reading a document, a photo of a woman holding a sign that says "I AM AWESOME", and several papers with a stylized six-pointed starburst or flower-like graphic. The text is centered and written in a clean, white, sans-serif font.

We believe that by fostering dialogue, we advance connections among researchers, practitioners and policymakers to enhance child well-being.

Schubert Faculty Associates



ROB FISCHER, PHD, research associate professor at the Mandel School and co-director of the Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development, recently received a five-year, \$625,000 award from the City of Cleveland Department of Public Health for the evaluation of the federally funded MomsFirst home visiting program.



ANDREW GARNER, MD, PHD, clinical associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics, CWRU School of Medicine, was elected president of the Ohio Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics on July 1, 2014.



MEGAN R. HOLMES, PHD, MSW, assistant professor at the Mandel School, received a \$200,000 grant from the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, Children's Bureau, to study multi-level protective factors that promote well-being for maltreated children. She also received a \$158,500 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development at the National Institutes of Health to study the effect of sibling factors and maternal parenting on behavioral outcomes of children exposed to domestic violence.



EDWARD BARKSDALE, MD, vice chair of the Department of Pediatric Surgery at UH Rainbow Babies and Children's Hospital

"Violence is an infectious disease that produces L.I.F.E., Living in Fear Everyday," pediatrician **Edward**

Barksdale declared in his talk, *Youth and Violence: The Ultimate Health Disparity*. Characterizing youth violence as a critical public health issue affecting children and young people, Barksdale discussed how experiences of violence interact with broader health disparities, leading to disproportionately poor outcomes for minority and impoverished communities. Speaking of the "vortex of violence from which no community is immune," Barksdale encouraged taking an interdisciplinary approach to breaking the cycle of youth violence and adopting violence prevention as an essential part of primary pediatric care. Community respondent **Jakoyla Gordon, MSW**, program officer for the **Cuyahoga County Witness/Victim Service Center**, provided firsthand knowledge from her work with children who have witnessed or been the victims of violence.



TUPPETT YATES, PhD, associate professor of psychology at the University of California, Riverside

In *Of Play and Prejudice: The Implications of Racism in Early Childhood*, **Tuppett Yates** and graduate student **Ana Marcelo**

discussed their findings that implicit racial biases negatively impact the way teachers in early education settings view imaginative play among Black children. Their results suggest that traits such as imagination may be encouraged or discouraged based on a child's race. This is a matter of particular concern, the researchers noted, because imaginative and pretend play help children develop tools for coping with stressful life events. **Sandra Russ, PhD**, Distinguished University Professor and the Louis D. Beaumont University Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, and **Constance Walker, MSSA**, manager of the Boys' Project at **Starting Point**, joined a panel after the lecture to discuss children's play and disparities affecting African American and Latino boys in the early education system. Yates and Marcelo have used a tool developed by Russ to assess play in their research. After the lecture, Russ and Yates held a workshop with local early childhood education teachers and administrators to discuss the importance of play in preschool and childcare settings and to address questions about play and implicit bias in the classroom.

At "**A Night of Film and Discussion with Adoption Network Cleveland**," two films were screened: *An Adoptee ROARed in Ohio—The Betsie Norris Story* and *A Simple Piece of Paper*, both featured at the **38th Cleveland International Film Festival**. The films show adult adoptees in Ohio and Illinois working to gain access to their birth documents. **Betsie**

Norris, executive director of **Adoption Network Cleveland** and the subject of *An Adoptee ROARed in Ohio*, has successfully advocated for changes in state law to grant adoptees access to their original birth certificates. As of March 2015, due to efforts by Norris and others, 400,000 Ohio adults adopted between 1964 and 1996 acquired the right to obtain their records. After the screening, Norris participated in a panel discussion with **Zoe Breen Wood, PhD**, assistant professor at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, and **Denise Barone**, a birthmother. The panel, moderated by Schubert Center Child Policy Director **Gabriella Celeste**, brought together perspectives of an adoptee, an adoptive parent and a birthmother to discuss adoption and access to birth documents.



CHARLES SCOTT, MD, professor of clinical psychiatry and chief of the Division of Psychiatry and the Law, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Services, University of California, Davis

In *Assessing and Responding to Violence Risk in Juveniles*, forensic psychiatrist **Charles Scott** presented his research on how to assess the likelihood that young people will be violent in the future. Emphasizing that juvenile and school violence has decreased over the last decade, Scott discussed the challenges in predicting future outcomes for adolescents and potential tools for evaluation. **Jim Adams, CEO, Geauga County Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services**, joined the

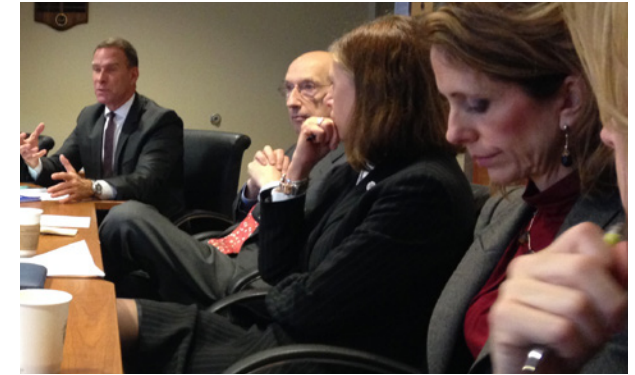
conversation, describing the mental health response to the 2012 Chardon school shooting. Following the talk, which was held in partnership with **CWRU's Department of Psychiatry**, Scott and Adams met with a diverse group of Northeast Ohio practitioners, researchers and juvenile court stakeholders. The discussion emphasized the importance of flexibility in responding to individual risks and needs and of providing youth with access to comprehensive social services.

Joining our Partners to Foster Understanding of Childhood

In addition to the Conversation Series, the Schubert Center co-sponsored several talks with partner organizations.

The Schubert Center was invited to join the Social Justice Institute, the Flora Stone Mather Center for Women, the Case Western Reserve School of Law, and U.S. District Court, N.D. Ohio Attorney Admissions Fund in presenting a talk by **Elaine Richardson, PhD**, entitled "From PHD to Ph.D." Richardson drew on her powerful memoir about overcoming early poverty and addiction to earn a doctorate and become an advocate for African American literacy. During the panel discussion that followed, participants, including Policy Director **Gabriella Celeste**, noted that Black girls are disproportionately affected by school pushout discipline practices and juvenile justice system involvement.

Top to bottom: Dr. Charles Scott elaborates on the challenges of assessing violent youth. Tuppett Yates describes racial biases in preschools. "A Night of Film and Discussion" panelists Betsie Norris, Zoe Breen Wood and Denise Barone prepare to present.





FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

Facing History and Ourselves, with support from the Allstate Foundation, presented “Let’s Talk about Injustice: A Community Conversation” with **Bryan Stevenson, JD**, the founder and executive director of the **Equal Justice Initiative**. Stevenson is the author of the 2014 bestseller *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*. The Schubert Center joined other organizations as a community partner for this event, recognizing in particular Stevenson’s role in legal reforms impacting children, including ending the death penalty for children and limiting the use of life without parole sentencing of children. “How do we overcome hopelessness?” Stevenson asked as he shared stories of his work as a lawyer and activist fighting the death penalty and mass incarceration and confronting this country’s legacy of racial discrimination and injustice.

Merav Jedwab, PhD, MSW, offered a cross-national perspective on child maltreatment in her talk *Decision-Making in Child Protective Services: Perspectives from Israel and the U.S. Longscan Project*. This talk was co-sponsored with the **Center on Urban Poverty and Community Development at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel School**

of Applied Social Sciences. Jedwab stressed the importance of thoroughly investigating reports of child maltreatment, as nearly half of children with confirmed reports of maltreatment were the subjects of previous reports that had not been confirmed. Jedwab suggested improving overall conditions for children as an avenue for reducing child maltreatment.

Opening the academic year, the Schubert Center hosted a networking dinner, **Faculty Research with Children and Youth**, for Schubert Center Faculty Associates. The dinner brought together more than 40 faculty members, several deans, foundation representatives and other supporters to learn about the breadth of **child- and youth-focused research at Case Western Reserve University**. Faculty Associates briefly highlighted major issues addressed by their research, their findings and the policy implications of their work.



Merav Jedwab presents on maltreated children during our co-sponsored talk.

Schubert Faculty Associates



DAVID KAAWA-MAFIGIRI, MPH, PHD, adjunct assistant professor in CWRU’s Department of Anthropology, senior lecturer in the Department of Social Work and Social Administration, School of Social Sciences, Makerere University, Kampala, and Associate Director of the Center for Social Science Research on AIDS (CeSSRA), received a \$100,000 grant from the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research, WHO/GAVI/UNICEF, for a study on childhood immunizations in Uganda. In 2014, he co-authored several papers, including “Well-Being of Children Affected by HIV and AIDS” in the *Handbook of Child Well-Being*; “Medical Education for Equitable Services for All Ugandans (MESAU) consortium: Development and achievements” in *Academic Medicine*; and “Challenging the Paradigm: Anthropological perspectives on HIV as a chronic disease” in *Medical Anthropology*.



PATRICK KANARY, MED, director, Center for Innovative Practices at the Begun Center, was named a Research/Quality Assurance Partner on 14 competitive RECLAIM grants awarded by the Ohio Department of Youth Services to local juvenile justice collaboratives. The Center also received an Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services ENGAGE grant for statewide dissemination and training in High Fidelity Wraparound for transition-age youth and young adults.

FOSTERING EDUCATION THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Mann Child Policy Externs

The Schubert Center and the **Childhood Studies Program** collaborate with public and nonprofit community organizations to offer **Mann Child Policy Externships**. These externships create a rigorous educational and civic experience by giving undergraduates an opportunity to work directly with professionals who design and implement policies that impact the lives of children and families. Students gain firsthand perspectives on the policy process by engaging in planning, research, analysis and/or advocacy activities related to children and childhood. We are especially grateful this year to the following host organizations and their dedicated staff for their mentoring and support: **East End Neighborhood House**, the Probation Department at the **Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court** and **Starting Point**.

AMANDA RICHARDSON, Spring 2015

Placement: Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court

Topic: Detention Alternatives

Supervisors: Tim McDevitt & Renee Edel

Graduating Year & Major: 2015, Psychology & Sociology

Quote: *"I studied CALM, a pilot program designed to divert low-risk juveniles involved in domestic violence. I compared the outcomes of this program to the outcomes for youths placed in a detention center. Preliminary findings were promising, and the court plans to use this information to consider expanding CALM to service the entire county. I will use skills and knowledge gained through the Mann Child Policy Externship to address juvenile justice policy during my graduate studies at the University of Chicago."*

Supervisor Quote: *"Amanda was able to look at the data, examine program approaches, raise helpful questions and drill down further to consider other factors. Her comments were very perceptive."*



Extern Amanda Richardson, center, with Renee Edel and Tim McDevitt of Cuyahoga County Juvenile Court.

HENRY BARR, Spring 2015

Placement: Starting Point

Topic: Out of School Time Services for Youth

Supervisor: Constance Walker

Graduating Year & Major: 2015, Psychology

Quote: *"Through my work with the Boys' Project at Starting Point, I learned about the child care services that exist in Cleveland and the efforts to quantify the impacts of these programs. The experiential learning provided by the Mann Externship guided me towards a career in special education."*

Supervisor Quote: *"Henry was assigned to do research on best practices for the out of school time program, which links to the Cleveland Foundation/Males of Color project, and developed a wonderful document that will be used for the development of the project. We have seen a lot of growth in Henry during his time here and appreciate his placement in our Special Needs Child Care Department."*



Extern Henry Barr, center, with Constance Walker, left, and colleagues at Starting Point.

JASMINE HIGH, Spring 2015

Placement: East End Neighborhood House

Topic: High Quality Early Childhood Education

Supervisor: Zulma Zabala

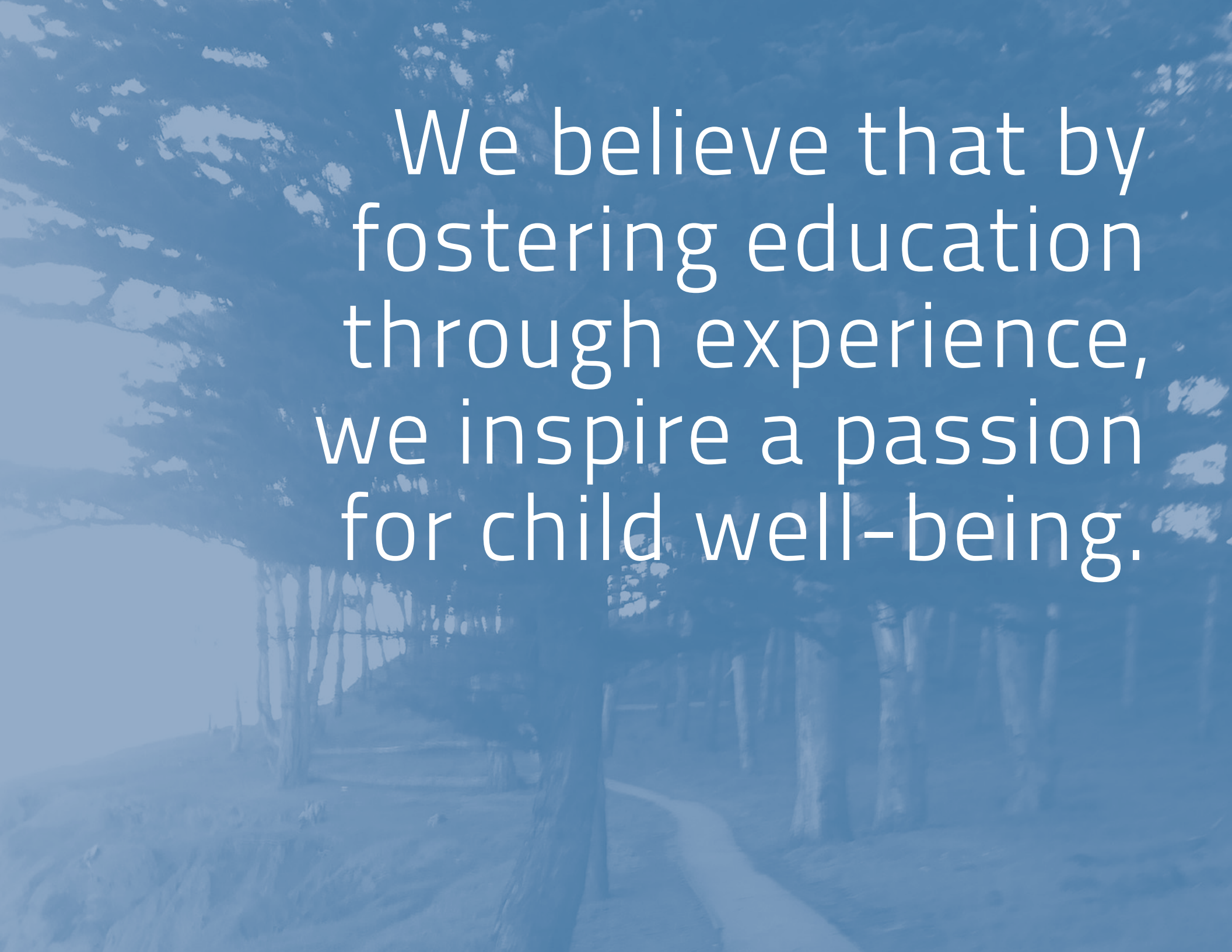
Graduating Year & Major: 2015, Chemistry

Quote: *"I really appreciated the give and take of my externship placement. I learned so much from my coworkers but also felt able to make meaningful contributions to the organization. I could walk into Zulma's office and give her my opinion, and she actually listened."*

Supervisor Quote: *"We had a really good experience. Jasmine created a useful tool supporting best practices for our early care providers and also gave helpful feedback on our community awards that we have incorporated into our process. Jasmine was a pleasure to work with."*



Extern Jasmine High, left, with Zulma Zabala of East End Neighborhood House.

A blue-tinted photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest of tall, thin trees. The path is in the foreground, leading into the distance. The trees are mostly bare, suggesting a late autumn or winter setting. The overall mood is serene and natural.

We believe that by
fostering education
through experience,
we inspire a passion
for child well-being.

Welter-Muzic Child Well-Being Scholars

The Schubert Center kicks off **The Welter-Muzic Child Well-Being Scholars: Conference Support Program!**

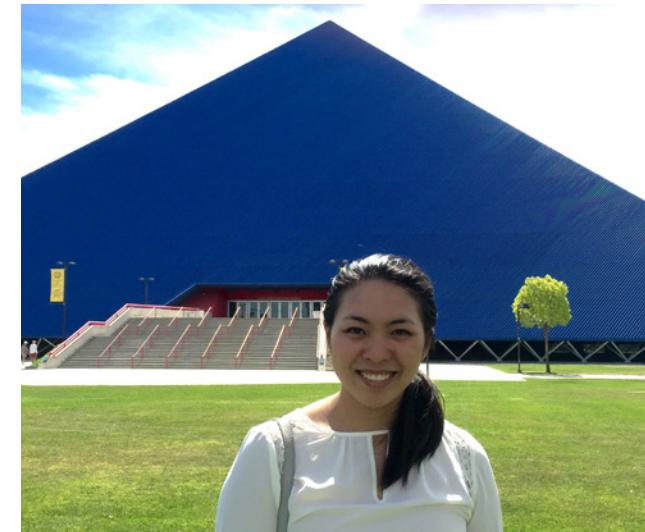
Made possible through a generous gift from alumni **Christina Welter, DrPH, MPH** (CWRU '98) and **David Muzic, MD** (CWRU '97), this program provides undergraduate students financial support to attend a professional conference on research and policy or practice related to children and young people.

Welter was a Mann Undergraduate Scholar in Anthropology and Pediatrics, a Mann Fellow and an Eva L. Pancoast Award recipient. Welter and Muzic valued their undergraduate experiences and wish to provide similar real-world opportunities for current undergraduates. The 2014-2015 scholars are **Justine Ly** and **Alison McKim**.

Justine Ly, a nutritional biochemistry and metabolism major, attended the Anthropology Child and Youth Interest Group (ACYIG) conference in Long Beach, California. She is excited to utilize what she learned from anthropologists and childhood studies professionals to support interdisciplinary work on child welfare. "From learning about the significance

of seating assignments in Chinese public schools to the inherent role children are given in American holidays, I feel the ACYIG conference has enriched my perspective and challenged me to think deeper about everyday events," Ly says. "I am humbled to see so many professionals not only passionate about their work, but also supportive of others in their research."

Alison McKim, an Integrated Graduate Studies (IGS) student and 2015 MA graduate in Cognitive Linguistics, attended the Mission Be Mindful Educator Training Conference in San Mateo, California. The conference introduced Alison to methods for introducing mindfulness in education, including creating a positive learning environment, increasing focus and helping students develop a sense of empathy and kindness. "For me, the conference was an interesting and useful introduction to social-emotional learning," McKim says. "The curriculum would be really great in any school system. I would love to see mindfulness implemented in Cleveland schools."



Top to bottom: Justine Ly attends a conference on anthropology of children and youth. Alumni and donors Christine Welter and David Muzic with their family. Alison McKim and conference attendees participate in mindfulness in education exercise.

Brisky Fellow

The Brisky Fellowship, supported by the **Cora Unger Brisky Endowment**, is awarded annually to full-time psychological sciences graduate students to support child-related dissertation research. This year, the selection committee chose one recipient:



Emily Patton, MA, received the 2014-2015 **Brisky Graduate Student Fellowship**. Patton's dissertation is titled "Youth Emotion Regulation and Processing: Risk and Resilience Factors in the Context of Maternal Depression."

Schubert Faculty Associates



LISA KOOPS, PHD, associate professor in the Department of Music, published "Songs from the carseat: Exploring the early childhood music-making place of the family vehicle" in the *Journal of Research in Music*. She also coauthored publications in *General Music Today* ("Planning for joy in the general music classroom") and *Research Studies in Music Education* ("Rock orchestra alumni reflections on the impact of participation in 'The Lakewood project'.")



Schubert Center Director JILL KORBIN, PHD, was appointed to the ChildFund International Board of Directors in January. The mission of ChildFund is "to help deprived, excluded and vulnerable children have the capacity to improve their lives and the opportunity to become young adults, parents and leaders who bring lasting and positive change in their communities."



JEFF KRETSCHMAR, PHD, research assistant professor at the Begun Center, received a \$650,000 award from the Office on Violence Against Women, in partnership with the Cuyahoga County Witness Victim Service Center and the Domestic Violence and Child Advocacy Center, to implement a Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT): a multidisciplinary team of core partners working in concert to increase victim safety by monitoring and containing offenders and providing comprehensive victim services.

FOSTERING MOVEMENT FROM POLICY TO ACTION

Juvenile Justice Policy

A new Schubert Center report, *Getting it Right: Realigning Juvenile Corrections in Ohio to Reinvest in What Works*, was released in conjunction with a **U.S. Congressional "State of Juvenile Justice"** hearing hosted in January by the **Vera Institute of Justice**. The report's author, **Gabriella Celeste**, presented testimony at the hearing on the importance of applying a developmental approach to the treatment of young people in prisons and throughout the juvenile justice system.

Getting it Right documents the evolution of Ohio's approach to treating youth involved in the criminal justice system. In recent years, the Ohio Department of Youth Services has reinvested a portion of savings achieved through the downsizing of state juvenile correction facilities into evidence-based community alternatives, and through the gradual transformation of RECLAIM (Reasoned and

Gabriella Celeste, (2nd from right), along with Cleveland Mayor Jackson, U.S. Attorney Steven Dettelbach and other members of the Community Police Commission Selection Panel.



Equitable Community and Local Alternatives to the Incarceration of Minors). Working in partnership with local courts, the department has encouraged RECLAIM programs to adopt research-supported, outcome-based interventions and emphasized diversion to prevent deeper system involvement.

Celeste also shared the report's findings in budget testimony to both the Ohio House and Senate, noting the impact of the state's realignment and reinvestment fiscal policy in advancing quality community-based and diversion programming.

Efforts to Improve Police-Youth Interactions

In light of the U.S. Department of Justice investigation of the Cleveland police department and related events concerning law enforcement in Ohio and across the nation, the Schubert Center submitted a letter to local, state and federal-level policymakers, advocating an adolescent development- and trauma-informed approach to police-youth interactions.

Joined by several of its Faculty Associates, the Schubert Center letter discusses the special nature of child and youth interactions with police and the justice system, and examines the potential implications of child-related research for policy and practice in this area. It also offers recommendations, including youth development training for police officers and specific policy changes to highlight opportunities for positive reform.



We believe that to move from policy to action, we must engage many partners committed to child well-being.

Schubert Faculty Associates



BARBARA LEWIS, PHD, professor in the Communication Sciences Program, Department of Psychological Sciences, received a five-year, \$3.1 million grant from the NIH-National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders. The goal of her project, “Biological and Behavioral Markers of Persistent Speech Sound Disorders,” is to discover risk factors for long-term problems associated with early speech sound disorders. Early interventions may target these deficits to bring about more favorable educational, vocational and behavioral outcomes.



SHARON MEROPOL, MD, PHD, assistant professor in the Department of Pediatrics, is currently serving as principal investigator on two grants, studying infant antibiotic resistance and the infant microbiome. She is also a co-investigator on an evaluation of maternal and infant health projects in Ohio.



SONIA MINNES, PHD, associate professor at the Mandel School, and *LYNN SINGER, PHD, MED*, deputy provost and professor in the Departments of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Pediatrics, Psychiatry and Psychology at the School of Medicine, received a \$2.5 million grant from the National Institute on Drug Abuse to launch the next phase of their Project Newborn research. Project Newborn was started 20 years ago to investigate health and development outcomes of babies born to cocaine-addicted mothers. This next phase of the project will focus on the original participants in Project Newborn as they enter early adulthood.

In July, Gabriella Celeste was appointed to the 10-member Community Police Commission selection panel with the intent of ensuring the needs of children and young people remain at the forefront of developing policies.

Focusing on Children of Incarcerated Parents

In 2007, 1.7 million children in the United States had a parent in prison. Recognizing the potential trauma of parental incarceration for children and families, the Schubert Center joined the **Greater Cleveland Strategy for Children of Incarcerated Parents** working group to help address the needs of children who have family members in prison. The Schubert Center prepared an issue brief examining the challenges faced by the children of incarcerated parents. Some of these challenges are unique to parental incarceration, while some resemble other life stressors, such as those associated with growing up in poverty. Schubert Center Director **Jill Korbin** presented the brief in March 2015 as the working group announced a new, coordinated initiative to provide supports to children of incarcerated parents. Korbin and Faculty Associate **Jim Spilsbury** also participated in Children of Incarcerated Parents Community Engagement Forums in October 2014.

Supporting Older Youth Leaving Foster Care

The **Ohio Fostering Connections Task Force** was organized in 2014 by the Ohio Association of Child Caring Agencies to seek to extend supportive services for foster youth up to the age of 21. As

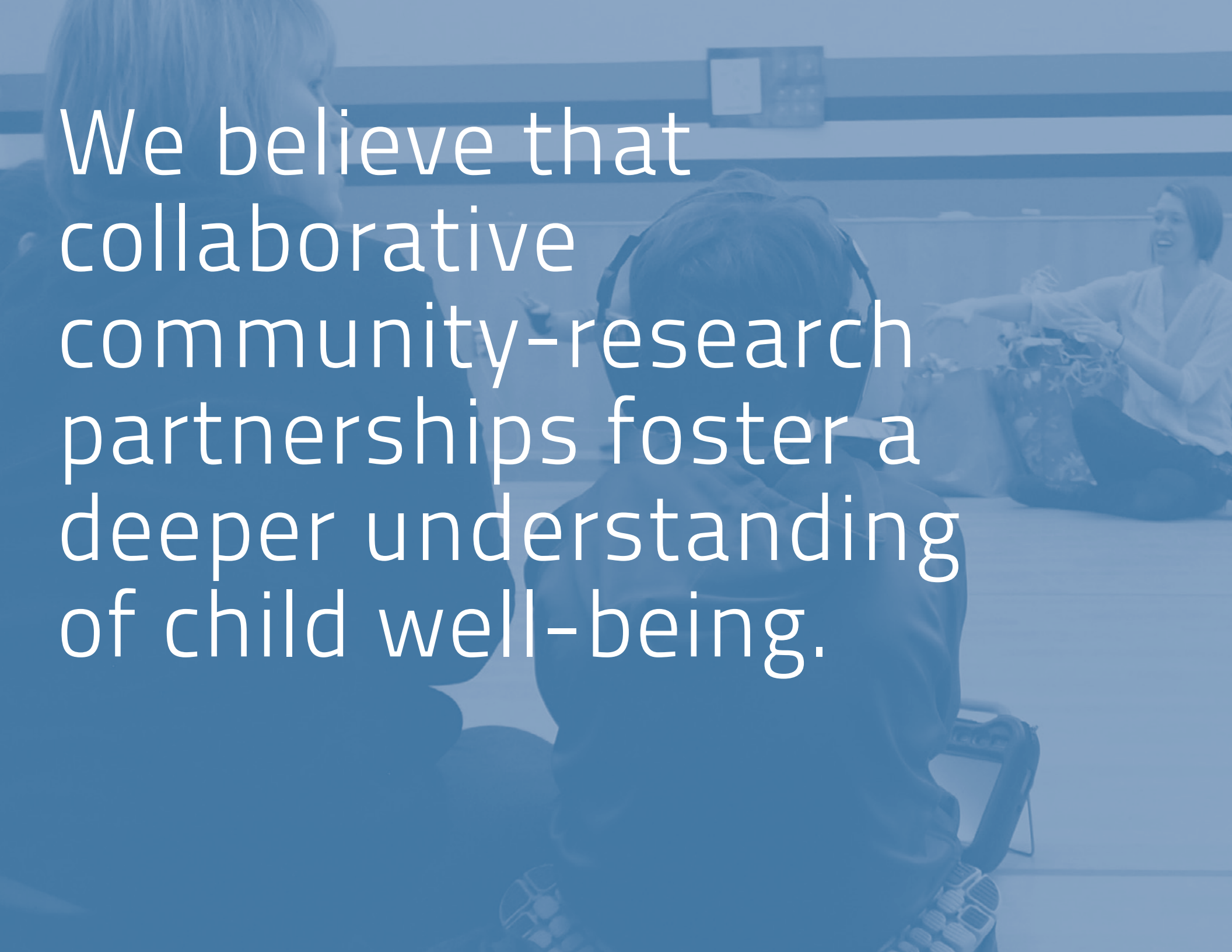


Youth panelists discuss their experiences leaving foster care.

an OFC Task Force member, the Schubert Center, together with the **Cuyahoga County Department of Children and Family Services**, the **YWCA** and other community partners, sponsored the inaugural “**Fostering Connections & Community**” event in Cleveland last July to engage youth, government agencies, nonprofits and other stakeholders in identifying critical needs such as stable housing and placement, case management and other asset-building supports. Many of these recommendations were included in **Ohio House Bill 50**, which was introduced in February 2015.

CASA for Children

The **Guardian Ad Litem Project of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association** convened a steering committee that includes the Schubert Center to begin planning for the establishment of a **Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)** program in Cuyahoga County. CASA is a volunteer-based program that advocates for the best interests of abused, neglected and dependent children.



We believe that collaborative community-research partnerships foster a deeper understanding of child well-being.

Schubert Faculty Associates



MARIA PAGANO, PHD, associate professor in the Department of Psychiatry, is the principal investigator on the Service to Others in Sobriety (SOS) Project, a prospective, longitudinal study that examines the impact of youth service participation on recidivism, substance use, and character development among 195 juvenile offenders transitioning into young adulthood.



KRISTINE RORK, PHD, assistant professor, Department of Pediatrics, and **JIM SPILSBURY, PHD**, program director and assistant professor, the Academic Development Core at the Center for Clinical Investigation, coauthored two articles this year on the association between children's exposure to violence and their sleep characteristics.



SANDRA RUSS, PHD, the Louis D. Beaumont Professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, was named a Distinguished University Professor. She co-authored an article, "Assessment of pretend play in Prader-Willi syndrome: A direct comparison to autism spectrum disorder," which was published in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders*. Russ was awarded a grant from the Swedish Childhood Cancer Foundation as co-principal investigator to study the use of pretend play in coping and health-related quality of life in children with cancer.



ELIZABETH SHORT, PHD, MD, professor in the Department of Psychological Sciences, was nominated for the 2015 Carl F. Wittke Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching.

FOSTERING COMMUNITY-UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

WSCH Wrap for Success

The **West Side Community House (WSCH)** provides an array of model services for children, families and older adults, including the **ACT Raising Safe Kids Program**, which teaches positive parenting skills to parents and caregivers of children from birth to age 8. WSCH serves families



West Side Community House provides an abundance of services to families that benefit children.

with complex needs and has designed the **Wrap for Success Program** to provide continued support and education for families taking part in its parenting services. With a grant from **Saint Luke's Foundation**, WSCH is collaborating with CWRU researchers to evaluate the potential benefits for families of the Wrap for Success Program. The research team includes Faculty Associate and Assistant Professor **Arin Connell** and clinical psychology doctoral student **Hannah McKillop** of the Department of Psychological Sciences, **Jill Korbin** of the Schubert Center and **Dawn Kolograf, Rachelle Milner, Donnecia Worley** and **Renee Aten** at WSCH.

The Musical Theater Project Kids Love Musicals!

Faculty Associate **Sandra Russ** and graduate student **Olena Zyga** of the Department of Psychological Sciences and **Jill Korbin** of the Schubert Center partnered with The Musical Theater Project (TMTP) in developing an evaluation of the *Kids Love Musicals!*

Program. This school-based program uses musical theater as a medium to teach children social and emotional skills. TMTP conducts a residency program in classrooms with typically developing children and with children who have developmental delays and disabilities. The evaluation project has given graduate and undergraduate students from the Department of Psychological Sciences an opportunity to develop their skills in child assessments.

Child Abuse and Neglect in Uganda

Schubert Center Director **Jill Korbin** and **Richard Krugman, MD** of the Kempe Center at the University of Colorado School of Medicine are collaborating with Faculty Associate **David Kaawa-Mafigiri, MPH, PhD, Eddy Walakira, PhD**, and researchers at **Makerere University** in Kampala, Uganda, to produce the edited volume *Child Abuse and Neglect in Uganda*. Kaawa-Mafigiri, Walakira and their colleagues will address a significant need for research and writing on child maltreatment produced by countries underrepresented in the field. Support from the **Doris Duke Foundation** will facilitate works-in-progress seminars and residential writing workshops.

Sandra Russ and graduate student Olena Zyga review data from the *Kids Love Musicals!* Program.





Top to bottom: Fostering Connections forum participants discuss supportive services with a youth facilitator. Gabriella Celeste (center) at *Facing Race* Conference with panelists. Dr. Elaine Richardson addresses the audience during her talk, "From PHD to Ph.D."

Center Staff News and Updates

Welcome, Felicia

We would like to introduce our new director of administration and communications, **Felicia Adams, MPA**! Felicia comes to us from the Rainbow Injury Prevention Center at University Hospitals. She has also been a staff member at the Center for Reducing Health Disparities, which is operated jointly by Case Western Reserve's School of Medicine and the MetroHealth System. Felicia has a remarkable career background in research, policy, community engagement and program development. We are excited to have her as part of our team!



Thank you, Sarah

The Schubert Center extends sincere appreciation and gratitude to **Sarah Robinson** for her four years of excellence as the Schubert Center's associate director. Sarah graduated with a BA in anthropology from Case Western Reserve in 2010 and is currently pursuing graduate studies in French at the university. We wish her the best as she moves forward in her professional and personal endeavors!



Graduate Student Assistants

Kelley Kampman, MA, is a doctoral student in the Department of Anthropology. In addition to her work at the Schubert Center, Kelley has taught medical anthropology at Cleveland State University and was a research assistant on the grant "Understanding How Neighborhood Ecologies Influence Child Maltreatment: A Mixed-Methods Study," with Schubert Center Director **Jill Korbin** and Faculty Associates **Claudia Coulton**, **David Crampton** and **Jim Spilsbury (P.I.)**.

Sarah Miller-Fellows, MA, MPH, is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology. She recently received a National Science Foundation Cultural Anthropology Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for her dissertation, "Cultural and Social Mediation of Diagnostic Genetic Technologies."

Undergraduate Student Assistant

Danielle Turner is a senior majoring in anthropology and political science. She recently traveled to Santiago, Chile for a semester abroad and resumed her work at the Schubert Center this summer.



The Schubert Center for Child Studies:

- Focuses on children from infancy through adolescence in local, national, international and global settings.
- Advances understanding of children's engagement in everyday life, including families, peers, neighborhoods and communities, and within historical and cultural contexts.
- Employs a multidisciplinary approach and is committed to community collaborations among researchers, policymakers and practitioners.
- Fosters academic excellence and leadership in childhood studies and child policy.
- Promotes linkages and effective policy through research, communication and education strategies among those who play a role in the well-being of children.

Support the Schubert Center for Child Studies

Please consider supporting the Schubert Center for Child Studies. Your tax deductible gift of any size will help ensure the sustainability of the many community programs, academic courses and student experiential opportunities we offer. As a result, it will have a lasting impact on policy, research and practice and ultimately the lives of children and families. You can make your gift online at giving.cwru.edu (note Schubert Center Friends in the special instructions box) or by calling 216.368.0540.

For more information, publications, resources and a list of upcoming events, please visit our website: schubert.cwru.edu.

Schubert Center for Child Studies

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Jill Korbin

Director, Child Policy

Gabriella Celeste

Co-Directors, Childhood Studies Program

Gabriella Celeste

Jill Korbin

Elizabeth Short

Director, Administration &

Communications

Felicia Adams

Graduate Student Assistants

Kelley Kampman

Sarah C. Miller-Fellows

Undergraduate Student Assistant

Danielle Turner

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Elizabeth Short

Lynn Singer

Mark Singer

James C. Spillsbury

Christopher Stormann

H. Gerry Taylor

Lee A. Thompson

Vera Tobin

Elizabeth Tracy

Erika Trapl

Mark Votruba

Amanda Weiss Kelley

Welcome to Our New Faculty Associates!

Ayesha Bell Hardaway, School of Law

Mary Erdmans, Department of Sociology,
College of Arts and Sciences

Bridget Haas, Department of Anthropology, College of Arts
and Sciences & Center for Clinical Investigation,
School of Medicine

David Hussey, Begun Center for Violence Prevention
Research and Education, Mandel School of Applied Social
Sciences

David Kaawa-Mafigiri, Department of Anthropology,
College of Arts and Sciences

Sonia Minnes, Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences

Cassi Pittman, Department of Sociology,
College of Arts and Sciences

Sarah Ronis, Department of Pediatrics, School of Medicine

Erika Trapl, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics,
School of Medicine

In Memoriam

Maureen Hack, MD, Professor of Pediatrics and
Obstetrics & Gynecology, passed away in June 2015.
Internationally recognized as a leader in her field,
she was known for her extensive work in long-term
follow-up of premature infants.



P: 216.368.0540
F: 216.368.1196

schubertcenter@cwru.edu
schubert.cwru.edu





SCHUBERT CENTER
FOR CHILD STUDIES

Crawford Hall 615
10900 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106

