

Doris Duke Fellowships

for the Promotion of Child Well-Being

Seeking innovations to prevent child abuse and neglect

A Quarterly Publication

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Doris Duke Charitable Foundation

This edition of the newsletter highlights how to use data to inform policy.

Notes from Deb

Using data to understand or resolve complex public policy challenges is a long standing practice. It has been almost 40 years since President Nixon declared a War on Cancer and 50 years since President Johnson declared a War on Poverty. Both of these "calls to battle" came with high expectations that we could find solutions to these vexing problems by, in part, using data and research to inform our thinking and shape policy. Sadly, despite a sizable investment in research, both problems proved to be less amenable to resolution than had been hoped. The problems were more complex and required a more diverse public policy response than had been originally perceived at the time "war" was declared. Cancer was not one disease or biological challenge but hundreds of distinct mutations, each of which required individualized study. Poverty had many faces; it was often fueled by multiple causes and shortcomings both in individuals and in the contexts in which they lived. Being old and poor presented a different set of policy challenges than being young and poor. While the exact impact of both initiatives is subject to debate, most people agree that the gains were more modest than proponents had envisioned. Policymakers and researchers had to reconsider their expectations for "success" when considering new initiatives.

In many respects, the two strategies also confirmed the power of data and its ability to guide our thinking. Rather than offering policy solutions or definitive answers to thorny social issues, however, data may best be understood as offering us the ability to better define the complexity of the problems we are facing, unravel some of that complexity, and offer multiple pathways toward progress. As two of the fellows report in this issue, emerging scholars are developing and applying a new array of research weapons. Hopefully these weapons will be up to the task of improving our ability to prevent child abuse and provide all children with a supportive and nurturing environment.

Sincerely,

Deborah Daro, PhD
Fellowship Chair

Lee Ann Huang, MPP
Fellowship Manager

New Work from Fellows and Mentors

[Kristen Seay](#), Cohort Two fellow, accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of South Carolina. She will start in August 2014.

In an executive order released November 15, Kentucky governor Steve Beshear announced that [Justin "Jay" Miller](#), Cohort Two fellow, has been appointed to the Kentucky Board of Social Work. [The Board of Social Work](#) administers statutory regulations related to social work practice throughout the state. In addition, Jay has two forthcoming publications:

- Owens, L., Miller, J., & Grise-Owens, E. (in press). Activating a teaching philosophy in social work education: Articulation, implementation, and evaluation. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.
- Grise-Owens, E., Miller, J., & Owens, L. (in press). Responding to global shifts: Meta-Practice as a relevant social work practice paradigm. *Journal of Teaching in Social Work*.

[Dr. Tom McDonald](#), PhD, associate dean of the University of Kansas School of Social Welfare, and academic mentor to [Kaela Byers](#), Cohort Three fellow, has been selected as one of the seventeen new fellows for the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare class of 2013.

[Read more.](#)

[Barbara Chaiyachati](#), Cohort Three fellow, and her academic mentor, [Dr. John Leventhal](#), have a forthcoming piece in the Test of Time series of *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry* entitled: "Henry Kempe's vision: Preventing child abuse then and now." Dr. Leventhal also has a publication forthcoming in *Pediatrics*, coauthored with [Robert Sege](#) and [Julie Gaither](#). The piece is entitled: "Hospitalizations due to firearm injuries in children and adolescents."

[Dr. Ann Easterbrooks](#), academic mentor to [Chie Kotake](#), Cohort Three fellow, will be presenting "Fathers' contribution to trajectories of maternal depression during infancy" at the [14th World Association for Infant Mental Health World Congress Conference](#) in June. Chie and Dr. Easterbrooks also have two recent publications:

- Easterbrooks, M. A., Bartlett, J. D., Raskin, M., Goldberg, J., Contreras, M. M., Kotake, C., Chaudhuri, J. H., & Jacobs, F. H. (2013). [Limiting home visiting effects: Maternal depression as a moderator of child maltreatment](#). *Pediatrics*, 132 (Supplement 2), S126-S133.
- Bartlett, J. D., Raskin, M., Kotake, C., Nearing, K. D., & Easterbrooks, M. A. (in press). [An ecological analysis of infant neglect by adolescent mothers](#). *Child Abuse & Neglect*.

[Elizabeth Shuey](#), Cohort Three fellow, and her academic mentor, [Dr. Tama Leventhal](#), recently had a paper accepted for publication:

- Leventhal, T. & Shuey, E.A. (In press). Neighborhood context and young immigrant children's development. *Developmental Psychology*.

A new study by [Dr. Rachel Gordon](#) and colleague [Robert Crosnoe](#) of the University of Texas at Austin found that peoples' physical attractiveness has powerful effects on their life chances. The book is titled *Physical attractiveness and the accumulation of social and human capital in adolescence and young adulthood: Assets and distractions*. Dr. Gordon is academic mentor to [Kristin Abner](#), Cohort Two fellow. For more information about the book, visit [here](#).

[Dr. Julia H. Littell](#), academic mentor to [Jessica Schaffner Wilen](#), Cohort Two fellow, is guest editor of the first Special Issue of the *Journal*

of the *Society for Social Work and Research*. The issue is entitled "[The Science and Practice of Research Synthesis](#)." The special issue illustrates the groundbreaking work of the Cochrane and Campbell Collections, introduces members of the interdisciplinary Society for Research Synthesis Methodology, and describes their collective efforts toward establishing rigorous standards for systematic reviews and meta-analysis. Dr. Littell's Guest Editor's Introduction can be found [here](#).

[Joseph Mienko](#), Cohort Three fellow, jointly authored a new manuscript, "Individual and work group influences on turnover intention among public child welfare workers: The effects of work group psychological safety" which has been submitted to Child and Youth Services Review.

[Dr. Mark Eddy](#), research director at Partners for Our Children and academic mentor to [Joseph Mienko](#), Cohort Three fellow, was invited to the White House for a discussion on children of incarcerated parents. Dr. Eddy has dedicated much of his career to understanding the developmental and emotional impact on children when their parents are in prison. [Read more](#).

[Dr. Benjamin de Haan](#), executive director at Partners for Our Children (POC) and policy mentor to [Joseph Mienko](#), Cohort Three fellow, is currently working with POC Policy Director [Laurie Lippold](#), on several legislative priorities to improve outcomes for children and families. [Read more](#).

[Whitney Rostad](#), Cohort Two fellow, has two forthcoming publications:

- Rostad, W. L., Silverman, P., & McDonald, M. (In press). Daddy's little girl goes to college: An investigation of females perceived closeness with fathers and later risky behaviors. *Journal of American College Health*.
- Rostad, W. L., Medina, A. M., & Hurtig-Crosby, P. (In press). Fathers in the dorm room: The unique influence of fathers and mothers on young adult functioning. *Fathering*.

[Dr. Patricia Kohl](#), academic mentor to Cohort Three fellow [Megan Feely](#) and Cohort Two fellow [Kristen Seay](#), will be giving a keynote address titled "Improving quality of care through implementation of evidence based interventions in real world settings" at the [Helping Families Change](#) conference in February.

[Elisa Kawam](#), Cohort Three fellow, achieved doctoral candidacy this past November and will begin data collection for her dissertation in the Spring. Presently, she has two manuscripts under review and several in preparation for submission. Elisa also has three conference abstracts under review as well as two presentations coming up in the next few months.

Featured Fellow

Elizabeth and Colleen, both Cohort Three fellows, interviewed one another about their academic and professional work, their experience in the fellowship, and what has inspired their commitment to maltreatment prevention.

[Elizabeth Shuey](#)
Child Development
Tufts University

by COLLEEN CARY KATZ

Elizabeth Shuey is a doctoral student in the [Eliot-Pearson Department of Child Development](#) at [Tufts University](#). She is interested in the intersection between child development and social policy. She particularly wants to understand how policy can enable the cultivation of a society that supports families with children. When she was invited to assist in a college research study, Elizabeth had the opportunity to meet a group of children who had experienced maltreatment. Recognizing that many of these children were facing poverty, Elizabeth committed herself to helping parents get the resources they need to enhance their ability to parent safely and effectively.



Elizabeth has since recognized that one of these necessary resources is child care. She has focused her dissertation research on the neighborhood context of child care selection and child well-being in immigrant families. She uses two data sets to get at this issue: one that allows her to evaluate the statistical relationships between child care and development in immigrant families ([PHDCN](#)) and a second that allows her to incorporate the first-hand perspectives of foreign-born parents and their children on these topics ([Three City ethnography](#)). Elizabeth uses both data sets because she feels like it is more compelling to include both statistics and voices of families she is committed to serving. She hopes to continue this work after the completion of her dissertation study and has already secured funding to interview a new sample of immigrant families in Boston about their experiences. She ultimately hopes to collaborate in the creation of policy that enhances developmental outcomes by providing all families with quality child care in whatever form is most accessible to them and consistent with their goals.

Featured Fellow [Colleen Cary Katz](#)

[Social Service Administration](#)
[University of Chicago](#)

by ELIZABETH SHUEY

Colleen Cary Katz is a doctoral student in the [School of Social Service Administration](#) (SSA) at the [University of Chicago](#). As an LCSW, research and practice are tightly linked for Colleen. In addition to completing her dissertation, she continues to provide one-on-one psychotherapy at [La Rabida Children's Hospital](#) for children who have experienced trauma. She also teaches a course on clinical practice at SSA. It was her earlier work as a psychotherapist for children and youth in foster care, and her work with women in domestic violence shelters, that led Colleen to want to better understand how children make sense of exposure to violence, particularly maltreatment. Her research in pursuit of this goal has led to publication of a [systematic review of Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavior Therapy](#) with children. Her dissertation examines the role of attachment style in the relationship between childhood maltreatment and being involved in interpersonal violence in young adulthood. She is using data from the [Midwest Study](#) and latent class analysis to shed light on these associations among youth who were emancipated from foster care. In the future, Colleen plans to continue balancing both research and practice by continuing her work as a psychotherapist and pursuing a job in academia



upon completion of her dissertation. She recently accepted a position as an assistant professor at the [Silberman School of Social Work](#) at Hunter College in New York City. Colleen practices mindfulness and meditation in her own life, and hopes to someday conduct evaluations to assess these as approaches for treating children who have experienced maltreatment.

Calendar of Events

Fellowship Events

Mid-Year Fellowship Meeting at Georgia State University

- February 26-28, 2014
- [Georgia State University](#), Atlanta, GA
- All three cohorts are encouraged to join us!
- If you plan to attend, please let Emily know (esiegel@chapinhall.org)

Abstract Deadlines

[American Public Health Association \(APHA\) Annual Meeting](#)

- November 15-19, 2014
- New Orleans, LA
- Abstract deadlines: February 10-14, 2014

[International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference](#)

- July 13-15, 2014
- Sheraton Harborside Hotel and Conference Center, Portsmouth, NH
- Abstract deadline: March 7, 2014

[National Council on Family Relations \(NCFR\) Annual Conference](#)

- November 19-22, 2014
- Hilton Baltimore, Baltimore, MD
- Abstract deadline: March 1, 2014

[International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect \(ISPCAN\) International Congress](#)

- September 14-17, 2014
- Nagoya Congress Center, Nagoya, Japan
- Abstract deadline: February 28, 2014

Conferences

[Society for Research in Child Development \(SRCD\) Special Topics Meeting- Strengthening Connections Among Child and Family Research, Policy Practice](#)

- April 3-5, 2014
- Hilton Alexandria Old Town Hotel, Alexandria, VA

[Children's Bureau's Office on Child Abuse and Neglect National Conference](#)

- April 30-May 2, 2014
- Hyatt Regency New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

ChapinHall
at the University of Chicago

