

## Newsletter, June 2017

### Story of Impact



CCF makes a difference in the lives of at-risk children and their parents. When Royalty was 8 months old, she and her mother, Lawanda, joined our *Juega Conmigo* playful learning program. After a rough start in her first few months of life, Royalty was experiencing extreme separation anxiety and was hesitant to leave her mother's lap or even tolerate a glance in her direction by program facilitators and participants. By the 10th session, Royalty, who had learned to crawl, was only comfortable enough to crawl about a foot away from her mom to retrieve a toy, but would quickly return to her mother's side. [Read More...](#)

**DONATE NOW**

### New Study Examines Family Stress at Dinnertime

CCF faculty affiliates [Dr. Jackie Nelson](#) and [Dr. Shayla Holub](#) recently received a grant from the [Jerry M. Lewis, M.D. Mental Health Research Foundation](#) to study parents' daily perceptions of stress and family interactions at mealtime. Knowing that feeding children is a frequently-cited stressor among parents of preschoolers, the researchers are studying how parents' daily hassles relate to family mealtime interactions. A pilot of the study last summer found that parents who perceived their homes to be more disorganized and chaotic reported more challenging mealtime interactions with their children. Parents' feelings about how difficult it was to feed their child varied daily. Parents of 3- to 5-year-olds interested in joining the study can contact the UTD Family Project at 972-883-6073 or [UTDFamilyProject@gmail.com](mailto:UTDFamilyProject@gmail.com).



### Come Play With Me: A *Juega Conmigo* Family Celebration



Thank you to the over 200 children and parents who attended our *Juega Conmigo* program family celebration on June 10th! We had so much fun celebrating play, learning, and literacy. Thanks to CCF Advisory Council members, all children attending the event received a copy of Patricia Vermillion's book [Texas Chili? Oh My!](#) after her bilingual book reading.

Special thanks to these supporters of the family celebration:



Andrea Warner-Czyz, PhD

## Study Explores Sign Language Effectiveness for Young Children with Cochlear Implants

CCF faculty affiliate [Dr. Andrea Warner-Czyz](#) recently studied the effectiveness of sign language among young children with cochlear implants toward their verbal development. The study found that children with either no exposure or limited exposure to sign language end up with better auditory, speaking and reading skills in later years. [Read More...](#)

## From the Director

I am always inspired by the stories I hear about our programs at work in communities of North Texas and grateful for impact they are making. The developmental research performed by our faculty has important implications for children's health and well-being and putting that work into practice gives our research great meaning. We will continue to share these stories of impact and hope to hear from you.



- Margaret T. Owen, Ph.D., Robinson Family Professor, Director, Center for Children and Families

STAY CONNECTED:



Center for Children and Families, The University of Texas at Dallas,  
800 W. Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [About our service provider](#)

Sent by [ccf@utdallas.edu](mailto:ccf@utdallas.edu) in collaboration with

**Constant Contact** 

Try it free today

