

Newsletter, September 2017

CCF Faculty Affiliate Studies Bilingual Children at Momentous Institute

Dr. Raúl Rojas, an assistant professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and CCF faculty affiliate, is studying how dual-language students learn verbal skills at [Momentous Institute](#) in Dallas. His research focuses on early markers that may be able to identify whether a child may have a speech or language impairment or, alternatively, may be struggling to learn a second language. Dr. Rojas is featured in a recent video series, highlighting his work with Momentous School. [Read more...](#)



Dr. Raúl Rojas



New Website Launches for North Texas Families

A new website opens today for families living in North Texas. [NorthTexasFamilies.org](#) is a mobile-friendly website comprised of North Texas' most comprehensive database of resources and services for families that encompasses early childhood programs, education, parenting support, health, food, housing, transit, money, work and legal services.

Eye-Tracking Study Recruiting Participants

Where does your infant look on your face when you speak to them? You can help us find out by joining our face scanning study!

Who: 4 - 20 month old babies with normal hearing, or with hearing loss.

What: Your baby will watch a short video with faces in it while sitting on your lap.

Where: UT Dallas Callier Center (Dallas and Richardson locations)

Contact: Hannah Pourchot (UT Dallas doctoral student) at 214-905-3110 or hannah.pourchot@utdallas.edu to participate.



You will receive a special gift for participating!

CCF Director Receives Grant to Continue Study of Self-Regulation in Children

CCF Director Dr. Margaret Owen, in collaboration with [Dr. Margaret Caughy from the University of Georgia](#), recently received a grant from the National Institutes of Health to study self-regulation in students who are transitioning from elementary to middle school. The 5 year, \$1.7 million grant will follow a cohort of 365 low-income African American and Latino children who originally enrolled in the study at 2.5 years old. The longitudinal study (The Dallas Preschool Readiness Project) will examine the role of self-regulation skills, family-level processes, and neighborhood conditions in explaining academic and behavioral adjustment in middle school.



CCF Receives Grant to Expand *Juega Conmigo*

CCF recently received a \$25,000 grant from the Simmons Sisters Fund of The Dallas Foundation to operate and expand the *Juega Conmigo* (Play With Me) program. This Fall, we are operating a [record 8 programs](#) in Dallas-area locations in Bachman Lake, Vickery Meadow, East Plano, Pleasant Grove, and North Dallas. Foundation funding will be used to help expand the program into South Dallas. We are grateful to the Simmons Sisters for their support!

CCF Faculty Affiliates and Advisory Council Lend Their Support

Thank you to CCF's faculty affiliates from UT Dallas' School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and School of Economic, Political and Policy Sciences and Advisory Council members for their continued support of our operations.

CCF Faculty Affiliates



CCF 2017 Advisory Council



From the Director

September has been a month of support received--from donors on North Texas Giving Day, to Advisory Council members lending their ideas and advice, to Faculty Affiliates assisting us with preparations for [the annual forum](#), to the Simmons Sisters for helping to fund our *Juega Conmigo* expansion. We are so grateful for the many contributions of our engaged supporters who help prop up our small staff and drive our efforts to serve even more children and families in need. Thank you.



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

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