

Newsletter, December 2017

Study Examines Grade School Children's Vocabulary Differences

[Dr. Mandy Maguire](#), CCF faculty affiliate and associate professor in the School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, recently published a study about the vocabulary growth of grade school children of differing socioeconomic statuses. In her research, she found that children from lower-income homes learned 10 percent fewer words than their peers from higher-income homes and that children of lower socioeconomic status are not as effective at using known vocabulary to build a robust picture or concept of existing language to identify the meaning of an unknown word. The study provides potential strategies that may be used for intervention for children ages 8 - 15 to help them learn. [Read more...](#)



2018 Series: "Building Bridges from Adversity to Resilience"

Join us for our [10th Annual Spring Lecture Series!](#) Talks will be held on Friday mornings, from 9:30am - 10:30am in the Davidson Auditorium (JSOM 1.118) at The University of Texas at Dallas.



February 16, 2018

[David Cross, PhD](#)

Building children's resilience
to relational trauma



March 23, 2018

[Dina Castro, PhD](#)

Early care and education for
dual language learners



*March 28, 2018

[Sandy Russ, PhD](#)

Pretend play and
development of creativity and
imagination



April 13, 2018

[Andrea Warner-Czyz, PhD](#)

Positive outcomes after cochlear implants through social relationships



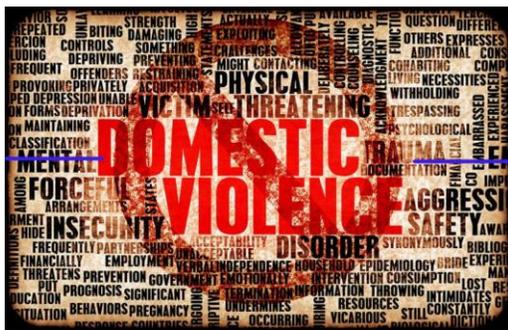
*April 18, 2018

[Vlad Glaveanu, PhD](#)

Creativity, imagination and wonder in early development

The lectures are free and open to the public!

*Special Wednesday evening lectures hosted by the Center for Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology at UT Dallas.



Report Outlines Domestic Violence Incidents in Dallas

UT Dallas' [Institute for Urban Policy Research \(IUPR\)](#) released their third annual report on domestic violence in Dallas. The project, led by IUPR researchers and CCF faculty affiliates Dr. Tim Bray and Dr. Denise Boots, documents 15,566 domestic violence offenses reported to the Dallas Police Department in 2016-2017 and nearly 8,000 victims turned away from shelters due to lack of space. [Read more...](#)

CDC Milestone Tracker App

Just released from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the milestone tracker app offers interactive milestone checklists for children ages 2 months through 5 years, tips and activities to help children learn and grow, information on when to act early and talk with a doctor about developmental delays, and a personalized milestone summary that can be easily shared with a child's doctor or other care providers. Learn more about the free app at cdc.gov/milestonetracker.





Make Your Year-End Gift Today

For almost 10 years, the Center for Children and Families has positively impacted thousands of Dallas children and their families through free [outreach programs](#) addressing children's developmental needs and encouraging engaged parent-child relationships. To ensure our programs meet the needs of the many at-risk children we serve and to expand our ability to reach even more, **we are striving to raise \$60,000 by December 31st** from individuals like you!

Please [lend your support today](#).

From the Director

With the busy fall behind us, we're setting our sights on the spring semester and looking forward to kicking things off with our 10th annual Spring Lecture Series, starting in February. The Spring Lecture Series continues the theme of the previous Fall Forum with talks by research scientists working to optimize the development of children and families. This Spring's lineup includes faculty from TCU's Karyn Purvis Institute of Child Development, UNT's College of Education, a Center for Children and Families' faculty affiliate from UTD's Callier Center for Communication Disorders, and two evening lectures in collaboration with UTD's Center for Values in Medicine, Science, and Technology. The theme is "Building Bridges from Adversity to Resilience" and will incorporate a broad array of science and interventions for ensuring that kids from challenging backgrounds succeed. Join us!



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

STAY CONNECTED:



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