AÇEV – Yale University

Formative Childhoods and Peace Building


27 May 2015
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United Nations HQ NYC, 9 September 2014 – UN High-level Forum on The Culture of Peace. Yale’s Office of International Affairs joins with YSM and MacMillan Center faculty to lead an event with UN Ambassadors and distinguished guests to discuss the transformative power of children and families as a pathway to peace.

L.R. Donald Filer, Rima Salah, James Leckman, Catherine Panter-Brick

(Photo S. Ruotolo)
Introduction

The visionary hypothesis of Anne Çocuk Eğitim Vakfı (AÇEV’s) President and one of Turkey’s foremost philanthropists, Ayşen Özyeğin, was the pioneering and inspirational drive behind the origination of this work, which brought us all together in the quest for studying the linkages between early childhood development (ECD) and peace building through scientific research, dissemination of results and advocacy for better policies on global platforms - something that had not been analyzed together before. AÇEV had already published a discussion paper titled “Building a Generation of Reconciliation: The Role of Early Childhood Development in Peace Building” in 2009 and this working paper formed the basis of the vision behind our partnership.

While the link between successful early child development (ECD) interventions and improvements in both physical and mental health and the financial benefits to society when viewed from a long-term perspective (The Heckman Equation) is well established, the link to PEACE was an exciting NEW idea proposed by Ayşen Özyeğin. Over the past three years, we have worked together to explore this question with experts across a range of scientific disciplines as part of the 15th Ernst Strüngmann Forum.

We have also worked together to conduct rigorous studies of ECD programs in fragile settings to provide scientific support for AÇEV’s visionary hypothesis. While our work together with the Arab Resource Collective to conduct a randomized clinical trial of AÇEV’s Mother-Child Education Program (MOCEP) is the exemplar of this effort, a number of additional studies are in an active planning phase. With the help of the Yale Global Health Leadership Institute, we have been actively engaged in creating multi-sectorial partnerships in other fragile settings across the globe to assist in piloting and assessing promising ECD programs.

A third area of great promise is the creation of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) in partnership with UNICEF. While this effort is still in its infancy, we see it as an important next step to achieve our ultimate goals of having ECD programs of proven value implemented, in a sustainable fashion, around the globe. If the ECPC is to “grow up” to become a major force in creating a more peaceful world, we need to be ‘good parents’ and provide it with the support it needs in the years to come. As a result, we are also honored to join the AÇEV and UNICEF teams in Istanbul for the next formal meeting of our global partners that are committed to success of the ECPC. Thank you!

The formal inception of the AÇEV-Yale Partnership was in November 2011, with work commencing in January 2012. An initial progress report was submitted on March 18, 2013, presenting the achievements of the work completed during the Phase I funded project period between January 1, 2012 and February 28, 2013. A second progress report was submitted on March 28, 2014, presenting the achievements of the work completed during Phase II project period between April 1, 2013 and March 31, 2014. This third report describes the ongoing activities and achievements of our partnership throughout May 1, 2014 to April 31, 2015.
Executive Summary / Overview of Achievements

The team at Yale is enormously grateful for the direction received from Anne Çocuk Eğitim Vakfı (AÇEV) over the past three years. We are especially grateful for the visionary hypothesis of President and one of Turkey’s foremost philanthropists, Ayşen Özyeğin. Below is an overview of achievements during the 2014-2015 partnership phase that represent the three main areas of this progress report.

**AREA 1. Evaluation of the AÇEV hypothesis. What is the evidence? What are the most promising future directions?**

**Evidence generation.** In 2013, the Ernst Strüngmann Forum, in Frankfurt, Germany, hosted a conference with 41 world-renowned scientists, across disciplines from biology to policy, from 15 countries, to deliberate on the evidence-based pathways between early childhood and peace. MIT Press published the results of these discussions in a book archetype, edited by Yale team members, in November 2014. Peer reviewed journal publications include recommendations on parenting interventions to include: engaging fathers in child development; violence prevention; and health, risk and resilience in children. Information translation and dissemination was also provided to the media.

**AREA 2. Advance evidence-based research**

**Successful completion of Year 1 of research study: “Impact Evaluation of the Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP) Among Children and Families in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Beirut, Lebanon”.** The instruments to collect mother and child characteristics were expanded to better measure the impact of the MOCEP Intervention on participants as well as culturally tailored in order to better match conditions, influences and contexts of subject population. Baseline evaluation has been completed at Sites 1 and 2. Implementation is well underway in Site 1 and will begin at the end of May in Site 2. Recruitment activities are underway at Site 3.

**Yale Global Health Leadership Institute (GHLI) “Forum for Change” Conference.** First, a Brazilian delegation planning meeting was held at Yale University in July 2014 with faculty from ‘Minding the Baby’ (Child Study Center project) and the Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy. Second, a new ECD initiative is underway that will focus on children and families living in fragile contexts in Colombia. Third, of the five paid internships offered by the Global Health Leadership Institute (GHLI) for current Yale students during summer 2015, one intern will support the international division of the Yale-IRC (International Rescue Committee) Child and Youth Protection and Development team's research goals for enhancing community mobilization and parenting programs focused on early childhood development, under the leadership of Dr. Catherine Panter-Brick. A second intern will support the Colombia Ecology of Peace Framework initiative under the leadership of Dr. Angelica Ponguta.

**Other relevant activities around the globe.** On 21-22 October 2014, a milestone was achieved when the leadership of the Empowerment and Resilience in Children Everywhere (ERICE) group met in Rome to formalize the establishment of a non-governmental organization based in Italy. New projects include the
funding of a Consortium to conduct research with Syrian refugees in Jordan, as well as a Colloquium on violence prevention.

**AREA 3. Expand our partnership to a global level: The Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC)**

The launch of **Early Childhood Peace Consortium** in September 2013 at the U.N. in New York brought together over 140 partners from multiple sectors (including civil society, the social and mass media (Sesame Workshop), government officials, multi and bilateral agencies, as well as practitioners and academia), agencies and countries to “create a legacy of sustained peace drawing on the transformative power of early child development”.

The next meeting of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium will take place from 11-12 June 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey. Partners from multiple sectors (including civil society, the social and mass media (Sesame Workshop), government officials, multi and bilateral agencies, as well as practitioners and academia), agencies and countries will focus on “HOW to create a legacy of sustained peace drawing on the transformative power of early child development”, as well as to assess the role of early child development and familial relationships in the process of peace-building and conflict resolution.

On 11 June, international experts will present relevant up-to-date scientific evidence, introduce the new ground-breaking MIT Press volume “Pathways to Peace: The Transformative Power of Children and Families”, interventions that have been identified to work for families and children, as well as explore ways to mobilize a global movement. Select invitees from academia and civil society from Turkey and the ECPC will be encouraged to engage in the day-long conference as well as contribute to the 12 June ECPC planning meeting that will seek to move the agenda forward.

**United Nations and The Culture of Peace / Early Childhood and Peace Event.** On the occasion of the 2014 UN High-level Forum on The Culture of Peace on 9th September, the Yale Child Study Center along with members of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium, UNICEF and the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace organized a luncheon with Member States, ambassadors, NGOs and other distinguished guests to introduce and discuss the important role that parents can play as they meet their child’s mental, emotional, nutritional and physical needs from the very beginning of life. A follow-up U.N. panel event has been scheduled for late June 2015 when key Member States will mobilize colleagues to support the new ECD and peacebuilding sustainable developmental goal (SDG), resolution initiative.

**Vision for Yale’s future contributions to the ECPC: World fellows, Partnership with YGHLI to engage the youth; and the development of a new global virtual communications and community-building platform.** There are several important new programs and strategies that we are advancing here at Yale to build on the results of our partnership with AÇEV. For example, we will be welcoming applications to the Yale World Fellows Program in partnership with the Yale Global Health Leadership Institute (YGHLI) to identify mid-career leaders of exceptional promise who want to develop (or who already have) a focus on ECD and peacebuilding <http://worldfellows.yale.edu/apply/want-be-world-fellow>. We are also moving ahead to
encourage Yale students to invest in ECD through fellowship programs around the globe. Our colleague, Kaveh Khoshnood, will be coordinating the ECD-focused student internships with YGHLI.

Plans are underway to design and develop, build, test and launch the new global virtual communications and community-building platform. Two main websites will be developed, one at the Yale School of Medicine to reflect the activities and accomplishments of Yale faculty, and an independent site at Yale main campus to reflect global activities of main partners and ECPC members, beginning with a prototype.

Lastly, Yale and AÇEV partners have organized and convened, presented and attended high profile events including: the International Conference on Early Childhood Development (ECD); Sponsored by CENDI, Supportive Father Involvement (SFI)-Alberta’s 5 Site Mid-year Research Meeting, and many more.
1. Evaluation of the AÇEV hypothesis. What is the evidence? What are the most promising future directions?

Our partnership has continued to generate publications and literature on the topic of ECD and peace building that have also been represented in the media. The most ambitious undertaking was the Ernst Strüngmann Forum (ESF) that took place at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Frankfurt, Germany in October 2013. The resultant volume, detailing the deliberations from across the globe experts was published by MIT Press in November 2014 and coincided with our efforts to support a United Nations resolution on the importance of early childhood in building a more peaceful world.

Table 1. MIT Published Book and Chapters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Notes / Citation</th>
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- Book editors, Drs. Leckman, Panter-Brick and Salah will participate in a webinar venue on “Pathways to Peace: The Transformative Power of Children and Families” that will be held at UNICEF HQ mid-2015. The webinar will be made digitally available to UNICEF country offices, several members of the UNICEF global audience, Yale University, and more.
Table 2. Book Chapter / Journal Articles. The table below summarizes the papers that have been published, are in press or in process. This includes two special issues of journals edited by Dr. Leckman that focus on violence prevention across the globe.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content</th>
<th>Notes / Citation</th>
<th>Pub Date</th>
<th>Authors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Children of Afghanistan: The Path to Peace</td>
<td>The first volume that not only attempts to analyze the range of challenges facing Afghan children across class, gender, and region but also offers solutions to the problems they face. Eggerman M, Panter-Brick C. (2014). Life feeds on hope: Family mental health, culture and resilience. In J. Heath (Ed.), Children of Afghanistan: The Path to Peace. (pp 226-38). Austin, TX: University of Texas Press.</td>
<td>Chapter 2014</td>
<td>C. Panter-Brick,</td>
</tr>
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7 Humanitarian interventions


Social Sci & Medicine
2014
Special issue by Catherine Panter-Brick

Table 3. Media Appearances for Knowledge Translation and Dissemination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Notes / Citation</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Yale News</td>
<td>Quote: “Most recently, in partnership with colleagues at UNICEF and the Mother</td>
<td>7 April</td>
<td>James F. Leckman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Child Education Foundation based in Turkey, I have begun to explore the question</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td></td>
<td>whether strengthening families and enhancing child development is a path to</td>
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<td></td>
<td>peace and violence prevention”–James F. Leckman</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Retrieved from <a href="http://news.yale.edu/2014/04/03/take-5-child-">http://news.yale.edu/2014/04/03/take-5-child-</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>psychiatrist-dr-james-f-leckman</td>
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<td>2 Yale News</td>
<td>Wilkes M. (2014) Fathers are the forgotten factor in parenting interventions.</td>
<td>26 April</td>
<td>Kyle D. Pruett, James F. Leckman,</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>factor-parenting-interventions</td>
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<td>parents/modern-dads-survey-75-percent-dads-call-fatherhood-their-most-</td>
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<td>2D79768109</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2014/06/12/new-campaign-celebrates-engaged-dads-finally/</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.reviewjournal.com/life/family/experts-say-father-s-involvement-">http://www.reviewjournal.com/life/family/experts-say-father-s-involvement-</a></td>
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<td></td>
<td>pivotal-proper-child-rearing</td>
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<td></td>
<td>development. Interview with Conn Jackson. Video retrieved from</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="https://youtu.be/Cw39S3sh5D4">https://youtu.be/Cw39S3sh5D4</a></td>
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<td>9 Yale News</td>
<td>“Peacebuilding and early childhood development are rarely discussed together, but research studies support the idea that they are indeed connected, and can go a long way to ending cycles of violence on a global scale. To support this theory, four Yale Child Study Center researchers presented scientific evidence at a Sept. 9 United Nations luncheon showing that early development for children can be a transformative solution for promoting peace.” Peart K. (2014). Yale researchers participate in U.N. Culture of Peace. Yale News. Retrieved from <a href="http://news.yale.edu/2014/09/29/yale-researchers-participate-un-culture-peace-forum">http://news.yale.edu/2014/09/29/yale-researchers-participate-un-culture-peace-forum</a></td>
<td>29 Sept 2014</td>
<td>James F. Leckman, Catherine Panter-Brick, Angelica Ponguta, Rima Salah</td>
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Forthcoming media appearances include: Yale MacMillan Report interview with Rima Salah, PhD, who will be asked to comment on the book “Pathways to Peace: The Transformative Power of Children and Families”

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<th>Source</th>
<th>Notes / Citation</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>The American Scholar</td>
<td>18 March 2015</td>
<td>Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Child and Family Blog</td>
<td>22 March 2015</td>
<td>Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Featured blog: “Parenting programs sideline fathers with long-term costs for families and children”</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>UNICEF MNE</td>
<td>11 Dec 2014</td>
<td>Angelica Ponguta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Dad’s Divorce Lifestyle</td>
<td>11 April 2015</td>
<td>Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Garrison S. (2015). DadsDivorce LIVE: Parenting Programs Show Anti-Dad Bias</td>
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<td></td>
<td><a href="http://dadsdivorce.com/articles/dadsdivorce-live-parenting-programs-show-anti-dad-bias/">http://dadsdivorce.com/articles/dadsdivorce-live-parenting-programs-show-anti-dad-bias/</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. Advance evidence-based research

Advancing our knowledge concerning what intervention programs work is another major goal of our partnership. Evidence from intervention studies is limited. This is particularly true in the developing world as most of the prospective longitudinal studies have been conducted in high income countries. At present, we are in the midst of developing several programs across the globe that are described below. We have received funding for some of these initiatives (MOCEP-Beirut) and applications are pending for others (MOCEP-Sao Paulo).

2.1. Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP): Beirut, Lebanon

Implementation and Impact Evaluation of the Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP) Among Children and Families in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Beirut

**Background.** The Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP) is AÇEV’s flagship, award-winning program that has been implemented in Turkey and in eight other countries since 1993. That Arab Resource Collective (ARC), site partner with Yale for the MOCEP Beirut, Lebanon project, has been AÇEV’s implementing partner in Lebanon since 2009.

MOCEP offers an opportunity to strengthen families living in refugee camps, an environment marked by disadvantage and long-term displacement. Anecdotal evidence collected through informal focus group discussions, based on pilot implementation, suggests that MOCEP has had a transformative impact on the lives and wellbeing of participating families. These initial reports indicate that program participants experience less conflict and violence and greater harmony within their families, as well as greater female empowerment. These positive outcomes can be attributed to the consistent nature of the high-quality parent-child interactions promoted through the program. However, rigorous evaluations of MOCEP in the context of refugee camps have not yet been attempted.

**Study Aim.** The aim of this randomized clinical trial is to rigorously evaluate the implementation of MOCEP in three Palestinian refugee camps in Beirut, Lebanon. This evaluation employs an innovative approach to investigate the associations among social contexts; maternal, child and family functioning; and reduction in violence through the promotion of harmonious family relationships. The results of this study have implications for improving the lives of and reducing violence for the hundreds of thousands of families with young children living in fragile contexts.

**Hypothesis.** When MOCEP is implemented with fidelity (i.e., delivered as intended by design), participating families will experience reduced violence in their homes and have better individual and intra-family outcomes than families who do not participate in the program.

**Sponsors.**
1. Open Road Alliance
   - Title: “Promoting Family Wellbeing, Peace and Reducing Violence in Refugees Camps: An Early Childhood Development Parenting Program”
• PI: Ghassan Issa, MD, Arab Resource Collective (ARC), Beirut, Lebanon

2. UBS Optimus Foundation

• Title: “Impact Evaluation of the Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP) Among Children and Families in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Beirut”
• PI: James F. Leckman MD; Neison Harris Professor of Child Psychiatry, Psychology and Pediatrics, Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine

Project partner: Ghassan Issa, MD; General Coordinator Arab Program for Early Childhood Development, Director - Arab Resource Collective (ARC), Beirut, Lebanon.

Projected study start date: April 15, 2014 (24 months duration).

➤ Achievements

At the time of this writing, the baseline evaluation at Sites 1 and 2 have been completed, with 35 mother-child dyads from Site 1 and 32 mother-child dyads from Site 2, participating in the evaluation study. Forty-one mother-child dyads from Site 1 are participating in the MOCEP intervention program that is currently underway for the treatment group. Thirty-three mother-child dyads from Site 2 will be participating in the MOCEP intervention program and its treatment group is scheduled to commence at the end of May. Site 3 recruitment activities are currently underway.

Baseline assessments have run smoothly so far, with most mothers and children completing evaluation in full. Some minor adjustments to the assessment battery were made after piloting, but no further changes have been necessary. Data collectors report that families are generally enthusiastic about participating and that, during assessments, mothers and children are engaged overall. We have also conducted focus group discussions with participating mothers from the intervention group and in-depth interviews with the camp director. The qualitative arm of the study explores motivations and barriers to program participation as well as an exploration of the context and perceived impact of the program on children and beneficiary families. A process evaluation framework has also been developed to capture the fidelity of implementation of the program, as well as keep track of attendance, participant engagement, and strategies that facilitators use to maximize adherence to the program. These data are important to: (1) control for program dosage received by beneficiaries; and (2) characterize the process of implementation of the program.
Table 4. Conferences – MOCEP-Beirut project relevant

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Conference Description</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Place/date</th>
<th>Team</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>MOCEP Evaluation Training Research study: “Impact Evaluation of the Mother Child Education Program (MOCEP) in Palestinian Refugee Camps in Beirut, Lebanon”</td>
<td>Yale research team conducted on-site MOCEP evaluation comprehensive training with staff from the Arab Resource Collective</td>
<td>14-23 June 2014</td>
<td>Rima Salah, Christina Moore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Meetings with Ghassan Issa, MD, General Coordinator Arab Program for Early Childhood Development, Director, Arab Resource Collective (ARC)</td>
<td>Discussed Mother and Child Education Program (MOCEP) Intervention and Evaluation Project Visited camps and met with NGO directors</td>
<td>Beirut, Lebanon 18-24 Aug 2014 8-14 Dec 2014 15-24 March 2015</td>
<td>Attendees: K. Khoshnood, Dr. Ghassan Issa and the ARC implementation and evaluation teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Document review and discussion Better Parenting Program (BPP) and evaluation of MOCEP</td>
<td>Better Parenting Program (BPP) and evaluation of MOCEP</td>
<td>Yale Child Study Center, New Haven, CT US 6-9 August 2014</td>
<td>James F. Leckman, Kyle D. Pruett Skype: Ghassan Issa (Arab Resource Collective ARC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Next steps.**

1. To continue Year 2 MOCEP - Beirut Evaluation and Implementation Study.
2. However, as we move forward, we are seeking supplemental funding due to the extension of the timeline. Funding gaps include:
   a. Inadequate support to implement and assess the MOCEP intervention at three time points (baseline, after the first round of implementation and following the second round of implementation (when the group of mothers initially randomized to the wait-list have received MOCEP). At present, we only have funding for the baseline and first end-point evaluations. Our timeline has also had to be extended in order to train and monitor rigorously assess the assessment teams (test-retest reliability, etc.). In addition, the original budget did not include funding for data entry or the ratings of dyadic mother-child videotaped interactions. These can be performed by raters who are ‘blind’ to whether or not the child has received the intervention or not (at baseline or at the second assessment before the families randomized to the waitlist).
b. A lack of support to recruit, assess, and follow mothers, children and families who were unable or unwilling to participate in a MOCEP intervention. Evaluating this group using the same baseline measures will allow us to evaluate the long term outcomes of the MOCEP intervention.

2.2. Empowerment and Resilience in Children Everywhere (ERICE)

✓ Achievements

The leadership of the ERICE group met in Rome on October 21-22, 2015 to formalize the establishment of a non-governmental organization based in Italy. The next international ERICE conference will be held in Israel and Palestine in June 2-4, 2015 just before the ACEV and ECPC conferences in Istanbul. This meeting is sponsored by the Italian Embassy and Fondazione Child. A new ERICE major initiative that now underway is the development of a Bi-National Psychotherapy Training Program that will bring together mental health professionals to increase communication between societies in conflict and promote better child intervention services in both the Israeli and Palestinian communities to address the consequences of the chronic stress that are associated with growing up in this fragile region of the world. The development of parenting programs will also be a continuing topic of conversation and future planning.

Table 5. Conferences – Expanded ERICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference Description</th>
<th>Presentations</th>
<th>Place/date</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Meeting at Italian Consulate</td>
<td>Formalization of the establishment of ERICE as NGO</td>
<td>Rome, Italy, Oct 2015</td>
<td>James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 International ERICE Conference</td>
<td>Bi-National Psychotherapy Training Program / Parenting programs in high risk settings</td>
<td>Israel, Palestine, June 2015</td>
<td>James F. Leckman</td>
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</table>

Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Ernesto Caffo and the leadership of Fondazione Child, ERICE has recently been officially established as a new NGO, based in Italy. This evolutionary step is supported by ERICE's partner organizations and institutions: Fondazione Child, International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC), UNICEF, the Fetzer Institute and Yale University.
2.3. Yale MacMillan Program on Conflict, Resilience and Health

✓ Achievements

Parenting programs sideline fathers with Long-term costs for families and children

Our findings identify seven barriers to engaging fathers in parenting support. Poor evaluation of programs prevents us identifying what works for families.

The 2014 Summary Report is available on: http://www.yale.edu/macmillan/crh/

GHLI Early Childhood Health and Development Internships

The Global Health Leadership Institute (GHLI) has offered five paid internships for current Yale students during the summer of 2015 to work with a range of faculty and partner organizations on research, program coordination, policy analysis, and advocacy efforts related to early childhood health and development (ECHD) around the world.

One intern will support the international division of the Yale-IRC Child and Youth Protection and Development team’s research goals for enhancing community mobilization and parenting programs focused on early childhood development. The intern would be responsible for conducting an in-depth literature review on one or a combination of the following topics:

- Strategies to engage fathers and men in field-based parenting programs,
- Enhancing evaluation of early childhood development field programming, and
- Principles for setting priorities and agendas for early childhood programming in a humanitarian setting.

The intern will receive day-to-day supervision by the IRC Early Childhood Development Technical Advisor, Katie Murphy and Yale faculty mentor, Catherine Panter-Brick, with continued support from GHLI. The internship would be based in IRC’s New York City headquarters office with possibility for travel to an IRC field mission in Tanzania to assess feasibility of proposed modules and metrics.

A second intern will support the Colombia Ecology for Peace initiative that is described in section 2.4.b.

Other Research Activities

- Seed funding (2014) from Save the Children Fund for Research in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC): Dr. Panter-Brick led a pilot study with an interdisciplinary Research Consortium to conduct forthcoming research with Syrian refugees in Jordan.
- Project evaluation funding (2015-16) from Save the Children Fund for Research in Humanitarian Crisis (R2HC): Dr. Panter-Brick leads the project with Syrian refugees (start date April 2015, for 18 months duration).
- MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies funding (2015) for a Colloquium on Violence, Intervention and Agency.
Table 6. Conferences – Yale MacMillan Program Relevant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference description</th>
<th>Place/date</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 MacMillan Workshops Conference. Workshop on ‘Youth, Conflict, and Governance in Africa’. Anthropology Dept. (Funded by MacMillan Center)</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>Organizer: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>March 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 International Rescue Committee (IRC). Workshop evaluating child outcomes</td>
<td>NY, New York, US</td>
<td>Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>21 April 2014</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (On Resilience)</td>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>Presenter: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 “Men in Conflict Settings” to bring together faculty and practitioners. (Funded by the MacMillan Center)</td>
<td>Jackson Institute, Yale University</td>
<td>Organizer: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2014 Nov</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5 Science of Adversity and Resilience Meeting</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
<td>Keynote speaker: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 Colloquium on Violence, Intervention and Agency (VIA). Keynote speaker, Mrs. Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, UN Women. Sponsored by the Women Faculty Forum</td>
<td>Yale University</td>
<td>Organizer: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>Facilitator: Rima Salah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4.a. Yale Global Health Leadership Institute (YGHLI) Forum for Change in Brazil

The YGHLI hosts and ongoing forum that is tailored to colleagues from Brazil with Yale faculty to develop novel strategies to address pressing global health problems including non-communicable diseases, mental health, and early childhood development. Through the forum, the Brazilian delegation has identified implementation challenges and they are currently building stakeholder support within poor districts of the cities of São Paulo and Salvador.

Achievements

Dr. Leckman made two trips to Brazil this past year (November 2014 and March 2015) to continue discussions with community leaders, representatives from government ministries and prominent academic institutions (the University of São Paulo and the Federal University of São Paulo). Several grants have been funded and several others are pending. Several junior colleagues from Brazil have spent time at Yale during
the past year. In the summer of 2015, Yale will be sending two GHLI interns to Brazil in to continue to help these inter-sectorial ECD projects move forward. Our colleague, Kaveh Khoshnood, serves as the faculty advisor for these two interns.

Table 7. Conferences – Yale GHLI / Brazilian Initiatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Team</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> GHLI ‘Forums for Change’</td>
<td>Brazilian Delegation planning meeting with faculty from ‘Minding the Baby’ (Child Study Center project) and the Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy</td>
<td>Organizer: James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yale University, New Haven, CT, US</td>
<td>Presentation to the Brazilian delegation: “Investing early in healthy children”</td>
<td>Presenter: James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-18 July 2014</td>
<td>Presentation to the Brazilian delegation entitled: “Methodologies for the characterization of subnational and local governance of ECD systems”</td>
<td>Presenter: Angelica Ponguta</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Presentation to the Brazilian delegation entitled: “When paternal engagement improves child well-being: An evidence-based solution in 900+ high to low risk families”</td>
<td>Presenter: Kyle D. Pruett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive paternal engagement community strategies as informed by Supporting Father Involvement (SFI) and MOCEP models. On-going communication with Joao August Figueroa, CEO of Zero to Six, Sao Paolo, Brazil re: possible dissemination models.</td>
<td>Presenter: Kyle D. Pruett</td>
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<tr>
<td>São Paulo, Brazil</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>14 Nov 2014</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2.4.b. Yale Global Health Leadership Institute (YGHLI) Forum for Change in Colombia and other ongoing and planned ECD initiatives in Colombia

Based on the ongoing work of Dr. Angelica Ponguta, the YGHLI will also be sending a Yale intern to Colombia. The intern will spend eight weeks in-country and preparatory work prior to her/his travel. As in Brazil, the work will focus on children and families living in fragile contexts such as those affected by chronic poverty, internal displacement, natural disasters, violence, food insecurity, and other risk factors for poor child development. This opportunity will involve engaging with multiple actors from the private and public sectors and will contribute to the formulation of a mid- to long-term policy, program, and/or research agendas in the country. In addition plans are in place for an intern from Colombia to come to Yale University during the summer of 2015 to learn about the Ecology of Peace Framework and to act as a counterpart to the Yale Fellow.

The Yale University team is currently planning and finalizing negotiations for the completion of the following projects and activities (Principal Investigator, Angelica Ponguta, MPH, PhD):

1. **Title:** Bio-developmental Outcomes in Children, Caregivers and Educators: Impact of an Early Childhood Intervention for Psychosocial Development and Social-emotional Learning in Fragile Contexts in Colombia. **Partnering organization:** Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla (leading University in ECD research, home to a flagship program for psychosocial development and social emotional learning in the country).

2. **Title:** Situational analysis of psychosocial support programs in Child Development Centers in Colombia and impact evaluation of 2 pilot interventions. **Partnering organization and Funding Agency:** Fundacion Saldarriaga Concha (private organization leading equity agenda on early childhood, recently signed an agreement for this project with the National Institute of Family Well-being).

3. **Title:** Development of a Quality Index for Early Childhood Development systems in Colombia. **Partnering organization and Funding Agency:** Ministry of Education.

2.5. Jordan (Principal Investigator, Catherine Panter-Brick, PhD)

**Achievements**

Project evaluation started with Syrian refugees in northern Jordan: Funded by Save the Children, for Research in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC). The randomized trial evaluation includes self-reported data on mental health, a full complement of biomarkers, and tests of cognitive function, in order to evaluate the impact of a stress-alleviating program. We are working with in-country partner Dr. Rana Dajani, and developing collaborative partnerships that will include evaluation of parenting programs in Jordan.
2.6. Three additional international projects

*Three following three additional international projects are currently underway under the leadership of Dr. Angelica Ponguta:*

**a. Development and impact evaluation of the “Youth Leaders for Early Childhood: Assuring Children are Prepared for School” (LEAPS) program in Rural Pakistan**

The pilot intervention research, LEAPS (Youth Leaders for Early Childhood: Assuring Children are Prepared for School) aims to demonstrate that using Community Youth Leaders (CYLs) is a feasible model to deliver a preschool program designed to improve Pakistani children’s school readiness, and to demonstrate greater district-level engagement of community, service providers, and decision-makers to support children’s development. To demonstrate proof-of-concept, we will demonstrate that:

1. Youth leader engagement fills an implementation gap in early childhood development (ECD) services and can impact school readiness.
2. Multi-sectorial partnerships in health and education can promote continuity and access to services that bolster children’s health, development, and readiness to learn from birth to pre-primary.

A randomized controlled trial is being conducted to assess the impact of the program in multidimensional child development and youth leader outcomes.

**Funding Agencies:** This project is funded by Grand Challenges Canada under a grant to Aga Khan University (AKU) in Pakistan.

**b. Development of a Five-Year Costed Action Plan for preschool education in Timor-Leste**

A consultative collaboration between Timor-Leste’s Ministry of Education (MoE), Yale Child Study Center University, UNICEF and local stakeholders has been established to develop a Five-year Costed Action Plan for preschool education in Timor-Leste. There will be an assessment of capacities, roles and responsibilities, to determine which agency is best positioned to lead the work on the policies Strategic Focus Areas and which other agencies must be involved and in what role. A financial analysis is being conducted to earmark public funds to the expansion of preschool education in the country. A Yale team was deployed to Timor-Leste to collect in-country data and analysis are underway for the finalization of the report. A second in-country mission will take place during late March to validate the study findings. **Funding Agency:** UNICEF Timor-Leste

**c. Technical Advising for Rwanda’s Early Childhood Development Policy and Action Plan**

The Yale team, in collaboration with Aga Khan University, is leading a technical partnership with UNICEF Timor-Leste and the Timor-Leste Government to finalize the country’s Early Childhood Development Policy and Action Plan. Technical consultations on the last draft of the Policy have concluded. The team is providing technical support to the country to generate an Action Plan to rollout ECD-related programs, activities and services in the next 5-years. Strategic areas of the Policy and the Plan include: parenting support; opportunities for holistic development; school readiness and transitions; early detection and management of disabilities; and quality assurance and program sustainability.

**Funding Agencies:** UNICEF-Rwanda and Aga Khan University
3. Expand our partnership to a global level: The Early Childhood Peace Consortium

3.1. Early Childhood Peace Consortium

*Goal/Vision: To create a legacy of sustained peace by drawing on the transformative power of early childhood development by building a global movement that values the role of young children and families as agents of change in peace building*

The Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) was conceived during meetings of the Natural Sciences FAC in Kalamazoo, Michigan (in March of 2012 and April 2013, and in Assisi, Italy during the Global Gathering in September 2012) and developed during planning meetings funded by the Fetzer Institute in Marrakesh, Morocco (Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace, February 2013) and in Firenze, Italy (Fondazione Child, August 2013). A key feature of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium is the engagement of multiple agencies representing the United Nations, academia, practitioners, the philanthropic community and more. The launch of the ECPC hosted by UNICEF in New York City (in September of 2013), brought together over 140 partners from multiple sectors (including civil society, the social and mass media, government officials, multi and bilateral agencies, as well as practitioners and academia), agencies and countries to “create a legacy of sustained peace drawing on the transformative power of early child development.” The Consortium launch provided the opportunity to share and discuss evidence and approaches emanating from a range of disciplines and sectors that link the neurobiology of the earliest years of life to results in peace promotion, resilience and pro-social relationships; programming for violence reduction, peace and early childhood; and policy approaches focused on global governance, rule of law and security and sustainability in the post-2015 development agenda, and beyond. Cost-effective, scalable, accessible and interactive activities that have high uptake are required to expand the achievements of the launch and strengthen the partnerships and science-based knowledge translation strategies fostered by the Consortium.

With the joint leadership of the Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV), the John E. Fetzer Institute, Inc., and more recently, UNICEF, we proposed two main activities that will enable us to promote peace building through Early Childhood Development (ECD) at a global scale and continue to foster the global momentum gained during the launch of the ECPC. This progress report presents the achievements in relation to the two key activities supported by the Fetzer Institute:

1. Science Information Translation and Mobilization Strategy with Member States at the UN, and
2. Global Communications and Community-Building Strategy.
3.1.1. **Science Information Translation and Mobilization Strategy with U.N. Member States**

The main objective of this activity is to educate and translate scientific information with regards to ECD and peace building among UN ambassadors and different global settings. Dr. Rima Salah has spearheaded this initiative and has attended several major events to fulfill the objectives of this first activity. In complement to Dr. Salah’s efforts, the Yale team has also actively participated in global-level events to support evidence dissemination and knowledge sharing regarding ECD and peace building. Below is a summary of the events, key outcomes and reflections on the contribution of these activities to achieving the goal of science information translation, education and mobilization.

3.1.2. **Global Communications and Community-Building Strategy**

The main objective of this activity is to empower science-based knowledge translation by employing the persuasive power of the science of love and forgiveness to promote peace in communities and families. A communication and global community building strategy is underway to achieve this aim. The strategy along with results from the ECPC Stocktaking Survey will be presented to the constitute sectors of this consortium at the 12 June, 2015 ECPC meeting in Istanbul, Turkey: UN; academia, practitioners; and philanthropy, i.e., those who are most invested in building peace – those who generate science, those who use it to build programs and policies, and those who fund research, and practice, who will be invited to participate. Specifically, we intend to explore the learning opportunities and challenges posed by working in an interactive fashion with our multiple partners as well as further developing our own website.

**Note:** Please see the Annex section of this report for a comprehensive account of these two ongoing activities, as prepared for co-funding agency, The John E. Fetzer Institute, Inc.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference description</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Place/date</th>
<th>Team</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Doha International Family Institute</strong></td>
<td>Empowering Families: A pathway to development</td>
<td>Doha, Qatar 16-17 April 2014</td>
<td>Participants: Rima Salah, James F. Leckman, Yasemin Sirali</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Panel 4: Families in Special Circumstances</td>
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<td>Presenter: Rima Salah</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Theme: “Families trapped in situations of war and conflict: Challenges and opportunities”</td>
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<td><strong>2. M8 Alliance World Health Summit Regional Meeting</strong></td>
<td>“Formative childhoods: A path to peace and resilience?”</td>
<td>São Paulo, Brazil 07 April 2014</td>
<td>Keynote speaker: James F. Leckman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Universidade de São Paulo</td>
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<td><strong>5. Universal Peace Federation UN Forum</strong></td>
<td>&quot;The Significance of Parents in Human and Societal Development&quot;</td>
<td>17 June 2014</td>
<td>Keynote speaker: Catherine Panter-Brick</td>
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<td>Sponsored by the Royal Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion</td>
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<td>Conference description</td>
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<td><strong>7</strong> Global Child Forum on the Middle East and North Africa Her Majesty Queen Silvia of Sweden &amp; Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein</td>
<td>Attended Forum and convened meetings with Dr. Ghassan Issa (Arab Resource Collective); Dr. Maha Al Muneef, Saudia Arabia; Delegations from the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt); League of Arab States; initiators of the Global Child Dorum; Dubai Foundation for Women and Children; Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood; and liaise with Dr. Ghadeer Tarazo from the Salama Bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation</td>
<td>Dubai, United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>Invited participant: Rima Salah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong> Simpósio Internacional de Desenvolvimento da Primeira Infância</td>
<td>The Transformative Power of Responsive Parenting: Perspectives, Concepts, Dimensions &amp; Next Steps</td>
<td>São Paulo, Brazil</td>
<td>Keynote speaker: James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong> Global Violence Reduction Conference 2014</td>
<td>Sponsored by the WHO and the University of Cambridge</td>
<td>University of Cambridge, UK</td>
<td>Participants: Ayla Goksel and James F. Leckman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conference description</td>
<td>Comments</td>
<td>Place/date</td>
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<tr>
<td>UN Committee on the Family</td>
<td>“Pathways to peace: The transformative power of children and families”</td>
<td>New York, NY, US March 2015</td>
<td>Speaker: James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Psychiatric Association</td>
<td>Agnes Purcell Mc Gavin Award for a Distinguished Career Achievement in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry</td>
<td>Toronto, Canada 18 May 2015</td>
<td>Award recipient: James F. Leckman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pathways to Peace: Early Childhood and Families Conference</td>
<td>AÇEV, Yale University (represented by Yale University’s Child Study Center and MacMillan Center) and UNICEF will host a one day conference. The panel will bring together notable international experts, select participants from academia and civil society from Turkey and Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) members to discuss the potential of promoting and maintaining peaceful societies through the transformative power of early childhood and families.</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey 11 June 2015</td>
<td>Participants: Ayla Goksel, Yasemin Sirali, Yanki Yazgan, Diane Sunar, Çiğdem Kağıtcıbaşı, James F. Leckman, Catherine Panter-Brick, Rima Salah, Kyle Pruett</td>
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### Upcoming

**Pathways to Peace: Early Childhood and Families Conference**

Organized by the Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV)

“Pathways to Peace: Early Childhood and Families Conference”

Opening remarks: Rima Salah

“The Transformative Power of Early Childhood and Human Development: Setting the Stage”

Keynote address: James F. Leckman

“Can Early Childhood Development be a Pathway to Peace?”

Chair: Diane Sunar

“How can we build an international agenda to invest in early childhood and peace?”

Chair: Rima Salah
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Upcoming Meeting: Early Childhood Peace Consortium and Peacebuilding</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td><strong>“What do we know and what can we do?”</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Governance review of the ECPC</td>
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<td>- Examine the ECPC Global Communications Platform</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- How can the ECPC contribute to the Sustainable Developmental Goals Agenda, Goal # 16 “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”</td>
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<td><strong>Istanbul, Turkey</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>12 June 2015</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Participants: AÇEV and Yale teams</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meeting description</td>
<td>Comments</td>
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<td>---------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>1 Yale University General Counsel</strong></td>
<td>Presentation of the Peacebuilding Evidence and Action-alliance for Children Everywhere (P.E.A.C.E.) global communications and community building virtual platform that will serve as a portal to the virtual home of the ECPC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 Yale University General Counsel</strong></td>
<td>Follow-up from February meeting with:</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>o Attorney Sheree Carter-Galvan, Senior Associate General Counsel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Attorney Cynthia Carr, Deputy General Counsel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o Attorney Alyssa Greenwald, Associate General Counsel</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>3 Linda Mayes, M.D., Interim Director Yale Child Study Center</strong></td>
<td>Presentation of the Peacebuilding Evidence and Action-alliance for Children Everywhere (P.E.A.C.E.) global communications and community building web site plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4 Justin Navarro, Website Communications Manager, Dept. of Institutional Planning and Communications, Yale Sch of Medicine</strong></td>
<td>Presentation of the Peacebuilding Evidence and Action-alliance for Children Everywhere (P.E.A.C.E.) global communications and community building web site plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5 Kimberly Pasko, Senior Service Manager User Experience and Web Services</strong></td>
<td>Meeting to discuss the design, development and set up of the independent Peacebuilding Evidence and Action-alliance for Children Everywhere (P.E.A.C.E.) global communications and community building virtual platform that will serve as a portal to the virtual home of the ECPC, using Drupal CMS platform technology and more. Meetings with Ms. Pasko will be ongoing.</td>
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3.2. AÇEVs 20th Anniversary Celebration

This past year we have many opportunities to interconnect with our colleagues in AÇEV across the globe at the UN, at the Ernst Strungmann Forum, Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace in Marrakesh, and in Firenze as well as at various conferences.

A major goal for 2015 is to contribute to planning and implementing an international conference to be hosted by AÇEV in Istanbul on June 11-12 on the theme of “Investing in Early Childhood as a Pathway to Peace” while celebrating AÇEV’s more than 20 years of serving young children and their families and reaching close to a million people through its work. This conference will set out to seek an innovative approach to promoting and maintaining peaceful societies through the transformative power of early childhood. We will ask whether we can create a legacy of sustained peace drawing on the transformative power of early child development by building a global movement that values the role of young children and families as agents of change in peace building. The conference will bring together leaders from the public, private, civil society and academic domains to discuss the scientific evidence behind early childhood as it relates to peace building, seek to identify interventions that work for children and ask how we can mobilize a global movement to invest in young children for sustainable peace, especially during the post-2015 SDG negotiations.

We are looking forward to working the leadership of AÇEV as well as with our core partners to plan this one day event followed by a day of ECPC small working groups. Current event size considerations include 500 multi-disciplinary global participants and a prominent UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador to help draw international attention. Other event highlights may include linkage with the Dutch government due to its global peace building initiatives, launch of Sesame’s Streets new peace building messages and the new ESF/MIT book that is described in section 2.1.1 of this report.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1 Pathways to Peace: Early Childhood and Families Conference</td>
<td>AÇEV, Yale University (represented by Yale University’s Child Study Center and MacMillan Center) and UNICEF will host a one day conference. The panel will bring together notable international experts, select participants from academia and civil society from Turkey and Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) members to discuss the potential of promoting and maintaining peaceful societies through the transformative power of early childhood and families.</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>Participants: Ayla Goksel, Yasemin Sirali, Yanki Yazgan, Diane Sunar, Çiğdem Kağıtcıbaşı, James F. Leckman, Catherine Panter-Brick, Rima Salah, Kyle Pruett</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“The Transformative Power of Early Childhood and Human Development: Setting the Stage”</td>
<td>11 June 2015</td>
<td>Keynote address: James F. Leckman</td>
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<td>“Can Early Childhood Development be a Pathway to Peace?”</td>
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<td>Chair: Diane Sunar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>“How can we build an international agenda to invest in early childhood and peace?”</td>
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<td>Panelist: Çiğdem Kağıtcıbaşı</td>
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<td>Chair: Rima Salah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Meeting: Early Childhood Peace Consortium and Peacebuilding</td>
<td>“What do we know and what can we do?”</td>
<td>Istanbul, Turkey</td>
<td>Participants: AÇEV and Yale teams</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Governance review of the ECPC</td>
<td>12 June 2015</td>
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<td>• Examine the ECPC Global Communications Platform</td>
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<td>• How can the ECPC contribute to the Sustainable Developmental Goals Agenda, Goal # 16 “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”</td>
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3.3. United Nations – Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

Achieving the Goals of the UN Alliance of Civilizations through Shared Initiatives

“Instilling values of harmony and tolerance in our children through instruments of early education is vital for a peaceful future. The time for change is NOW. Let us benefit from today, for a better tomorrow.” - H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, United Nations High Representative - Alliance of Civilizations; Keynote Address - Early Childhood Peace Consortium Launch, 20 Sept 2013 NY

The Vision of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC). Respect and tolerance among human beings, in the diversity of their beliefs, cultures, and languages are fundamental values at the core of the UNAOC. The Alliance aspires to the ideal of a culture of peace and dialogue, based on the conviction that “differences within and between societies should be neither feared nor repressed, but cherished as a precious asset of humanity” (UN Millennium Declaration, I-6).

The UNAOC mainly works in four priority areas to which it brings a multi-disciplinary and multi-perspective approach: Education, Youth, Media and Migration. Its objectives include facilitating the global conversation, promoting changes in policy frameworks and intercultural strategies, preventing intercultural tensions and crises, and raising awareness and mobilizing public support for cultural diversity, tolerance and inclusion.

The current draft of the MoU identifies its purpose to be (1) to develop and sustain a framework for collaborative opportunities with the UNAOC in the domains of youth, education, family, ECD, peace building and security, alternative solutions for violence reduction, and the exploration of fostering human capital beginning with individuals’ earliest years in order to facilitate a conducive environment for sustainable development, and (2) to jointly explore ventures to support the objectives of the Center and of the UNAOC as pertaining to peaceful conflict resolution, the empowerment of children, and the promotion of stable family lives with sound values to strive towards a common, peaceful existence. The Center’s staff will collaborate with UNAOC staff to advance the concept of ECD, care and education with a vision of resolving today’s issues related to intolerance, social justice, coexistence, peace, security and diversity. This idea is aligned with the UNAOC’s central principles that violence should be resolved via peaceful means instead of additional violence, that human beings share more commonalities than differences, that our youth are the leaders of tomorrow, and that diversity should be utilized as a tool for addressing global issues.

Members of the Yale team traveled to Doha, Qatar twice in April 2014 to further discuss the MoU with H.E. Mr. Nasser Abdulaziz Al-Nasser.
3.4. Other Global Presentations and Participation in Conferences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 11. Other Relevant Conferences</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Description</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> UNICEF Montenegro</td>
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</table>
| **2** Seminar | Value of paternal engagement in parent education and intervention. Evidence-based models such as MOCEP and Supportive Father Involvement (SFI) | Yale Child Study Center, New Haven, CT US | Keynote presenter: Kyle D. Pruett, MD  
Chair: Angelica Ponguta, PhD, MPH  
Attendees (Colombia): Lisa Maria Gonzales, Andrea Salazar Arango, Anna Maria |
| **3** UNICEF ‘Breakfast of Champions’ | One half day international symposium sponsored by UN, Chile, on Early Childhood Peace Building (ECPB) | UNICEF, New York, NY US  
23 Sept 2014 | Invited academic participants, UN Secretariat: James F. Leckman, Kyle D. Pruett, Catherine Panter-Brick, Kaveh Khosnood, L. Angelia Ponguta |
| **4** International Conference on Early Childhood Development (ECD); Sponsored by CENDI | Keynote presentation on the value of Paternal Involvement for improving child outcomes in parenting education and intervention via the Supportive Father Involvement (SFI) evidence-based model | Monterey, Mexico  
Dec 2014 | Keynote presenter: Kyle D. Pruett |
| **5** International Conference on Early Childhood Development (ECD); Sponsored by CENDI | Early Childhood Development in the Global Context: Gaps and Opportunities at the Policy, Program, and Research Levels. Panelist: 4th World Congress and 14th International Meeting on Early Childhood Education. Monterey, Mexico | Monterey, Mexico  
Dec 2014 | Invited speaker: Angelica Ponguta |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Presentation</th>
<th>Location &amp; Date</th>
<th>Yale / AÇEV</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong> Training Symposium</td>
<td>Supportive Father Involvement (SFI)-Alberta evidence-based replication in Calgary, Alberta</td>
<td>Calgary, Alberta, Canada</td>
<td>Co-facilitators: Kyle D. Pruett, Marsha Kline Pruett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong> 1st Annual Canadian National Men’s Network</td>
<td>Evidence-based paternal engagement models of Supportive Father Involvement (SFI) and MOCEP presented as exemplars of child-focused parenting and co-parenting community-based initiatives were presented to stimulate interest in building coalitions to support replication</td>
<td>Hamilton, Ontario, Canada</td>
<td>Keynote presenter: Kyle D. Pruett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong> Society for Research in Child Development</td>
<td>Subnational and Local governance of ECD systems in Peru and Colombia</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA, US</td>
<td>Poster presentation: Angelica Ponguta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong> Supportive Father Involvement (SFI)-Alberta’s 5 Site Mid-year Research Meeting</td>
<td>Evidence review from SFI, and relevance to the MOCEP experience</td>
<td>Calgary, Alberta, Canada</td>
<td>Co-facilitators: Kyle D. Pruett, Marsha Kline Pruett</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Future plans

Our interdisciplinary group at Yale will continue to implement projects to build the evidence substantiating the importance of investing in early childhood for sustainable peace building. In the short-term, evaluations will be conducted in Latin America (Colombia, Brazil) and the Middle East (Beirut). We will continue to pursue empirical and robust evaluations of global ECD programs (including AÇEV programs). Building on what the AÇEV - Yale partnership started with the Ernst Strüngmann Forum, we are also committed to contributing to a deeper understanding of the neuroscience of parenting and the long-term impact of ECD programs in fragile settings. Consequently, depending on the cultural context, our team will encourage the inclusion of biological markers in the characterization of impact of ECD programs, and utilize academic and advocacy platforms to disseminate evidence and mobilize investment in early childhood globally.

In addition, there are several important new programs and strategies that we are advancing here at Yale to build on the results of our partnership with AÇEV. For example, we will be welcoming applications to the Yale World Fellows Program to identify mid-career leaders of exceptional promise who want to develop (or who already have) a focus on ECD and peacebuilding <http://worldfellows.yale.edu/apply/want-be-world-fellow>. As mentioned in section 2.4, we are also moving ahead to encourage Yale students to invest in ECD through fellowship programs around the globe. This summer the Yale Global Health Leadership Institute will have student fellows traveling to Brazil, Colombia, and Tanzania to support emerging ECD interventions. We would welcome the opportunity to develop a similar initiative with AÇEV and academic partners in Turkey. Our students (funded by Yale) could learn a great deal from spending time in Turkey observing the AÇEV programs in action and having the opportunity to learn from your leadership team and your academic partners.

We are also grateful for AÇEV’s leadership in organizing and supporting the upcoming events in Turkey. We are looking forward to gaining a deeper understanding of AÇEV’s thoughts concerning the short- and long-term goals of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium and how best to move forward in the regarding an organizational structure to achieve them. We are also curious about how best to use social media to foster ECD and peacebuilding. We already have funding from the Fetzer Institute and UNICEF to start developing an interactive website for the ECPC, but more work needs to be done to develop and maintain this site.

As you know, there are a number of initiatives underway to construct and maintain “apps” for parents to be informed about ECD and what they can be doing on a regular basis to optimize their child’s development. We would like to learn more about the AÇEV app and how you plan to access its impact in vulnerable communities. Angelica Ponguta is actively working to evaluate the success of an app that is being developed by another foundation in partnership with the toy company Fisher-Price and Kyle Pruett has been in conversation with the leadership of Sesame Workshop concerning their developing apps.

In sum, we believe that a continuing partnership between Yale and AÇEV would be a meaningful endeavor. We are eager to discuss during our time together in Istanbul what more could we be doing to move ahead AÇEV’s agenda to build the social capital and reduce the stress that so many families are facing in the world today, and in so doing, improve child well-being and resilience as well as build a more peaceful world?
Annex
Progress Report

LOVE, FORGIVENESS AND PEACE: SCIENCE TO GLOBAL POLICY

Research Agreement # 3524.00 (Fetzer)
Report: July 1, 2014 to April 28, 2015

28 April 2015
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- N. Shemrah Fallon

Fetzer Institute:
- Mohammed H. Mohammed, Program Officer
2 PROJECT SUMMARY

The Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) was conceived during meetings of the Natural Sciences FAC in Kalamazoo, Michigan (in March of 2012 and April 2013, and in Assisi, Italy during the Global Gathering in September 2012) and developed during planning meetings funded by the Fetzer Institute in Marrakesh, Morocco (Guerrand-Hermès Foundation for Peace, February 2013) and in Firenze, Italy (Fondazione Child, August 2013). A key feature of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium is the engagement of multiple agencies representing the United Nations, academia, practitioners, the philanthropic community and more. The launch of the ECPC hosted by UNICEF in New York City (in September of 2013), brought together over 140 partners from multiple sectors (including civil society, the social and mass media, government officials, multi and bilateral agencies, as well as practitioners and academia), agencies and countries to “create a legacy of sustained peace drawing on the transformative power of early child development.” The Consortium launch provided the opportunity to share and discuss evidence and approaches emanating from a range of disciplines and sectors that link the neurobiology of the earliest years of life to results in peace promotion, resilience and pro-social relationships; programming for violence reduction, peace and early childhood; and policy approaches focused on global governance, rule of law and security and sustainability in the post-2015 development agenda, and beyond. Cost-effective, scalable, accessible and interactive activities that have high uptake are required to expand the achievements of the launch and strengthen the partnerships and science-based knowledge translation strategies fostered by the Consortium.

With the support of the John E. Fetzer Institute, Inc., we proposed two main activities that will enable us to promote peace building through Early Childhood Development (ECD) at a global scale and continue to foster the global momentum gained during the launch of the ECPC. This progress report presents the achievements in relation to the two key activities supported by the Fetzer Institute:

1. Science Information Translation and Mobilization Strategy with Member States at the UN, and
2. Global Communications and Community-Building Strategy.

2.1 SCIENCE INFORMATION TRANSLATION AND MOBILIZATION STRATEGY WITH MEMBER STATES AT THE UN

The main objective of this activity is to educate and translate scientific information with regards to ECD and peace building among UN ambassadors and different global settings. Dr. Rima Salah has spearheaded this initiative and has attended several major events to fulfill the objectives of this first activity. In complement to Dr. Salah’s efforts, the Yale team has also actively participated in global-level events to support evidence dissemination and knowledge sharing regarding ECD and peace building. Below is a summary of the events, key outcomes and reflections on the contribution of these activities to achieving the goal of science information translation, education and mobilization.
2.1.1 Qatar Country Visit

- **Date:** April 16 -17, 2014
- **Place:** Doha, Qatar
- **Sponsor:** Her Excellency Ms. Noor Al Malki, Executive Director DOHA International Family Institute (DIFI)
- **Title:** “Empowering families: A pathway to development”
- **Objectives of the meeting:** The family is the basic unit of society and as such it should be protected and nurtured. Yet the family is not systematically placed at the center of policy and research. Stable and healthy families are the foundation of strong societies. When families break down the costs are high and societies suffer.

The primary goal of the meeting was to refocus on the role of the families in overall development and provide the United Nations member states and other stakeholders with concrete recommendations and good practices, particularly in the areas of family poverty and social exclusion to ensuring work family balance and promote inter-generational solidarity.

- **Objectives:**
  1. To integrate a comprehensive family approach in policies and strategies,
  2. To promote the collection and utilization of data on family issues,
  3. To share good practices and relevant findings, and
  4. To improve and strengthen collaboration between researchers, policy-makers and other stakeholders.

- **Yale University contributions:** Dr. Rima Salah delivered a presentation on the thematic panel for families in special circumstances. The title of her talk “Families trapped in situations of war and conflict: Challenges and Opportunities” aimed to substantiate the importance of putting the interest of families in the heart of protection efforts (see Annex, Display 1). She presented evidence and a rationale for the need to rebuild the life of every member of the family, fulfilling their human rights and restoring dignity, as well as to ensure that protection strategies expand to include multi-dimensional peace building efforts that extend beyond security and military aspects and are geared towards human security, social peace and justice. Dr. Salah presented arguments in favor of supporting programs that promote access to basic services, such as healthcare, education, safe water and sanitation, and economic empowerment of women and men. They can also include security sector reform, reconciliation, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, including children. One of the key messages of her intervention was the importance of restoring the functions of the family so that it plays its role as a vital actor in society.

- **Key outcomes and contributions to achieving the goal of activity 1:** Dr. Salah’s contribution was key to providing context and a framework for the next steps in convening stakeholders to hold the Preparatory Conference for the Sixth UNAOC Global Forum and Annual UNAOC Focal Points Meeting, which, as explained below, was a crucial dialogue regarding the role of the family in sustainable peace. In this capacity, Dr. Salah was able to successfully disseminate evidence to an international and influential set of global actors.
Dr. Salah and Dr. Leckman (present at the meeting) took the opportunity to meet with the representatives of the Qatar foundation and Ms. Noor Al Malki to find ways and means to further reinforce their partnership with the Early Childhood Peace Consortium.

2.1.2 Preparatory Conference for the Sixth UNAOC Global Forum and Annual UNAOC Focal Points Meeting

- **Date:** April 29-30, 2014
- **Place:** Doha, Qatar
- **Sponsor:** United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- **Title:** “Preparatory Conference for the Sixth UNAOC Global Forum and Annual UNAOC Focal Points Meeting (see Annex, Display 3)”
- **Objectives of the meeting:** Following on the success of five consecutive forums in Spain, Turkey, Brazil, Qatar and Austria, the Sixth Global Forum of the UNAOC took place in Bali, Indonesia on 29-30 August, 2014. Bearing the theme “Unity in Diversity: Celebrating Diversity for Common and Shared Values”, the Forum highlighted strategic and yet practical measures that generate and sustain common values and a shared sense of responsibility among all stakeholders, partners and constituencies toward the realization of the mandate and objectives of the Alliance of Civilizations initiative. Both Drs. Salah and Leckman were invited to participate in the planning meeting for the Sixth Global Forum and this planning meeting took place in Doha, Qatar on April 29-30, 2014. At this meeting delegates from more than 100 countries discussed the theme of “Unity in Diversity” and the need to reaffirm the commitment of the international community to the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, as well as the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity. In addition to planning the Forum, a number of discussions took place to organize ‘side-events’.
- **Yale University contributions:** Drs. Leckman and Salah and Taj Hamad representing the Universal Peace Federation advocated for a side-event at the Forum to review: (1) the latest scientific data concerning the importance of the early years with regard to brain development and epigenetic programming as well as the biology of mother-child and father-child bonding – hormonal factors and changes in brain structure and function of new mothers and new fathers; (2) the long term impact on of parent-child educational interventions with regard to educational achievement; violence prevention; peace building, gender equality and long-term economic benefits (Heckman Equation); and (3) key elements of promising parent-child education programs with particular attention to enhancing the involvement of fathers. This side event was also projected to discuss the importance of inter-sectorial partnerships in order to establish sustainable country-wide implementations of early child development programs and to develop novel multi-sectorial partnerships to implement and evaluate promising parent–child education programs in interested countries and regions. In the end a decision was made not to move forward with this side event. But this event served to strengthen our ties with the Universal Peace Federation and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations.
• **Key outcomes and contributions to achieving the goal of activity 1:** *The Doha Call to Action* (see Annex, Display 2) emerged as an important initiative and document to guide family-centered programming globally and in the Middle-East. This was a major contribution to disseminating evidence in the realm of early childhood and peace building in a global platform. One of the key outcomes of this meeting was that it represented an important step towards ensuring that the family is included in the discussion on Sustainable Development Goals.

2.1.3 **Good Parenting – International Expert Meeting**

- **Date:** November 4th, 2014
- **Place:** Lysebu, Oslo
- **Sponsor:** Royal Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion
- **Title:** “Good parenting – international expert meeting”

**Objective of the Meeting:** The main objective was to convene global experts on peace, diplomacy, and parenting research to discuss the role of positive parenting in violence prevention and social transformation (see Annex, Display 4).

The outcome of the meeting was the development of an action plan to combat violence and sexual abuse against children and youth (2014-2017). Most relevant measures are:

1. Strengthen the municipality’s preventive health work and health services’ efforts to address the issue of violence;
2. Preventive efforts for the youngest children;
3. Grants for municipal measures to support parents;
4. Prepare a guide for municipalities on use of parental guidance programs;
5. Better follow-up of parents whose children have been removed from their care;
6. Expand authority of the child welfare service to impose assistance measures;
7. Maintain support for the ‘Mothers as Guides’ course; and
8. Strengthening of a pilot project to provide a core time period free of charge in day care centers.

**Yale University contributions:** Dr. Rima Salah delivered a presentation entitled “Changing the Tide of Violence: The Impact of Positive Parenting” (Annex, Display 5).

Some of her key messages included:

- The role of neuroscience in influencing a revolutionary shift in the way we think about early child development, as we learn about the impact of both positive and negative experiences – and the interplay of experience and genetics – on the developing brain;
- The importance of stimulation and care, early childhood education, health and nutrition, and safety and protection to maximize a child’s potential;
- Principles of key biological processes in parenting such as hormonal regulation and attachment and epigenetics; and
- Presenting exemplars of impactful parenting programs (such as the AÇEV model).

**Key outcomes and contributions to achieving the goal of activity 1:** Dr. Salah delivered an inter-disciplinary presentation on the principles of good parenting, human development, and peace. She was able to disseminate evidence that spanned from human
rights frameworks, to biological principles of responsive parenting, to examples of successful programming globally. This contributed significantly to the information dissemination and knowledge brokering processes proposed in activity 1.

Dr. Salah met with the Minister and Director of the Norwegian Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion, the Ombudsman for Children in Norway, the representative of the European Council and with Ms. Marta Santos Pais, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary General On Violence against Children. The purpose of these meetings was expand their knowledge about the scientific research undertaken at Yale, the good practice in different parts of the world including Turkey and Lebanon, and the Consortium that established an unprecedented network around the goal of reducing and preventing violence against children, recognizing the transformative power of the early years of life.

Dr. Salah also spoke to the following meeting participants who showed interest in learning more about ECPC:

- Elizabeth Askeland, Clinical Director, Specialist in Clinical Psychology, Dept. Child Program Development, The Norwegian Center for Child Behavioral Development, Oslo, Norway
- Sann Johnson, Regional Director, Asia, Caucasus & Middle East, International RESCUE Committee, New York, NY, US
- Anne Lindboe, Barneombud, Oslo, Norway
- Lisa Witter, Executive Director, Chief Optimist without Violence, Berlin, Germany

### Global Child Forum

- **Date:** November 13, 2014
- **Place:** Madinat Jumeirah, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
- **Sponsor:** Global Child, Forum (initiated by H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf and H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden)
- **Title:** “Global Child Forum on the Middle East and North Africa”
- **Objective of the Meeting:** The Global Child Forum is an independent, global multi-stakeholder platform for informed dialogue and thought leadership on how to advance children’s rights in support of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Global Child Forum aims at gathering leaders from business, governments, academia and civil society in a joint effort to implement children’s rights. “This multi-stakeholder approach should be supported by effective information sharing, exposing leading case studies and learning from best practice from all parts of the world” (www.globalchildforum.org).

According to the meeting’s report, some 500 global leaders from business, academia, financial institutions, government, media and non-governmental organizations attended the first Regional Forum, from many countries. This aims of this Forum on child rights in the Middle East and North Africa were to expand the scope of dialogue and to involve new decision makers with new viewpoints from the Arab World. (http://globalchildforum.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Forumrapport_v12.pdf).
**Yale University contributions:** Dr. Rima Salah, on behalf of Yale University, held a series of meetings during the event. These included:

- Convened meeting with Dr. Maha Al Muneef, Saudi Arabia to discuss a possible partnership with the Yale Child Study Center;
- Convened meeting with other Delegations from the Middle East (Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt etc.) to discuss the link between early childhood development and peace building;
- Convened meetings with other Delegations to broaden the network of our partners in the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC);
- Attended meeting with the initiators of the Global Child Forum;
- Liaised with Dr. Ghadeer Tarazi from the Salama Bint Hamdan Al Nahyan Foundation that is in partnership with the Yale Child Study Center, Zigler Center;
- Convened a meeting with Minister, Ms. Enas S. Mekkawy, Head of the Department on Women, Family and Childhood, League of Arab States, and explored with her the possible collaboration between Yale and the League and the possible role of the Arab League in the Early Childhood Peace Consortium. (Dr. Salah convened a follow-up meeting with the Minister who visited New York in March, 2015.)
- Met with the H. E. Ms. Afra Al Basti, Director General of the Foundation - Dubai Foundation for Women and Children;
- Met with the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood; and
- Conversed with Dr. Ghassan Issa, Coordinator Arab Resource Collective (ARC) via telephone re the above meetings, in particular with the Arab League of States.

In addition, Dr. Salah spoke to the following meeting participants who expressed interest in learning more about ECPC:

- Afra Al Basti, Director General, Dubai Foundation for Women & Children, Dubai UAE
- Reem Al Mahmoud, Editor in Chief / General Manager, Dubai Media City, Dubai UAE
- Habiba Al Mar'ashi, President & ECO, Arabia CSR Network, Dubai, UAE
- Dr. Shaikha Al Maskari, Chairperson, Al Maskari Holding, Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Maha Al Muneef, MD, Executive Director, The National Family Safety Program (FAAP), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Aljouharah Alajaji, Chairperson, Child Care Association, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- Siham Al-Suwaigh, PhD., CPT Educational Consultant & Play Therapist, Bahrain
- Sara Baker, Community Service Unit Head, Dubai Autism Center, Dubai, UAE
- Naia Connah, Project Assistant, Global Child Forum, Stockholm, Sweden
- Lina Farauqi, Country Director, Middle East Children's Institute MECI, Amman, Jordan
- Lola Grace, Founder, Middle East Children's Institute MECI, Amman, Jordan
- Mahira Hassan, Corporate Responsibility & Foundation Manager, Vodafone, Egypt
- Nicole Nassar, Managing Director, Gulf Area Office, SOS Children's Villages
In addition to these meetings, Dr. Salah also attended the Global Child Forum, which gathered several global child leaders.

- **Key outcomes and contributions to achieving the goal of activity:** Dr. Salah’s meetings were key to strengthening current efforts being led at Yale University as well as continue to foster new partnerships.

  The Forum provided the opportunity to present the Early Childhood Peace Consortium and its goals in a region that is more and more marked by violence, physical and structural, and is in search of approaches to reduce and prevent violence against children. It is for this reason that it was received with great enthusiasm.

### 2.1.5 Early Childhood Development and Peace Lunch Event

- **Date:** September 9, 2014
- **Place:** United Nations Head Quarters, New York City
- **Sponsors:** UNICEF, Global Movement of the Culture of Peace, AÇEV, Fetzer
- **Title:** “Early Childhood Development and Peace Lunch Event”
- **Objective of the Meeting:** One of the key objectives was to prepare for establishing a working group with Member States on early childhood and peace building.

  - **Yale University contributions:** “On the occasion of the 2014 UN High-level Forum on The Culture of Peace on 9th September, the Yale Child Study Center along with members of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium, UNICEF and the Global Movement for the Culture of Peace organized a luncheon with distinguished guests to discuss on the important role that parents can play as they meet their child’s mental, emotional, nutritional and physical needs from the very beginning of life. Longitudinal research has shown that when parents invest in their child’s development during the early years, there can be lifelong beneficial effects on brain development, the child’s well-being and success in adulthood! It is also well established that the earlier the intervention, the greater the long-term economic impact. This luncheon event was chaired by Dr. Rima Salah. Notable guests included several permanent representatives from UN member states as well as high ranking officials at the UN, UNESCO, UNICEF, other NGO agencies and members of the Yale faculty including: Donald Filer (Executive Director of Yale’s Office of International Affairs), Professor Catherine Panter-Brick (Anthropology, Health and Global Affairs at the Jackson Institute), James F. Leckman and L. Angelica Ponguta (Yale Child Study Center)” (http://medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/international/peace/news/article.aspx?id=8000)

- **Key outcomes and contributions to achieving the goal of activity:**
  - Professor Salah in her opening remarks emphasized that children and families have the transformative power to promote peace and reduce violence, so they can be “agents of change and agents of peace rather than simply victims of violence”.
- In his remarks, panelist Prof. Leckman highlighted the need for the UN in partnership with academia, civil society and local and national governments to take action to make our world a better place for our children and for future generations. Support is needed to refine and implement in a sustainable fashion Early Child Development programs of proven value across the globe. He announced that a volume will be published in November by the MIT Press, “Pathways to Peace: The Transformative Power of Children and Families”, co-edited by James F. Leckman, Catherine Panter-Brick and Rima Salah.

- The following Yale webpage includes a record of the event – featured news, agenda/concept, video series that features panelists and guests, guest list and relevant links.

http://medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/international/peace/projects/cultureofpeace.aspx#page1

This particular event gave an opportunity to Drs. Salah and Leckman to disseminate evidence of the transformative power of ECD from a rights and scientific evidence perspective. The audience ranged from national to international to global leaders from multiple agencies and was a prime opportunity to mobilize experts and policy makers towards emphasizing the value of children and families as crucial building blocks of peace.

### 2.1.6 Other Meetings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>United Nations</th>
<th>Rima Salah, Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, N. Shemrah Fallon</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>22 Dec 2014</strong></td>
<td>Meeting to discuss new UN panel event (tentative, mid 2015)</td>
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<td>o To further disseminate scientific evidence linking ECD to peace building</td>
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<td></td>
<td>o To promote book “Pathways to peace: The transformative Power of Children and Families”</td>
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<tr>
<th>United Nations</th>
<th>James Leckman, Rima Sala, Ernesto Caffo (Fondazione Child)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>27 Mar 2015</strong></td>
<td>Meeting</td>
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<td>Prof. Caffo is working closely with the Vatican to organize the conference on the family which will take place in Philadelphia, PA in fall 2015 and will be attended by the Pope. The Pope will also be coming to the UN to the General Assembly and will also meet with the UN staff in September 2015.</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Queen Sylvia of Sweden as the initiator of the Global Child Forum will be meeting with the Pope in Rome at the end of April 2015.</td>
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2.2 **GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS AND COMMUNITY-BUILDING STRATEGY**

The second creative next step is to empower science-based knowledge translation by employing the persuasive power of the science of love and forgiveness to promote peace in communities and families. A communication and global community building strategy is proposed to achieve this aim. The strategy will be presented to the constitute sectors of this consortium: UN; academia, practitioners; and philanthropy, i.e., those who are most invested in building peace – those who generate science, those who use it to build programs and policies, and those who fund research, and practice, who will be invited to participate. Specifically, we intend to explore the learning opportunities and challenges posed by working in an interactive fashion with our multiple partners as well as further developing our own website.

**(1) Objectives:**

(a) Contact each of our main partners to explore creative opportunities to work together to communicate and network as effectively as possible using the force of the Internet and social media channels. Among our many international partners, the following are key:

(b) With input from main partners, Yale will explore and develop a neutral (non-Yale branded) global website prototype with interactive features that will be designed to support over time (i) program expansion, (ii) the ongoing needs and behaviors of its community of users, and (iii) adaptation to next generation changes in computing and communication technologies. The website will be initially managed by Yale and will serve as: (i) an ongoing repository of knowledge to be multimedia represented; (ii) as a site for interactive and real-time communications among users; and (iii) for information exchange and new knowledge generation. This is not conceived of as a stand-alone site, but rather the hub of a network of related sites. The website will specifically support features that will allow member users to upload and share information from their science and programs on love, forgiveness and peace. These highlighted features will enable us to gather and generate greater information and sharing amongst the key communities at local and national levels that are invested in peace, forgiveness and love as a force for significant societal change over time.

**Neutrality:** Traditionally, global program partners always have a neutral website home. This main project site will serve as an Authority (content heavy) and Hub (outgoing links to relevant global programs) site, as well as a website proxy for the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) or virtual home.

UNICEF ECD and main project partners strongly recommend a neutral site because:

a) It a virtual home that needs to project joint ownership.

b) It is important to reinforce equity among Consortium members and keep geographic and institutional neutrality to actively engage as many actors as possible.

c) Consortium members who represent universities from around the globe wish to receive prominent participatory status.
2.2.1 Status of the Global Communications Strategy

2.2.1.1 Construction of a Virtual Platform Workbook

A comprehensive website prototype planning workbook with proposed website title, Peacebuilding Evidence and Action-alliance for Children Everywhere (PEACE), is underway (Annex, Display 6). The communication strategy outlines the project’s three aims that will be translated through an iterative web design and development technology process that can be accessed via a variety of computing and mobile devices:

1) To build an information repository by gathering together the evidence-base linking early childhood development (ECD) and sustainable peace building in the global context,
2) To build and unify an international network (Hub) to disseminate and mobilize key partners and members of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium around such evidence via an interactive virtual community, and
3) To build a global movement that values the role of young children and families as agents of change in peace building.

On April 1, a preliminary version of the workbook was presented to attorneys: Sheree Carter-Galvan, Senior Associate Yale General Counsel (practice areas include Digital Media/Information Technology Law and Intellectual Property); Cynthia Carr, Acting Deputy General Counsel and Alyssa Greenwald, Associate General Counsel (practice areas include International Law). This meeting was the follow up to a digital media law information gathering session in on January 16, 2015 during which attorney Carter-Galvan developed a strong interest in this ECD and peace initiative project and its global communications strategy with respect to a potential campus-wide buy-in at Yale as a participating partner.

The web plan workbook was also presented by Dr. James Leckman and Ms. Shemrah Fallon to Dr. Linda Mayes, Interim Director of the Child Study Center, Yale School of Medicine, on April 13, 2015 who also showed strong interest and support for the initiative.

On April 23 2015, the workbook was reviewed by Justin Navarro, Web Services Manager at the Yale School of Medicine (YSM) department of Institutional Planning and Communications. At that meeting, Dr. Leckman and Ms. Fallon emphasized the need for an independent, non-Yale branded virtual platform. Mr. Navarro suggested that a new ‘child’ Child Study Center (CSC) website be developed to contain all ECD and peace initiative involvement by Yale faculty only. This YSM branded site will reap the benefits of being directly aligned with the main CSC website and the extended YSM web system. It will directly link to the main independent, neutral prototype website that will be owned and managed by Yale, but be non-Yale branded.

Next, the workbook plan will more quickly expand in detail following a series of scheduled meetings with university leaders, scholarly and library experts, IT website service experts in and outside of Yale (School of Medicine and Main Campus) per recommendations by members of Yale General Counsel and Deputy Provost of Libraries and Scholarly Communication, Susan Gibbons. Information gathered from these meetings will help to finalize the website prototype development plan that will then be implemented.
2.2.1.1 Utilization of the Yale Website Hub as Provisional Portal for Communication

In addition to interactive features built into the main site, a cloud-based project management app, e.g. Basecamp will be deployed for ECPC members and will be made accessible via an Intranet portal. Basecamp will allow for real time communication among members, the development of project related subgroups that can: set roles, goals, and objectives; generate timelines; calendars; file upload and download; and more.

Because Basecamp synchronizes with Mac and PC operating systems via multiple devices e.g. smartphones and tablets (iPhone, Android), and Internet browsers and integrates easily with email, we predict that its use will be strong.

2.2.1.2 Design of Stocktaking Survey (Annex, Display 7)

A brief online Qualtrics survey to learn more about the program needs of the main partners and the 140+ members of the ECPC mailing list who are projected to be the initial users of the website. The online survey is timed to shortly follow invitations to the AÇEV conference and ECPC meeting in Istanbul, Turkey (described in the next item below) that were recently issued. The survey will collect data e.g.:

- As partners and Consortium members, what do they want as ‘receivers’ and what are they prepared to do as ‘contributors’?
  - What areas are you most interested in? (list main areas of interest; include text box for open ended response)
  - How can the online communications platform be helpful to the needs of your agency? (list main categories; include text box for open ended response)
  - What are the major advantages in being a Consortium member? (list main advantages; include text box for open ended response)
  - How do you want to participate?
    1. ECPC domains
      - To strengthen Evidence
      - To strengthen Programming
      - To Educate U.N. Member States about the link between ECD and peace building that could potentially lead to a new U.N. Resolution
      - To participate as a Donor (funding agency)
      - Other (text box for open ended response)
  - What podcast topic areas can they recommend?

- Data received will further inform the website by helping us match Consortium members’ needs and interests as well as identify emerging themes.

2.2.1.3 Premier of the PEACE Website Prototype, AÇEV June 11-12, 2015, Istanbul, Turkey

We will present the prototype to members of the ECPC at the forthcoming AÇEV Conference, Pathways to Peace: Early Childhood and Families. This presentation will be designed to generate
interest and increase buy-in and ownership by demonstrating ways in which the stocktaking survey data has informed website features and functions. We will also illustrate innovative ways in which the main site can expand in capacity over time.

2.2.2 Podcasts: Proposed Mechanism for Knowledge Brokering

In consultation with other partners, we designed a proposed strategy to conduct podcasts to promote knowledge brokering activities. The strategy and rationale are as follows:

By capitalizing on the technological advances of remote communication, we will launch a podcast series with three overarching objectives:

1) Provide an open-access portal to disseminate knowledge regarding early childhood development and peace building;
2) Facilitate an exchange of ideas and perspectives of world experts;
3) Build a repository of landmark and groundbreaking literature that is informed by experts and accessible to Consortium members.

To achieve this, we will facilitate and coordinate conversations between two selected experts. We will propose topics for discussion as well as use the stocktaking survey to probe for topics of interest. We will also use the stocktaking survey to identify specific questions or areas of inquiry on possible topics of interest. Examples of potential topics are:

1) Translating science into policy: the role of program evaluation in mobilizing global resources for ECD
2) Group modalities in parenting programs: experiences and lessons learned from international experiences
3) Studies on the impact of toxic stress in biodevelopmental outcomes: what we know and how data can be used to transform the global policy landscape
4) Global perspectives in child protection: preventing abuse in the home via family programs and through strategic governance

For every podcast, we will identify two experts in the field who come from different fields of practice (academia, NGO, private foundations, public sector, international advocacy bodies) or expertise (psychology, economics, biology, policy, child development, health, etc.). This will enable us to gather views from different vantage points and analyze topics of interest through complementary perspectives. We will capitalize on the broad membership of the Early Childhood Peace building Consortium and enlist speakers via that network.

The podcasts will be recorded remotely and modalities may vary according to the preference of the participants. We envision having 2 different formats:

1) Speakers will be provided a set of questions ahead of time and they will independently answer the prompts while being independently recorded.
2) Speakers will be given the opportunity to engage in open dialogue. We will moderate the conversation by delivering questions to both speakers and give them the chance to share views around leading questions.
Note: for participants who are not English-speakers, we will explore the possibility of providing on-site translation to diversify the pool of participants and promote broader international representation.

We will use the interactive features of the site to enable users to post questions for the speakers. Questions will be addressed (blog-style) after airing of the recordings. We predict podcasts will last an average of **30 minutes**, depending on the availability of participants.

Note: Yale experts will be video and audio taped.

## 2.3 Amendments to the Original Work Plan

Below is a summary of processes and proposed metrics corresponding to the completion of the first activity as it was presented in the original case proposal to Fetzer. Herein, we give an update on the progress of those specific processes and indicate when amendments needed to occur and why.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Process</th>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Progress status and amendment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Large-scale online survey with Consortium launch participants to inform and optimize the approach and content of the website</td>
<td>- % surveys completed</td>
<td>* The survey is currently under development. We are planning on requesting that invitees to the June 11th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Launch an interactive website prototype, to inform policy makers and funders, members of the Consortium on research, processes and activities related to ECD and peace building</td>
<td>- Number of active subscribers to website</td>
<td>* TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create an interactive space of communication to connect global partners across a variety of computing devices</td>
<td>- Online user analytics to assess engagement of members with technological platform</td>
<td>* TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot an e-newsletter with a compelling marketing campaign to include highly visible subscriber links from all program sites to generate an inter-connected community of learners</td>
<td>- Number of newsletters released</td>
<td>* Newsletter will be released after the Launch of the June meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Feedback on newsletter and marketing strategies (questionnaires with selected stakeholders to probe for impact of activity)</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pilot webinars, videos, science summaries and podcasts to promote knowledge sharing and use to help build loving families and promote peace</td>
<td>- Number of events held (questionnaires with selected stakeholders to probe for impact of activity)</td>
<td>* TBD</td>
</tr>
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3 ANNEX
Empowering Families: A Pathway to Development

April 16 and 17, 2014

Panel 4: Families in Special Circumstances

Theme: Families trapped in situations of war and conflict:

Challenges and Opportunities

By

Dr. Rima Salah

It gives me great pleasure and honor to be with you this afternoon.
I want to seize the occasion to thank Her Excellency Ms. Noor Al Malki, Executive Director of the DOHA International Family Institute (DIFI), for inviting me to the conference and also to participate in this very important panel.

I feel privileged to talk to you on the impact of war and conflict on families, based on my research and long experience at UN Headquarters and in the field of duty in Central and West Africa.

I met Maimouna in Ivory Coast, West Africa during the civil war that wracked her country and after her shanty town was burned and bulldozed to the ground. She told me,

"My husband and I saved what we could, but there wasn't much time. Men and women, were beaten. I don't want to go back. I am too scared and so are my children. We only have what is here in these sacks". She continued to say "the rest has been stolen, burned or destroyed. We've got to start our lives all over again due to the war. We need to find jobs and our children need to go to school... can the United Nations help".

The very first phrase of the Charter of the United Nations signed on the 26 June 1945 says: "We the Peoples' of the United Nations determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind and to reaffirm our faith in fundamental human rights in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small... it further says... to practice tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbors and to unite our strength to maintain international peace and security".

More than six decades after the Charter came into force and despite all efforts, conflict and violence persist in some parts of the world. Globally more than 1.5 billion live in countries affected by violent conflict and millions of families find themselves trapped in violent situations that disrupt the fabric of their society and compromise the very foundation of this fundamental institution - the family.

When their communities and homes are no more safe havens and when their schools and streets become battlefields and their health centers destroyed. When they are regularly targeted and subject to indiscriminate attacks. Families like Maimouna are forced to flee for their lives in search of safety inside their own country or in the neighboring countries.

Frequently we see in the media pictures of those families and their children with all their belongings wrapped in bundles on their heads ....walking towards safety or in convoys of cars and trucks, uprooted from their villages seeking refuge outside their country.... they are from the Central African Republic, from Mali, from the Congo, from Southern Sudan.

There are also the families that are in besieged areas that live in fear of attacks and in isolation and not even having access to life saving humanitarian assistance. Most importantly, the most vulnerable members are the children and women, they experience grave abuses of their human rights and undergo tremendous suffering.

The loss and suffering of children bears many faces, they die before celebrating their fifth birthday from preventable diseases, and malnutrition.... there are many a time I have seen parents burying their children. They also die from gunshot wounds or landmines. They are trafficked and recruited as child soldiers and depriving them of the joy of childhood.
I met Mamadou in a rehabilitation center in Liberia. He was among tens of thousands of boys that were enrolled in the army. He said: "the rebels came and beat my father and put him in jail. Then they asked me if I would join them. I was six years old. They took us to the bush for military training. They gave us lots of drugs to make us feel brave to carry out all orders. When I was 11 years old having fought for five years in the bush, I was the first child soldier to demobilize when the United Nations helped with the demobilization process".

Women and girls face the atrocities of sexual violence and exploitation. Sexual violence includes rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, trafficking and early marriage. It is used as a weapon of war with the aim of destroying families and communities. In the report of the Secretary General, forced marriages, rape and sexual slavery have been documented in Mali, the Central African Republic and South Sudan. In the Congo, hundreds and thousands of women and girls live in fear with the risk of being attacked by armed groups.

As the Special Representative of the Secretary General for Sexual Violence in Conflict said: "An attack on women and children during or post conflict is more than an attack on an individual; it is an attack on families, communities on the rule of law, and an assault on the belief in your government to protect you. In short, it is an attack on dignity and humanity".

Indeed, sexual violence strikes at the heart of the families and communities with long term devastating effects on the victims, families and the communities. Unfortunately, beyond the impact of war and conflict on the livelihood of families, the psychological trauma of the victims are largely under-reported or recorded. Rarely are the families asked how conflict affects them or what would make their lives better.

Seized by this situation, in the last decade, many Resolutions were adopted at the UN General Assembly and the Security Council. This is to foster a culture of peace and to protect the rights of women and children that live in situations of violent conflict. There is also more recognition by the international community, national governments and civil society of the serious threats that violent attacks on women and children and their families pose to peace and security in the world.

With the adoption of the Rome Statute and the establishment of the International Criminal Court in The Hague, more and more perpetrators of war crimes are brought to justice.

I can say without hesitation that the world community has made progress, particularly in the past five years, in devising policies, strategies and tools in carrying its responsibility to protect civilians under eminent threats of physical violence. This is being done through protection and peace building interventions.

In addition, at the normative level, significant progress has been achieved with respect to the protection of civilians, whereby all parties to the conflict are responsible for respected and protected in accordance with international law and humanitarian and human rights, but the progress has not consistently translated into effective and better coordinated protection efforts and on the ground in order to make a difference in the lives of the families.

Compelled by this situation, the role and practice of peacekeeping and peace building has been given more importance in the Agenda of the United Nations, donors and non-governmental organizations. The UN and its partners, in their peace-building efforts, try to reduce the risk of conflict by addressing its root causes, improving special social cohesion and reconciliation among groups and reinforce national capacities and institutions that can manage conflicts.
In laying the foundation for sustainable peace and development, the UN further helps national authorities to reinforce and strengthen the rule of law, restore state authority at all levels and support them to re-establish the justice system.

As to humanitarian access, the international humanitarian actors are exerting all efforts to reach the need of the population that have re-doubled in the last decade as demonstrated in the increase of the global humanitarian budget by 430 per cent. This made way to the humanitarian debate shifting to a model focused on anticipation and prevention rather than only responding to humanitarian needs.

Recently, there has been extensive acknowledgement from the development community that conflict and violence fundamentally undermines sustainable development, as stated in the United Nations Human Development Report of 2011 (UNDP) which states that "not one of the countries in conflict will achieve a single Millennium Development Goal (MDG), by 2015. This was confirmed by the World Development Report "Conflict, Security and Development" that states countries characterized by conflict, violence and insecurity are left behind., and their economic growth compromised and social indicators stagnant.

In order to mitigate the situation, the debate intensified among humanitarian actors to integrate emergency relief and humanitarian assistance with early recovery and development policies.

Despite all exerted efforts and achievements in addressing the problems of countries affected by violence and conflict, the past decade yielded mixed results in terms of real impact on protecting families and civilians from violence or on improving their sense of security and lives on the ground. I can say with confidence, that concrete action to protect families and civilians under threat and empowering them to take part in the economic recovery of their countries remain far from being timely or uniformed.

Moreover, the voice of affected families have not been in the center of international discourse on the protection of civilians. The peace building efforts have also included top down approaches leaving families and communities on the margins.

Hence, to meet the real challenges on the ground and to make a difference in the lives of women and children living in situations of violent conflict, we need to put the interest of families in the heart of protection efforts. We need to rebuild the life of every member of the family fulfilling the human rights and restoring dignity. Thus, protection strategies must expand to include multi-dimensional peace building efforts and this beyond security and military aspects geared towards human security, social peace and justice. These programs would include, access to basic services, such as healthcare, education, safe water and sanitation and economic empowerment of women and men. They can also include security sector reform, reconciliation, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants, including children. In other words, it is important to restore the functions of the family so that it plays its role as a vital actor in society.

It is thus critical for the international actors, in particular, governments who are primarily responsible, to re-think the concept of the protection of civilians. There is a need to rethink the roles of families affected by conflict not only as those of victims but as those of the peace drivers. By doing so, the joint international, regional, national and local efforts can promote self-reliance, local ownership and peace dividends with real impacts on the ground, in improving lives of the
affected families and repairing the social and economic fabric of their war-torn communities and societies.

It is only then, that families can play the key role of peace drivers and contribute to laying the foundation for peace in their communities. It is only then, that families will be able to contribute in the restoration of the economic and social life in the post conflict environment.

There is, however, room for optimism as many organizations, including UN agencies, the World Bank, Non-Governmental Organizations, Academia have started to build evidence, that families are not only victims of war and conflict and recipient of international humanitarian aid but are powerful agents of change that can promote resilience, social cohesion and peace.

A good example is the Consortium, launched at UNICEF in September 2013 which was launched in partnership with UNICEF, the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the Mother Child Education Foundation (AÇEV), Yale University and the Fetzer Institute and the Doha International Family Institute, to create a global movement for peace that draws on the transformative power of families and early childhood development.

Ladies and Gentlemen, today we have the knowledge, technology and experience to empower families and give them their place in re-building their lives and the war torn communities.

What we need is the vision and unwavering commitment by Governments, the United Nations, the international community and civil society to make it happen.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the road to peace is long, but empowering families - is the right path to peace and sustainable development.

Thank you.
Doha Call to Action

We, the representatives of civil society, academia, policy makers and individuals participating in the International Conference organized in Doha, Qatar on the 16-17 of April, 2014 by the Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family;

Having considered the conference theme “Empowering Families: A Pathway to Development,”

Reaffirming that the family is not only the fundamental group unit of society but is also the fundamental agent for sustainable, social, economic and cultural development,

Stressing the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work family balance and social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

Emphasizing that the achievement of development goals especially those relating to the eradication of poverty, education of children, especially girls and reduction in maternal mortality depends, to a significant extent, on how families are empowered to fulfill their numerous functions,

Emphasizing further that strategic focus on families offers a comprehensive approach to solving some of the persistent development challenges such as inequality and social exclusion,

Call on governments to empower and enable families to contribute to development by taking the following actions:

1. Develop comprehensive and coherent policies, integrate cross sectorial approach to support family stability and establish/strengthen a national mechanism to develop family-oriented policies and programmes and allocate adequate human and financial resources to implement, monitor and evaluate them.

2. Promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, reform discriminatory laws and policies, particularly family laws, and enact legislations to end child marriage and violence against women.

3. Recognize the contribution and responsibility of men to families, develop policies to address the impact of the absence of males/fathers on family wellbeing and promote active fatherhood.
4 Focus poverty alleviation strategies on the family as a unit and acknowledge that family breakdown can be both a root cause and an effect of poverty and its prevention is a priority.

5 Adopt policies to ensure work–family balance, so that the responsibilities of parenting and maintaining families do not fall primarily on women and collaborate with the private sector to protect and support workers with family responsibilities.

6 Value important contributions of all generations within the family, design and implement policies to strengthen intergenerational solidarity and partnerships and promote healthy intra-family relations.

7 Ensure the systematic collection of data and statistics on family wellbeing and collaborate on good practice exchange at national, regional and international levels.

8 Develop and implement family focused policies and interventions to strengthen and support families in vulnerable situations (such as conflict, natural disasters and health epidemics including HIV / AIDS and malaria).

9 Create an enabling environment for a meaningful contribution of civil society organizations in the design, implementation and monitoring of family policies and programs and remove barriers to the establishment, work and funding of non-governmental organizations.

10 Acknowledge that families are at the center of sustainable development and ensure that families are an integral part of the post 2015 development agenda.
First day, Tuesday 29.4.2014

07:45 – 08:45  Registration

Plenary Session: Thematic Debate “Peace & Prosperity For Sustainable Development”

09:00 - 10:00  Opening
- Introduction and welcoming remarks by H. E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, the UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations
- Keynote speech by the State of Qatar (Host Country)
- Remarks by H. E. Mr. Wu Hongbu, United Nations Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs
- Remarks by Mr. Olav Kjorven, Special Adviser to the UNDP Administrator on the Post-2015 Development Agenda

10:00 - 11:00  Debate
11:00 - 11:15  Coffee Break
11:15 - 13:00  Continuation of Debate
13:00 - 14:30  Lunch hosted by Qatar
14:30 - 16:15  Continuation of Debate
16:15 - 16:30  Coffee Break
16:30 - 18:00  Presentation on the preparations for Bali by the delegation of Indonesia, followed by Q & A

Second day, Wednesday 30.4.2014

09:00 – 11:00  Regional Strategies (Moderator TBD)
- UNAOC presentation to kick off discussion
- Remarks by Dr. Adel Abdellatif, Chief of Regional Programme Division-UNDP
- Remarks by the delegations on:
  Europe Strategy, Euro-Mediterranean Strategy
  Latin America Strategy.
  Asia, Africa, as well as OIC, Nordic Council OSCE and others

11:00 - 11:15  Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:15  Interaction with Civil Society (Moderator TBD)

12:15– 13:15  Informal Consultations, Regional and Groups Coordination

13:15 - 14:30  Lunch: hosted by Qatar

14:30 - 16:30  The Road to Bali (Moderator TBD)
- Remarks by the High Representative H. E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
- Interventions with Questions and Answers

16:30 - 16:45  Coffee Break

16:45 - 18:00  Conclusion (Moderator TBD)
- The High Representative H. E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser introduces the draft outcome
- Comments by delegations
- Adoption of the outcome
- Final remarks by H. E. Dr. Hassan Ibrahim Al-Mohannadi, the Vice President of the Qatar Committee for Alliance of Civilizations and UNAOC Focal Point of the State of Qatar
- H. E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, The UN High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations announces the conclusion of the conference
Good parenting - international expert meeting

Nov 4th, 2014 at Lysebu, Oslo
**Good parenting - international expert meeting Nov 4th, 2014 at Lysebu, Oslo**

**Programme**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00-09.20</td>
<td>Solveig Horne</td>
<td>“Good Parenting - best interest of the child.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.20-09.40</td>
<td>Marta Santos Pais</td>
<td>“Investing in early childhood to secure children’s right to freedom from violence”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.40-10.00</td>
<td>Gordana Berjan</td>
<td>“Council of Europe work to support member states in positive parenting and non-violent upbringing of children”</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.00-10.20</td>
<td>Anne Lindboe</td>
<td>“The rights of the child in the family.”</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Round table discussion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.10-11.30</td>
<td>Ulrika Håkansson</td>
<td>&quot;Keeping mind in mind - mentalizing and emotion regulation as an understanding and intervention.&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30-11.50</td>
<td>Frode Thuen</td>
<td>“Parental conflicts after divorce; psychosocial effects and preventive measures.”</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Round table discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.30-13.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.30-13.50</td>
<td>Elisabeth Askeland</td>
<td>“Promoting Positive Parenting.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.50-14.10</td>
<td>Einar Heiervang</td>
<td>“The International Child Development Programme.”</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Round table discussion
Break


15.30-15.50: Marius Råkil  “Reflections on the impact of domestic violence on The quality of parenting and on the development of the child.”

15.50-16.10 Milena Grillo  "Revisiting 'good parenting' from a rights-of-the-child approach: the Costa Rican experience."

Round table discussion

16.55: Kai-Morten Terning – Closing remarks

17.00: End of workshop programme

19.00: Dinner
Changing the Tide of Violence

The Impact of Positive Parenting

Rima Salah, PhD
Adjunct Faculty, Yale University
Former Deputy Executive Director UNICEF

November 4, 2014

The 25th Anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

On the 25th anniversary of The Convention on the Rights of the Child, a historic milestone, we can rightly celebrate the impressive gains achieved for the children of the world, to mention...
Achievements

Some of the gains:

- About 90 million children who would have died if mortality rates had remained at their 1990 level, have instead, lived past the age of 5.1.
- Deaths from measles among children under 5 years of age fell from 482,000 in 2000 to 86,000 in 2012, thanks in large part to immunization coverage, which increased from 16 per cent in 1980 to 84 per cent in 2012.
- Since 1990 ...
  - Improvement in nutrition has led to a 37 per cent drop in stunting.
  - Nearly 1.9 billion people have gained access to improved sanitation.
  - Primary school enrolment has increased, even in the least developed countries.
    - In 1990, only 53 per cent of children in those countries gained school admission.
    - By 2011, the rate was at 81 per cent.


Supporting Children’s Full Potential

We can build on those efforts, by exerting more efforts and attention, not only on saving children’s lives, but also on supporting their development to their full potential.
Challenges

Unfortunately, we know that ...

**Over 200 million** children **under 5 years of age** in low- and middle-income countries - and increasing numbers in OECD countries and in emerging economies - will face inequalities and fail to reach their full development potential because they grow up with a broad range of risk factors, including:

- Poverty
- Poor health, including malnutrition and infection with HIV
- High levels of family and environmental stress and exposure to violence
- Abuse, neglect and exploitation
- Inadequate care and learning opportunities


Children’s Exposure to Violence

This is compounded by the situations of migration, war and conflict and extreme violence to which families are exposed.
Children’s Exposure to Domestic Violence

- Every year, hundreds of millions of children are exposed to and are victims of domestic violence, many of them exposed at an early age.

- Indicators of violence in the home measured across 24 low- and middle-income countries show that nearly two thirds of children, ages 4 and under, experience mild physical and psychological aggression by parents.

- Other forms of violence occurring in families include witnessing violence between parents or other family members and sexual violence (including rape or other sexual abuse).

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Violence Exposure

- Sadly, exposure to violence at an early age can be extremely detrimental to a child’s development and is causally related to a broad range of negative outcomes across a lifespan, including major emotional and behavioral problems.

- Indeed, to varying degrees, violence can become self-perpetuating.
A Critical Time

Despite a notable increase over the past decades in the provision of Early Childhood Education and Development services, our duty to guarantee quality programs and environments early in life that enable every child’s full developmental potential remains unfilled.

Several intergovernmental initiatives are currently taking place to frame the post-2015 agenda for the Millennium Development Goals.

Therefore, this is a critical time to define policy, program and research priorities as well as use evidence and information sharing to place Early Childhood Development at the center of the sustainable development agenda.


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Child Study Center

Changing
The Tide of Violence

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Advances in neuroscience are influencing a revolutionary shift in the way we think about early child development, as we learn about the impact of both positive and negative experiences – and the interplay of experience and genetics – on the developing brain.

These developments have significant implications for the future of millions of the world’s most disadvantaged children and their societies. (UNICEF, Neuroscience Symposium, 2014)
Brain Development in Children

- In the 1st year of life, the brain grows at the pace of 700-1000 new neural connections per second, a pace that is never achieved again.
- By age 3, a child brain is twice as active as an adult brain.
- It is early life experiences that determine the capacity of the brain.

Source: Parent Effectiveness Training

Building a Better Brain

- Stimulation and care
  - Spark neural connections across multiple regions of the brain to increase capacity and function. It relies on the cues from caregiving to create these neural connections that may change brain function for life.
- Early childhood education
  - Programs to provide early cognitive and language skills, build social competency and support emotional development
- Health and nutrition
  - To nourish the architecture of the body and brain during sensitive periods of development
- Safety and protection
  - To buffer against stress, violence and abuse to allow absorption of nutrients and growth and development of a healthy nervous system and brain


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Oxytocin is a Key Player

Oxytocin and vasopressin, two neuropeptides that are synthesized and released from the hypothalamus, appear to be key elements in the neurobiology of affiliation.

Attachment

Similar to other species, early in life children form emotional attachments to familiar caregivers. When these caregivers are sensitive and responsive to the child’s needs, the caregivers provide a secure base from which a child can explore the world.

The formation of these attachments early in life contributes to the child’s later emotional and cognitive development as well as their investment in future interpersonal relationships.
What is Epigenetics?

Epigenetics refers to the study of changes in the regulation of gene activity and expression that are not dependent on gene DNA sequence.


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Epigenetics: Transformative Potential

Parental behavior as a source of behavioral plasticity in the offspring?

Parental care ➔ Epigenetic marks ➔ Gene expression ➔ Behavior of the offspring as parents


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Genes provide the blueprint for brain development, but the environment shapes it.

Parenting can alter the expression of their child’s genes – literally turning the gene and its related function on or off.

How children are nurtured by parents and caregivers in the early years can affect brain function for the rest of their lives, and may even effect future generations.

The importance of the Nature of Early Caregiving is crucial. Individual differences in maternal behavior matter and can be transmitted across generations.
Early Childhood Matters

Positive - Responsive Parenting

Positive - responsive Parenting occurs when parents (Mothers and Fathers and other caregivers) do their best to invest in their children and meet their emotional, cognitive, nutritional, and physical needs during gestation and the early years.

Why is Positive Parenting Important?

Parents and other caregivers play a critical role in determining children’s chances for survival and development, and they can empower children to become architects of their own lives.

Evidence shows that early stimulation, caregiving, attachment, bonding and creating safe contexts for children all have a positive influence on their brain development and can help children grow, learn and thrive.

Given that the first 5 years of life is when the foundation of the brain’s architecture is put in place, and that experience during this time is one of the strongest influences on this development, we need to better understand how these different influences interact to affect brain development and function.


Parenting Programs

Programs designed to help parents become more responsive exist and can lead to Opportunities for Transformational Change:

- A better brain and a more peaceful mind
- A more healthy body
- Prevention of violence
- A more peaceful family and community
- A more successful adult
- A positive economic impact in society

A large number of parenting programs have been developed across the globe - ranging from home visitation programs starting during pregnancy to working with groups of parents of preschool children. Only a few programs have been rigorously assessed and almost all of these have been in High Income Countries. More impact evaluations of program interventions are needed.

Exemplar - AÇEV

Early childhood development is a potential pathway to violence reduction in the home and in the community.

Mission: promoting human development to its maximum potential, through investing in young children and families.

AÇEV

AÇEV has developed a series of parenting initiatives, including the Mother Child Education Program (MOCEP) that is built and revised by 20 years of research experience.

- MOCEP supports the mother with the goal of promoting the child’s overall development and mother's empowerment and has a “Contextual”, “Functional”, “Whole Child” interactive approach that is culturally relevant. MOCEP is designed to promote harmony and democratic values and to reduce violence and abuse.

- AÇEV reached over 600,000 mothers and their children and has promoted school readiness in Turkey.

- Anecdotal reports by AÇEV also indicated that participation in the Father Support Program created friendships that transcended cultural and religious divides.
Longitudinal studies of the AÇEV Mother Child Education Program (MOCEP) and other AÇEV programs have mostly demonstrated:

- Parents became more involved and more aware of the importance of early child development
- They use more positive communication and conflict resolution techniques
- Harsh parenting practices are reduced
- Families become more harmonious and peaceful

Yale University, in partnership with the Arab Resource Collective (ARC), is conducting an impact evaluation of the MOCEP in refugee camps in Beruit, Lebanon.

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Goal: To reduce violence through the promotion of harmonious family relationships in refugee camps and other fragile settings

Setting: In Lebanon alone, nearly 230,000 Palestinians live in refugee camps. Conditions in the camps lead to increased harsh punishment, negative intra-family relationships and violence in homes and communities. Adverse effects of this environment are particularly profound for children.

Partners: In refugee camps, a local NGO, Arab Resource Collective is implementing the AÇEV MOCEP 25-week curriculum program for mothers of children (4-6 years of age) focusing on strengthening child well-being and family relationships.
AÇEV: Beruit, Lebanon

Outcomes

- For **children**: improvements in cognition, literacy and executive function; behavior; violence reduction
- For **mothers**: improved parenting; maternal wellbeing; increased social capital
- For **families**: improved parent-child interactions and bonding; reduced couple violence; supportive group dynamics and social processes

A Call to Action

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Action Agenda

- Leverage the potential of partners and networks working to advance proven, sustainable ECD and parenting education program interventions
- Link emerging knowledge from bio-behavioral and environmental sciences with existing programs
- Include programs that account for the conditions of the caregivers
- Increase investment in, advocate for and create local and sustainable programs for peace building through ECD
- Generate new evidence and advocate for policies and practices that promote peace for young children, families and communities

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Mobilization:
Early Childhood, Violence Prevention & Peace Building

The launch of the Early Childhood Peace Consortium was in September 2013 at the UNICEF Headquarters in New York City.

The ECPC joins forces with the international community, to advance global and national efforts, to prevent violence, laying the foundation of a sustained peace through the transformative power of Early Childhood Development.

Evidence Generation to Address the Gaps in Science

Pathways to Peace:
Ernst Strüngmann Forum (Germany)

41 scientists from diverse backgrounds (basic sciences, early child development, cross-cultural psychology, interfaith dialogue, and peace building) from 15 countries: South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria, Ireland, Finland, the Netherlands, Canada, US and the UK, Germany, Switzerland, Turkey, Israel and Palestine, and Australia met in Frankfurt in October 2013 and a report will be published in November 2014 by MIT Press.
A Global Call to Action

We have the science, the knowledge, the technology and experience to build a world without violence.

What we need is an unfailing vision and an unwavering commitment by the Global community as well as a strong partnership for children and their families.

Let us all together start putting building blocks of a peaceful future for children, thus changing the tide of violence.

Thank you
Global Communications and Community-building Strategy

PEACE

Peacebuilding Evidence & Action-Alliance for Children Everywhere

To create a legacy of sustained peace by drawing on the transformative power of positive early childhood development by building:

1. An Authority Site: gather together and build upon the existing scientific and clinical evidence-base, linking early childhood development (ECD) and sustainable peace building in the global context that can be translated for use in the field;

2. An International Network Hub: provide a virtual neutral platform for knowledge sharing and generating, creating a community of practice for the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC), comprised of 140+ multi-sectoral global agencies, launched in 2013;

3. A Global Movement valuing young children and families as agents of change in peace building, while focusing on parenting for lifelong health and violence prevention in the home.

This pioneering evidence-building initiative will bring together university-wide and global interdisciplinary collaborative research to better understand the relationship between early childhood development and peace (in the home, community, and the larger society) and interventions for the unprecedented number of the world’s children living in conflict zones. This horizontally structured, global learning community will share lessons learned and best practices, e.g. via regional streams and round table discussions that can be shared via a dynamic and growing online library of resources (print, webinars, podcasts and more) for active global outreach and engagement.

Beta site: http://medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/international/peace/index.aspx

Our Beta site currently residing on the Child Study Center main website, has evolved quickly into its own exemplar, and is ready for its next iteration. Per the recommendation of General Counsel and the YSM Web Group, it will branch in two directions: 1) a Yale -specific site to be hosted at YSM and linked to the CSC main site as well as be a portal to, 2) a university-wide, neutral global communications and community-building site to be hosted at Yale Main Campus. Start-up funds are in place to build and launch these two basic sites. We continue to seek additional funding to bring these sites to full scale in design and scope as well as to grow and maintain them over time.

The ECPC will meet for a second time on June 11-12, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey when action steps will be taken to establish its governance structure, set overarching goals, core priorities and roles, define working groups and projects, with accountability embedded to ensure capacity-building. Many members and international stakeholders have participated in a recent Yale generated stocktaking survey that will help to more successfully inform and shape the knowledge sharing platform.
As this larger movement takes shape, we, along with CSC Interim Director, Linda Mayes, MD, invite the whole of Yale to become a leading partner in this global peace initiative. Although the Early Childhood Peace Consortium (ECPC) extends beyond Yale’s traditional environment, it is looking to Yale as a global partner and leader of scientific knowledge and communications. General Counsel has speculated that the student body would enthusiastically rally around and engage in this initiative and plans are in place to provide internships as well as global fellowships. Currently missing is the youth voice and we can bring in their voice at Yale and beyond to ensure that they are agents of change.

Who’s Who at Yale

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Key Partners / ECPC Founders

1. **Ernst Strüngmann Forum**, Frankfurt, Germany
   - Represented by Julia Lupp
2. **John E. Fetzer Institute, Inc.**, Kalamazoo, Michigan
   - Represented by Mohammed H. Mohammed, Program Officer
3. **Mother Child Education Foundation (ACEV)**, Istanbul, Turkey
   - Represented by CEO Ayla Goksel, M.Sc.; Yasemin Sirali, MBA; Diane Sunar, PhD; Çiğdem Kağıtçıbaşı, PhD; M. Yanki Yazgan, MD
4. **Sesame Workshop US**
   - Represented by Kyle D. Pruett, MD; Clinical Professor Child Study Center
5. **Supporting Father Involvement**
   - Represented by Kyle D. Pruett, MD; Clinical Professor Child Study Center
6. **UNICEF**
   - Pia Rebello Britto, PhD; Senior Advisor, Chief Early Childhood Development Section; formerly Assistant Professor, Child Study Center and Associate Director of Global Policy – The Edward Zigler Center in Child Development and Social Policy

**Other Significant Partners**

1. **United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)**
   - Represented by H.E. Mr. Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations and President of the 66th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
2. Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, Former UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative; Founder of **The Global Movement for the Culture of Peace**
3. **Sue Carter, PhD**; Research Professor in Psychiatry at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and Research Professor Psychology, Northeastern University in Boston
4. **Early Years International**, Northern Ireland / Siobhan Fitzpatrick, PhD (CEO)
5. **Fondazione Child**, Modena, Italy / Professor Ernesto Caffo, MD