

Children, Youth & Family Consortium

CYFC Monthly

CYFC Monthly – November 2012

Welcome to CYFC Monthly

I am pleased to introduce you to our new electronic publication, *CYFC Monthly*. This publication replaces our previous listserv announcements, *CYFC Update and Children's Mental Health Update*. *CYFC Monthly* gives us a unique opportunity to provide our stakeholders and audiences with information about CYFC's work and to let our readers know about the work of our colleagues and partners. Several exciting changes have taken place at CYFC over recent months. I want to take this opportunity to give you an update and to introduce you to our new publication's purpose and format.

CYFC became part of University of Minnesota Extension two years ago but remained in our space in McNamara Alumni Center, where we had been co-located with the Center for 4H Youth Development since the opening of the McNamara building. As part of an effort to bring all Extension units under one roof, this past July we packed up our boxes and cleaned out our desks in McNamara and set up shop in Coffey Hall on the St. Paul Campus. If you count two nonadjacent buildings connected by tunnels as "under one roof", the effort to unite Extension was a success! We are pleased to continue to share space with the Center for 4H Youth Development and to be hallway neighbors with the Centers for Family Development and for Community Vitality. These three centers are our primary Extension collaborators. In addition to increased operational efficiency and ready access to the Extension support services on which we depend, the frequent hallway conversations, ease of meeting with our colleagues, and the more visible presence of CYFC within Extension have resulted in enhanced collaborative relationships and a greater sense of belonging.

For example, CYFC will collaborate in a cross-center, community-engaged effort to address the achievement gap, and its underlying opportunity gaps, in select locales across the state. We are excited to be involved in this initiative because it is well-aligned with CYFC's emphasis on education and health disparities, our ecological perspective and our commitment to participatory approaches. This initiative will help us expand and deepen our network of connections to Extension colleagues across the state and will allow us to make greater impact statewide. In addition, CYFC will be able to tap the passion of our colleagues across this campus and our partners in the community and to bring their expertise to bear on this critical issue for our state.

The recent completion of our integration into Extension also provided the impetus for a deeper look at our purpose, goals, guiding principles and perspectives and their alignment with Extension's mission. The result is a more clear picture of how CYFC improves the lives of children and youth by educating professionals and policymakers, translating research and generating knowledge to enhance children's and youth's educational and health outcomes. I invite you to learn more about our mission, our approach and our programs by visiting our [website](#), which was recently revised to better showcase CYFC's work.

CYFC Monthly is another way to keep abreast of what CYFC is doing. Each month we will feature a brief article about one aspect of our work. We will also publicize our events or make other CYFC-related

announcements. We will continue to pass along event and other announcements from our partners, community organizations and other units at the University.

We will have many exciting developments to tell you about as our work within Extension deepens and expands. We look forward to sharing them with you through *CYFC Monthly*.

Cathy Jordan
Director

Consortium News

[Wonder Years: The Science of Early Childhood Development Virtual Tour](#), a collaboration with CYFC and The Science Museum of Minnesota, was recently featured by Harvard's Center on the Developing Child.

Save the date for our next Lessons from the Field! Understanding Immigration and Refugee Trauma will be held January 17, 2013 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the McNamara Alumni Center and broadcast live to sites all over Greater Minnesota. Go to our [website](#) for more information and for updates on registration.

In an effort to help professionals serving children and families and graduate students in children's mental health disciplines respond effectively to children's mental health needs, CYFC created the [Children's Mental Health Case Study](#). This interactive, research-based tool identifies the needs of the child at each state of development — early childhood through adolescence.

Dr. Cathy Jordan and other University of Minnesota leaders assist community organizations as they start health research projects [[inactive link](#)].

University and Community Announcements

Helping Teens Survive Risk Filled Years - Mental Health Promotion for Adolescents

Minnesota Association for Children's Mental Health (MACMH)

Date: November 15, 2012

Time: 12:30 - 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$79 (includes 3 CEHs)

Location: Edina Library Meeting Room

5280 Grandview Square

Edina, MN 55436

Dr. Nimi Singh will discuss how sleep, nutrition, physical activity and stress reduction all play a critical role in mental health promotion. Dr. Singh will teach a cognitive approach to improving mental functioning in yourself as well with others, specifically when working with adolescents. [Visit MACMH](#) for registration and more information.

Parent/Teacher Home Visit Project Training

Minnesota Department of Education and the St. Paul Federation of Teachers

Date: November 15, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40 + processing fee

Location: Minnesota Department of Education

Conference Center B, Room: CC16

1500 Highway 36 West
Roseville, MN 55112

Home visits increase communication, trust and support between families and teachers which can increase attendance rates and achievement and decrease suspension and expulsion rates. This training will teach you steps, logistics and skills for building effective relationships with parents through home visits and will provide examples on how this model has been implemented in St. Paul and across the country. Visit [Parent Teacher Home Visit Project](#) for registration and more information.

e-Adolescence

The State Adolescent Health Resource Center

The latest issue of e-Adolescence from The State Adolescent Health Resource Center focuses on health and academic achievement. From the connection between health and dropout rates to education as a social determinant of health, this issue provides summaries and links to some of the latest research. Read more [here](#).

Becoming “Teenwise” 101

Teenwise Minnesota

Date: November 8, 2012

Time: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Cost: \$75/Teenwise MN Members, \$125/Non-Members

Location: Open Book

1011 Washington Avenue South

Minneapolis, MN

Review the basics of adolescent pregnancy prevention, pregnancy, birth and STI statistics, trends in adolescent pregnancy and sexual behaviors and more. You will learn current research and resources, what to do to promote adolescent sexual health and where to go for more information and support. Visit Teenwise for more information and to register. [no longer active]

Job Opportunities

Assistant Director for Community Engaged Research Programs, University of Minnesota Office of Community Engagement for Health

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