Our location—come visit us!
1400 ROCK QUARRY ROAD.
COLUMBIA, MO 65211
ENTRANCE #6
Who we are

• Housed within HDFS.

• The CFPR is a resource for the development of public policies benefiting children, youth, and families.

• Committed to linking high-quality research to the programs and policies that affect families in our state.

• Since its creation in 1997, the CFPR has continuously secured funding (federal, state, and private foundations).
What we do

We generally engage in three broad types of activities:

- Research
- Policy
- Practice
Research

- Experiences of Latino immigrant cattle feed workers (Dr. Carlo)
  - Health and safety of workers in Nebraska and Kansas

- Predictors of parent-child communication (Dr. Ispa)
  - NIH funded, longitudinal study of factors that promote or hinder parent-child communication

- Evaluation with PAT National Center (Dr. Arteaga)
  - Fostering life skills and positive parenting among Teen parents
Policy

- Provide updated information on MO legislative bills affecting families and children.
- Yearly summary report on MO children well-being.
- Center fellows—experts we can reach out when policy makers and state agencies have questions.
- Publish policy briefs on topic relevant to families and children.
FOSTER CARE IN MISSOURI

In 2017, more than 20,000 of Missouri's children received foster care-related services by Children's Division of Missouri's Department of Social Services. Many of these children will experience prolonged stay in foster care and multiple placement transitions resulting in repeated trauma and instability, hindering their optimal development. Children in foster care, and their families, need support and access to quality resources to be safe, healthy, and productive.

The Foster Care Population (2017)

Missouri's foster care population continues to be significantly higher from just five years ago. Of continued concern is that ethnic and racial minorities continue to be disproportionately represented in Missouri's foster system with African Americans making up 12% of Missouri's overall population, but nearly 20% of the foster care population.  

- 20,031 children in care (approximately 1% of the state's population under 18 years old)  
- Mean age = 9.1 years old  
- Race/Ethnicity: Non-Hispanic White (73%), Black (20%), Multi-Race (7%), American Indian/Alaska Native (<1%), Asian (<1%), Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander (<1%); Of all foster children, ~ 9% of of Hispanic origin  
- Mean time in foster care = 21 months  
- Placement settings: kinship foster care (48%), non-relative foster home (32%), residential care (10%), and pre-adoptive homes (1%)  
- Long-term placement goals: reunification (53%), adoption (22%), and independence or guardianship (22%)  
- Only 58% of youth transitioning out of foster care, at age 19, report attaining a high school diploma or GED.
System Support and Outreach

• **Educare Project REACH (Laurie Waint)**
  - Provide education, training and support for rural child care providers.
  - 345 child care programs; 574 child care providers in FY2018.

• **Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office (Stacey Wright)**
  - A resource to local HS agencies in their coordination, collaboration and alignment efforts.
  - 4,668 HS staff in 2017

• **OPEN Initiative (Lisa Driskel Hawxby)**
  - Administrator of Missouri Professional Development (MOPD) Registry
  - Over 15,000 early childhood and school-age professionals in 2017
System Support and Outreach

• ShowMe Healthy Relationships (Dr. Garneau-Rosner)
  • Helps singles and couples have happy and healthy relationship
  • Courses reach 21 counties

• Focus on Kids (Dr. Monk)
  • Court mandated program for separating and divorcing families
  • Offered in 50 counties and online
Our Impact

In 2017, at least two outreach projects in every county in the state

- REACH (76)
- HS Collab Office (all)
- OPEN (all)
- Focus on Kids (50)
- ShowMe Healthy Relationships (21)
Looking forward: We want to work with you!

• Continue fostering collaborations that support grant-seeking efforts
  • Increase interdisciplinary collaborations
  • Organize events that bring people together from different professional backgrounds

• Diversify projects housed at the Center.

• Disseminate research-based information through simple and appealing infographics.
How to get involved

- Become a CFPR fellow
  - Experts available to provide research-based information on topics related to children and families.
  - Fellows are listed in our website based on their areas of expertise—can lead to finding potential colleagues.

- Joint our email-list
  - Receive policy briefs, news, event updates, and research initiatives

- Get to know the CFPR staff
MU’s Center for Family Policy and Research Open House

Featuring guest speaker
LINDA C. HALGUNSETH
Associate Professor
Department of Human Development and Family Studies
University of Connecticut

“Ethnic identity gaps: Implications for mother-daughter dyads from low income Puerto Rican and African American backgrounds”

Dr. Halgunseth’s research focuses on parenting and children’s well-being in Latino and African American Families. She received her Ph.D. in Human Development and Family Studies at Mizzou and worked as a research assistant for the CFPR under the supervision of Drs. Kathy Thornburg and Jean Ispa.
Any questions?

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