



INSTITUTE *for* CHILD SUCCESS

NEWSLETTER FOR APRIL 2015

Save the Date: May 5, 2015 ICS Annual Meeting with Keynote, Kelly O'Donnell PhD

Kelly O'Donnell, Senior Research Fellow Robert Wood Johnson Center for Health Policy, University of New Mexico:

ICS is honored to welcome Dr. O'Donnell as our keynote at the Annual Meeting. Dr. O'Donnell has led a divergent career within the field of economics and state public finance. She will be discussing the economic development impact of investing in child and family health and what communities can do to create economic opportunity through early investment in health. It is sure to be an interesting and thought-provoking conversation.

**ICS ANNUAL MEETING
LUNCHEON FEATURING
KELLY O'DONNELL, PhD:**

May 5, 2015

12:00-1:30pm

Westin Poinsett
120 Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601



[Register by May 1, 2015](#)

ICS Call for Papers

Call for Papers

The Institute for Child Success is pleased to announce the Call for Papers for its third annual Early Childhood Research Symposium. The Research Symposium will be held **October 15 and 16, 2015** at The Westin Poinsett in Greenville, South Carolina. The 2015 Symposium will include two formats for presentation--Poster Sessions and Research Presentations--from early childhood researchers representing health, development, education, safety, policy, economic, and other disciplines. Plenary speakers include some of the prominent medical and scientific thinkers working at the leading edge of research on child development. Papers are due **June 1, 2015**. For more information please visit our [website](#).



Megan Carolan



Mary Garvey



Muffy Grant

ICS Welcomes New Staff

ICS is thrilled to welcome three new staff to our growing team! Our New York City office grew by two with the additions of Megan Carolan, Associate Director for Policy Research and Mary Garvey, Associate Director of Pay for Success Financing. Our new Director of Development, Muffy Grant, also joined us this past month and works remotely from her home in Raleigh, NC. For more information, please read their [bios](#).

San Diego Conference Information:

The 2nd Annual Conference of the Early Childhood Social Impact Performance Advisors will be held April 27-29, 2015 in San Diego, CA. The conference will start at 3pm on the 27th and end at noon on the 29th. This is a major national conference on Pay for Success (PFS) social impact financing and the only such conference focused on early childhood Pay for Success social impact financing.

This year's conference, jointly sponsored by the Institute for Child Success and ReadyNation, will build on the intellectual capital shared at last year's conference by focusing on developing Pay for Success transactions in early childhood, as well as thought leadership in the areas of investing, risk management, contracting, capacity building, early childhood program features, and global developments. Jurisdictional teams from across the United States were selected in a competitive process. We are pleased to have many teams registered for participation.

We hope many of you will plan to join us for these important sessions:

- On **May 12** at 3pm, ICS will continue our Speakers Series at the Mary Black Foundation in Spartanburg by hosting Dr. Jason Gilliland. Dr. Gilliland's work examines the influence of the physical environment on children's health and well-being. [Register here by May 7, 2015](#).
- On **May 19** at 12pm, ICS will host the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank's Ian Galloway for a discussion on increasing investments in the non-medical determinants of child health. This event will be held in Washington, DC. For more information please contact [Emily Grubb](#).
- On **June 23** at 12pm, please join us in Greenville, SC for a discussion with reporters Lauren Sausser and Doug Pardue on South Carolina's high infant mortality rate and the *Post and Courier's* recent series "Cradle of Shame".

VOCEL receives Kids Drive Our Future Innovation Award

The Institute for Child Success is pleased to announce that VOCEL, a new high-quality preschool for at-risk children living in Chicago's Austin neighborhood stood out among a rich and diverse applicant pool to win the Kids Drive Our Future Innovation Award. VOCEL is committed to early learning, 0-5, rooted in language development and an intentional teaching style. ICS, through the generous funding of John I. Smith charities, was able to recognize VOCEL's approach to children's communication, interpersonal, and executive function skills leading to better school performance and ultimately success in life. Please join us in congratulating VOCEL on their award! For more information about this organization please visit their [website](#).



Institute for Child Success Generously Awarded the Following Grants:

Pritzker Children's Initiative Grant

ICS was recently awarded \$285,000 in grant funding from the Chicago-based Pritzker Children's Initiative. The funds will support the developing model of Pay for Success/Social Impact Bonds financing dedicated to early childhood programs supporting the most at-risk children and their families. The grant is specifically funding PFS feasibility studies for the 5 nationwide jurisdictions selected by ICS. ICS is fortunate to be connected to the J.B. & M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation, which has worked for over a decade toward a single achievable goal: that all at-risk infants and toddlers obtain access to high-quality, early childhood development opportunities, increasing their likelihood of success in school and in life.

Margaret Linder Southern Endowment Grant

ICS has received a grant from the Margaret Linder Southern Endowment to complete a feasibility study on the applicability of using Pay for Success (PFS) financing to grow and sustain universal, voluntary pre-kindergarten (pre-K) services in Greenville County. This project will inform efforts to increase Greenville County children's school readiness and higher achievement once in school. ICS appreciates the support of the Margaret Southern Endowment Fund Grants Review Committee and the Community Foundation of Greenville. ICS is grateful for this opportunity and looks forward to the results of the study.

When Brain Science Meets Public Policy: Designing for Outcomes through a Two-Generation Lens — Good Science and Good Common Sense by Janice Gruendel

The third installment in the new ICS policy series was released in mid-March. This report discusses the policies, program design, and systems development related to the family "as a unit." This perspective is inclusive of children, birth parents, kin, and other adults who touch the lives of family members. The incredible science of brain development coupled with ongoing research on the impact of adversity and toxic stress reveals an important opportunity to improve child and adult outcomes by attending to the needs and capacity of both of them. Equally important, creating policies, guiding practice, and making investment through a two (or more) generation lens brings us much closer to the families we are charged to serve and in a much more respectful and responsible way. For the complete report, please visit our [website](#).

Think Tank Series on School Readiness

ICS is pleased to release the [final report](#) from the Think Tank Series on School Readiness. ICS convened a working group of over 20 experts from across the state throughout 2014 to more specifically describe the domains of school readiness. ICS hosted three events throughout 2014 to discuss school readiness: one Think Tank session in Greenville on April 22, an event with experts from the state of Maryland on June 30, and a final Think Tank session in Charleston on September 22.



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