

UCLA Public Child Welfare Students in Title IV-E CalSWEC and UCCF Programs

UCLA PCW Students place an emphasis on translating their academic learning and research activities into initiatives that influence or change practice within their internship settings and sometimes beyond those experiences. During the 2016-17 academic year the public child welfare students have accomplished this in many different ways.

One such educational experience spurred students and faculty to develop a workshop entitled “Immersion In Justice,” presented at the PCW CalSWEC Summit during April of 2017. This project grew out of the PCW Seminar Series that engaged students and faculty toward a deeper understanding of the disparities, disproportionality, and racial inequities that unduly impact children and families



who become involved in protective services from different ethnic groups. The Seminar Series began with a moving performance of a piece entitled, ‘The Minority Report,’ developed by Scott St. Patrick, and

was followed by a series of presentations around community violence and risk. In the “Minority Report,” Scott and his theatrical troupe led students thru the painful history of African American communities juxtaposed with the not so different present realities. The workshop that grew out of this experience incorporated elements of the performance and the series, while students led participants in inter-group dialog related to the issues of injustice faced by those in public child welfare systems.



Presenters: Mary Kay Oliveri, MSW, LCSW; Scott St. Patrick Williams, Writer and Actor; Sergio Serna, MSW; Consuelo Bingham Mira, PhD
UCLA PCW CalSWEC Student Facilitators: Ligia Hernandez and Jean-Clair Peltier (Student Reps) with Janette Zuniga, Karla Gonzalez, Tiffani Prater, Katie Fishman and missing from the picture – Chete Enunwa, Yajaira Medrano, Corina Lopez Ramos, and Dianica Torres.

Presentation Agenda

- Challenging Behavior Examples
- The Ideal Mindset
- Consequences vs. Punishments
- The Neurophysiology of Early Childhood Stress
- Building your toolbox
 - Breathing exercise
 - Role plays and positive corrections
 - The Turtle Technique
- Conclusion



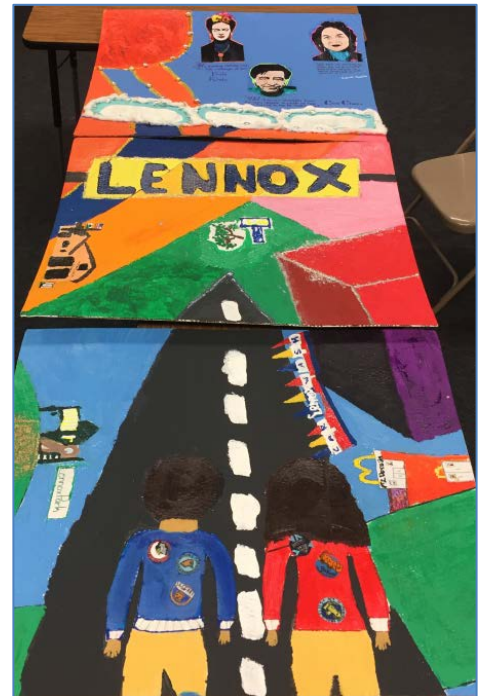
Managing Difficult Behaviors

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PCW CalSWEC First Year Students are encouraged to develop projects within their mental health, family service, or school based placement settings that enhance the opportunities that high risk children and families have for engaging in activities that can improve their relationships with one another or with


their communities. There were several interesting projects developed, and two that are important to mention. Katie Fishman, 1st Year UCLA MSW student and intern at Westside Children's Center developed a well-received training for foster parents about managing difficult behaviors with the young children in their care. And, Karla Gonzalez and Sofia Muscatello worked with middle school students to develop an award winning art project called "A Window Between Worlds" that helped the children to express the connection they have with their history, family, school and larger community.

PCW CalSWEC and UCCF Second Year Students placed at LA County DCFS contribute to social work knowledge by developing evidenced based projects that can be utilized to inform practitioners and service programs about the needs of high-risk families while improving practice. This years projects included the intersection of PCW families: intergenerational trauma within the refugee/asylum seeking population; the impact of immigration enforcement and entrance into PCW care; delineating the factors that can lead to high-risk for inter-generational entry into the system; understanding the links between child abuse history in the narratives of adults and the impact on their addiction and recovery; developing an assessment tool to better understand how fathers experience PCW intervention; identifying policies that impact outcomes for PCW and Juvenile Justice Youth.



A group of 12 PCW 2nd Year Students have worked with 3 faculty to deepen last years exploration of the factors that contribute to the commercial sexual exploitation of children and youth with an aim to translating this into awareness for professionals who encounter these youth in social service, PCW, law enforcement, and educational settings. A workshop for professionals and a series of educational information posters have been developed and presented at a May 6, 2017, conference at UCLA by: Ligia Hernandez, Dianica Torres, Darian Askew, Rachel Chan, Marlette Cortez, Frances Echeverria, Kimetria Leonard, Jessica Murillo-Garcia, Adia Ransome, Ashley Royston, Halie Snow, Reyna Urena in collaboration with UCCF Coordinator Michelle Talley, Professor Emeriti Rosina Becerra, with research support from Consuelo Bingham Mira, PhD.

COMMERCIALLY SEXUALLY EXPLOITED CHILDREN RESEARCH TEAM PRESENTS:
Unspoken Truth



UCLA JAMES WEST ALUMNI CONFERENCE CENTER **SATURDAY, MAY 6TH 2017**
325 WESTWOOD PLAZA **9 AM - 1 PM**
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095 **RSVP DEADLINE: APRIL 15TH, 2017**

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE RALPH M. PARSONS FOUNDATION & PAT HARVEY
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