

# The State of the Evidence on Children's Care

**9:00am-9:15am: Introductions and Welcome**

**9:15am -10:45am**

**Panel 1: Measuring Trends in Families and Children's Care and Living Arrangements**

Moderated by: **Mark Canavera**, Associate Director, CPC Learning Network

Presentations by:

- **Mindy Scott**, Senior Research Scientist, Child Trends, speaking about the World Family Map project
- **Florence Martin**, Senior Policy and Knowledge Management Adviser, Better Care Network, speaking about the use of DHS and MICS, including family care indicators
- **Mónica Ruiz-Casares**, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and the Centre for Research on Children and Families at McGill University, speaking about a Knowledge Attitudes Practice (KAP) survey in Liberia and a study of informal care in Laos

**11:00am - 12:30pm**

**Panel 2: Measuring the Impact of Family Strengthening and Prevention of Separation Interventions**

Moderated by: **Mary McKay**, Director, McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research, and Professor of Social Work, NYU

Presentations by:

- **Jeannie Annan**, Director of Research and Evaluation, International Rescue Committee, presenting the results of several evaluations of parenting programs (Liberia, Burundi, Thailand)
- **Deborah Daro**, Senior Research Fellow, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, speaking about effective prevention programs including home visitation in the United States
- **Andrew Muriuki**, Researcher, University of Wisconsin, presenting a study on the effectiveness of a community caregiver model in Côte d'Ivoire

**12:30pm - 1:30pm: Lunch**

**1:30pm - 3:00pm**

**Panel 3: Measuring Situations and Outcomes Concerning Children Outside Family Care and Children in Alternative Care Arrangements**

8<sup>th</sup> floor auditorium, Allan Rosenfeld Building

Moderated by: **John Williamson**, Senior Technical Advisor, Displaced Children and Orphans Fund, USAID,

Presentations by:

- **Fred Wulczyn**, Senior Research Fellow, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, presenting learning about the foster care system in the United States
- **Lindsay Stark**, Assistant Professor, Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University and Director, CPC Learning Network, sharing learning about efforts to enumerate the number of children outside of family care in Cambodia and the Democratic Republic of Congo
- **Joan Townsend**, U.S. Country Director, Retrak, speaking about efforts to measure the wellbeing of street-connected children who are reintegrated

**3:00pm - 4:00pm: Discussion about the path forward for additional research**

**Measuring the Immeasurable: Building the Evidence Necessary for Effective Child Protection and Family Welfare Policies and Programs**

The international child protection and family welfare sector frequently lacks robust evidence and methods of measuring or conceptualizing difficult-to-capture or sensitive data. A first step in building this evidence base is the establishment of effective, appropriate and valid tools and methods for use in assessments and evaluations. Through this symposium series, the CPC Learning Network, in collaboration with the Better Care Network and the Global Social Service Workforce Alliance, has brought together coalitions of researchers to discuss the state of the tools, methods, and evidence concerning international child protection and family welfare.

## **CHILD PROTECTION IN CRISIS LEARNING NETWORK**

The **Child Protection in Crisis Learning Network (CPC Learning Network)** is an inter-agency, multi-country initiative that seeks to build the evidence base to strengthen and systematize child care and protection. Established in 2008, the CPC Learning Network has established an international network of multi-disciplinary researchers across the global North and South, who have come together with practitioners and policymakers to develop innovative research methods to better measure child protection and care. Since its inception, the CPC Learning Network has worked in over 30 countries, including six priority countries (Colombia, Liberia, Burkina Faso, Uganda, Sri Lanka, and Indonesia). The CPC Learning Network's Secretariat, housed within the Department of Population and Family Health at Columbia University's School of Public Health, operates under the auspices of a global Steering Committee. The CPC Learning Network also operates through thematic task forces that focus on the following issues: measurement and assessment of child protection and care; livelihoods and economic strengthening; strengthening child protection systems through emergency responses; and engaging Southern universities.

[www.cpcnetwork.org](http://www.cpcnetwork.org)

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## **THE BETTER CARE NETWORK (BCN)**

The **Better Care Network (BCN)** is recognized as the preeminent information hub and global convener to influence action for children without adequate family care. Established in 2003 in recognition of the urgent need for concerted action in this field, BCN is an interagency initiative, which addresses the ongoing need for exchange and collaboration by identifying, distilling, and linking essential information with the people who need it. BCN helps agencies identify relevant expertise and engages in evidence-based advocacy. BCN is also helping to shape a global agenda for targeted research to expand and improve the empirical basis for informed action. Its website holds the largest online collection of key research, tools, events and other documentation on issues related to strengthening family care and alternative care, designed to support academics, policymakers and practitioners alike. Its newsletter reaches over 3,500 network members in 152 countries.

[www.bettercarenetwork.org](http://www.bettercarenetwork.org)

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**Better  
Care  
Network**



*Co-present:*

# **The State of Evidence on Children's Care**

September 24th 2014, 9am – 4pm  
New York University's Silver School of Social Work  
41 E. 11th Street, 7th Floor, Room 741

Part Three of The Three-Part Symposium Series:  
**Measuring the Immeasurable: Building the Evidence  
Necessary for Effective Child Protection and Family  
Welfare Policies and Programs**