Spring/ Summer 2015

CAN ATTACH News

Issue 2

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Successful Completion of the First ATTACH Pilot Study

We are so excited to inform everyone that we have successfully completed our data collection for our recently funded pilot study



entitled Action Team on Triadic Attachment and Child Health (ATTACH) study! The study involved developing and pilot testing a parenting intervention based on Reflective Functioning, also called ATTACH intervention, to promote secure attachment and the healthy development of

children exposed to toxic stress. If interested in finding out more information on the ATTACH Intervention Manual and/or protocol for the research study on the ATTACH Intervention please email nicole.letourneau@ucalgary.ca or mhart@ucalgary.ca.

Do you have Twitter?

Follow Principal Investigator

Dr. Nicole Letourneau

on Twitter @NicoleLynLetour
And visit the www.childstudies.ca
website for details on the ATTACH
Pilot Studies and other exciting
research. Feel free to share the
newsletter with friends and
colleagues!





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Update on the ATTACH Project!

Our newly funded ATTACH pilot study included a randomized controlled trial (n=20) and quasi-experimental evaluation (n=10) of the innovative parent psycho-educational training program focusing on *Reflective Functioning*. We piloted the ATTACH intervention with Calgary Urban Project Society (CUPS) in conjunction with the Nurturing Parenting program.

For our first pilot study, the randomized controlled trial, we recruited 10 families in the control group and 10 families in the treatment (intervention) group. *The data collection for this study has been completed and ready for analysis. We were able to retain 10 participants in the treatment and 9 participants in the control group.* Anecdotally we received very positive feedback from our study participants on the ATTACH intervention. They found it to be very effective and therapeutic in their everyday lives. We are quite optimistic that their newly gained *reflections* will most likely *reflect* in our study results!

When we received feedback from the control group families that were not selected to receive the treatment (only receiving the Nurturing Parenting Program), they expressed such disappointment that they would not be receiving the ATTACH intervention and asked if they could receive it as well. Based on their feedback, we are now planning to conduct a follow-up study with the control group, and have received Ethics Approval from the U of C to do so. This follow-up study is scheduled to begin in September 2015 and will enable us to conduct a *quasi-experimental evaluation* of the ATTACH intervention!







May 8th - We wished all the ATTACH families a Happy Mother's Day!



F We
L distributed
flowers and
plants to our
ATTACH
families on
Mother's
day!

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BREAKING NEWS!!

We proudly invite you to the 4th IASA International Conference November 2015 in Miami Florida!

The International Association for the Study of Attachment (IASA) presents the 4th International Conference in Miami, Florida November 9th-11th, 2015 on Attachment and Treatment.

Conference Plenary Speakers:

Professor Peter Fonagy, University College London Professor Daniel L. Schacter, Harvard University Dr. Rodolfo de Bernart, Institute of Family Therapy Florence, Italy

Please join us to learn more about:
 Attachment,
the Dynamic Maturation Model (DMM) & Intervention
Don't miss the Early Bird Registration with discounted fees available until July 31st, 2015.
 Please visit www.iasa-dmm.org to register!



IASA MIAMI SPEAKERS

The International Association for the Study of Attachment proudly presents a selection of the main speakers of the 2015 IASA conference



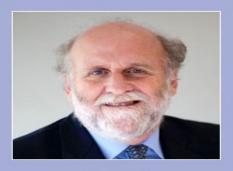
Peter Fonagy PhD

Mentalization, Reflective Functioning and Treatment



Patricia M. Crittenden PhD

Ten Ideas for Improving Mental Health and Treatment



Daniel Schacter PhD

Constructive Memory and Imagining the Future



Rodolfo de Bernart MD

Issues in DMM Integrative Treatment: Bumps in the Road to Change



Andrea Landini <u>MD</u>

Issues in DMM Integrative Treatment: Bumps in the Road to Change



Lane Strathearn MD PhD

Brain Reward Responses in Drug Addicted Mothers: Can Oxytocin Reverse the Trend?

What would you like to see in future newsletters?

If you have a **suggestion**, **question** or **comment**, please send them in. We appreciate any and all feedback!

Email: nicole.letourneau@ucalgary.ca or mhart@ucalgary.ca









