

Spring/  
Summer  
2015

Issue 2

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Update on  
ATTACH  
Project 2

Breaking  
News! 3

IASA  
Conference  
Miami 3

IASA  
Conference  
Speakers 4



# CAN ATTACH News

## 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](mailto:nicole.letourneau@ucalgary.ca) or [mhart@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mhart@ucalgary.ca).

## Do you have Twitter?

Follow Principal Investigator  
**Dr. Nicole Letourneau**  
on Twitter [@NicoleLynLetour](https://twitter.com/NicoleLynLetour)  
And visit the [www.childstudies.ca](http://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!



## 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  
L  
O  
W  
E  
R  
S**

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

# 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](http://www.iasa-dmm.org)  
to register!**





**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 MD**

**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](mailto:nicole.letourneau@ucalgary.ca) or [mhart@ucalgary.ca](mailto:mhart@ucalgary.ca)

