

**Center for Family and Community Engagement
Annual Report
July 2011-June 2012**

Dr. Joan Pennell
Professor & Director

1. Introduction

The Center for Family and Community Engagement is a university center dedicated to public service and scholarship. The mission of the center is advancing safe, healthy, and productive families and communities. This mission fully supports the emphasis of the university on health and well-being and the goals of the center's community partners. To address complex societal issues, the center uses a collaborative solution-finding approach. The center is known nationally and internationally for its work on engaging families in decision making that safeguards their child and adult members and strengthens their local and cultural communities.

The center's success rests upon its very solid networks with youth, family, community, government, academic, and international collaborators. These partnerships produce community-based scholarship involving interdisciplinary and professional teams and facilitate research opportunities for faculty and students. The center attracts the funding to support engaged scholarship and provides an infrastructure designed to create mutually sustaining linkages across engagement, research, and learning.

2. Changing Environment

The work and revenue of the center are generated in large measure through its involvements with groups outside North Carolina State University—in North Carolinian counties, state departments, federal government, inter-university collaborations, and international associations. In partnering with these groups, the center remains mission-focused while responding to emerging issues. Examples of these issues are encouraging responsible fatherhood, supporting military-connected families, maintaining tribal affiliations of American Indian children, stabilizing the education of foster youth, and finding domestic alternatives to inter-country adoptions.

3. Major Accomplishments of Center in 2011-2012

Over the year, the center has continued to strengthen its reputation as a leader in family and youth engagement within the state as well as nationally and internationally. Evidence of the center's heightened profile includes the major accomplishments:

- Engaging faculty, students, and staff in public service and research;
- Securing a competitive federal grant on foster youth and education;

- Expanding collaborations and state funding to promote family-centered practice;
- Strengthening international linkages to carry out the center's mission; and
- Publishing, presenting, and providing consultation on policy, practice, and research regarding family engagement in state, national, and international venues.

4. Accomplishment of Center's Goals

Center Goal 1: Enhance local and global engagement through focused strategic partnerships

The center has promoted local and global engagement through focused strategic partnerships in the state, country, and abroad. The center encourages partnering approaches to curricular development and delivery. For example, these include partnerships between youth and family partners who have received services and agency-experienced trainers and between center staff and the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs.

- **In-state Training and Technical Assistance:** 57 scheduled formal training workshops, 9 formal workshops scheduled as technical assistance, an estimated 40 technical assistance and learning support sessions, 6 in-person facilitator forums, 6 online facilitator forums, and 9 online policy and good practice events for a total of 127 events; 623 formal training workshop participants, an estimated 205 technical assistance and learning support participants, 96 online facilitator forum participants, 137 online policy and good practice participants, and 50 in person facilitator forum participants for **a total of 1,111 training participants.** (estimated to end of year).
- **Community Engagements:** 16 by staff and faculty.
- **Networking Alliance:** center advisory council members of family and youth, community organizations, public agencies, and universities; 2 meetings annually.
- **National and International Consultation:** family engagement, father engagement, family violence, and evaluation methods.

See appendix for community engagements of staff and faculty.

Center Goal 2: Enhance interdisciplinary scholarship to address the grand challenges of society

The center has established a reputation as a leader in research and publication on family engagement to safeguard child and adult family members. The center partners with scholars from various disciplines in grant submissions, publications, presentations, and evaluations.

- **International Colloquium:** on risk aversion in child welfare with participants from Australia, Canada, United Kingdom, and United States.
- **International Collaboration:** on family engagement to develop domestic solutions to out-of-home placements of children in Guatemala.
- **Consultant:** on U.S. and international studies
- **Publication:** 17 publications, 8 peer-reviewed and 9 non-refereed.
- **Presentation:** 11 presentations/workshops, 7 national/international and 4 local/state.

See appendix for listing of publications and presentations.

Center Goal 3: Enhance the success of our students through educational innovation

The center provided learning experiences to graduate and undergraduate students in research, practice, policy, and training. Disciplinary fields included Social Work, Sociology, Psychology, English, Management, Communications, and Design.

- **Funded Positions:** 5 graduate research positions (including 2 field placements).
- **Training and Education:** 7 class presentation
- **Conference Presentations:** 2 student conference proposals under review.

Center Goal 4: Enhance organizational excellence by creating a culture of constant improvement

The center has succeeded in enhancing its capacity through developing staff competencies, encouraging diversity and inclusion, and obtaining external funding.

- **Staff Development:** supporting the professional development of staff, students, and faculty through (a) funding conference/workshop participation; (b) holding workshops on training and practice models; (c) providing mentoring on research, publication, and grant writing skills; and (d) using awards/recognitions to applaud accomplishments.
- **Encouraging Diversity:** employing youth and family partners; developing and disseminating practice models that affirm diversity; advancing youth, family, and community leadership in practice, policy, and training; promoting coordinated and culturally responsive approaches.
- **Awards:** \$869,379, all external funding
- **Task Orders:** \$9,235.

See appendix for listing of awards and task orders.

Center Goal 5: Enhance scholarship and research by investing in faculty and infrastructure

The center is designed to provide a research infrastructure to support the capacity of its researchers and community partners.

- **Grants:** providing support on grant development and administration.
- **Travel:** funding conference and other travel.
- **Consultation:** mentoring on research, publication, and training.

APPENDIX

Funding

Awards Granted

External

2011-2013, J. Pennell Principal Investigator and Project Director and J. Hall Co-Principal Investigator, Fostering Youth Educational Success, a grant under Child Welfare-Education System Collaborations to Increase Educational Stability, funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau.

- Infrastructure-Building, September 2011-February 2013, grant of \$248,998.

2009-2012, J. Pennell Principal Investigator and Project Director, Outcome Evaluation of Strong Fathers Program, subcontract from Family Services Inc., Forsyth County, NC, funded by North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, prime Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. Total funding of \$153,027.

- Outcome Evaluation, October 2011-September 2012, contract of \$51,301.

2012-2013, J. Pennell Investigator, Family Group Conferencing in Guatemala, principal investigator J. Robi, funded by Brigham Young University, Family Studies Center and Wells Research Grant.

- Training and Evaluation, 2012-2013, grant of \$25,000.

2002-present, J. Pennell Principal Investigator and Project Director, North Carolina Family-Centered Meetings Project, funded by North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services, prime US Department of Health & Human Services. Total funding of \$5,195,857.

- Training and Evaluation of Child and Family Teams, July 2011-June 2012, contract of \$544,080.

Task Orders

2012-2013, J. Pennell Investigator, Family Group Conferencing in Guatemala, principal investigator J. Robi, funded by Brigham Young University, Family Studies Center and Wells Research Grant. Service contract to CFFACE of \$3,810.

Pennell, J., Shapiro, C., & Spigner, W. (2011). Safety, fairness, stability: Repositioning juvenile justice and child welfare to engage families and communities. Washington, DC: Georgetown University Center for Juvenile Justice Reform. (commissioned). Funded by ICF Inc., LLC, service contract to CFFACE of \$2,925.

Pennell, J. (2011-2014) Named Consultant, No Place like Home Project by American Humane Association. Family Connections funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau. Funded by American Humane Association, service contract to CFFACE of \$2,000.

Pennell, J. (with Rikard, R.V.) (2012, February). *Strong Fathers: Dads engaging responsibly*. Webinar presentation of K. Niedt, F. Mederos, & J. Pennell and chaired by S. Taggart, *Addressing intimate partner violence: Child Welfare approaches to engaging fathers*. Washington, DC: U.S. Children's Bureau. Funded through Futures without Violence, service contract to CFFACE of \$500.

Publications

Refereed

Journal

Issue Pennell, J., Burford, G., Connolly, M., Morris, K., & Collins, J. (Eds). (2011). Taking child and family rights seriously: Family engagement and its evidence in child welfare. Special issue of *Child Welfare*, 90(4).

Journal

Articles Burford, G., Pennell, J., & Edwards, M. (2011). Family team meetings as principled advocacy. *Journal of Public Child Welfare*, 5(2-3), 318-344.

Parcel, T., & Pennell, J. (in press). Child and family teams building social capital for at-risk students. *Journal of Sociology and Social Welfare*.

Pleasant, A., McKinney, J., & Rikard, R. V. (2011). Health literacy measurement: A proposed research agenda. *Journal of Health Communication*, 16(sup3), 11-21.

Rikard, R. V., Thompson, M. S., Head, R., McNeil, C., & White, C. (2011). Problem posing and cultural tailoring: Developing an HIV/AIDS health literacy toolkit with the African American community. *Health Promotion Practice*. doi: 10.1177/1524839911416649.

Rotabi, K., Pennell, J., Roby, J., & Bunker, K. (2012). Family group conferencing as a culturally adaptable intervention: Reforming intercountry adoption in Guatemala. *International Social Work*, 55(3), 402-416. doi: 10.1177/0020872812437229

Thompson, M., Rikard, R.V., Head, R., McNeil, C., & White, C. (2012). HIV health intervention in the African-American community: Collaborative partnership bridging people and culture. *Journal of Higher Education, Outreach, and Engagement*, 16(2).

Wichinsky, L., Thomlison, B., & Pennell, J. (2011). Exploring organization culture and climate in community coalitions. *Community Development, 43*, 1-14. doi: 10.1080/15575330.2011.567418.

Chapters Pennell, J. (under contract). Family violence and an integrative strategy of acculturation. In M. Connolly, G. Burford, K. Morris, & J. Pennell, *Family engagement and participation*. Basingstoke, UK: Palgrave Macmillan.

Beck, E., & Pennell, J. (under review). Decentralization and privatization: The barriers to and promises of restorative justice in the United States. In I. Vanfraechem & E. Zinsstag (Eds.), *Conferencing and restorative justice: Challenges, developments and debates*. United Kingdom: Oxford University Press. [European Forum on Restorative Justice]

Pennell, J., Maxwell, G.M., & Nash, J. (in press). *Restorative Justice and youth offending*. In M. Weil (Ed.), *Handbook of community practice* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Non-Refereed

Reports Pennell, J., Burford, G., Connolly, M., & Morris, K. (2011). *Introduction: Taking child and family rights seriously: Family engagement and its evidence in child welfare*. Special issue of *Child Welfare, 90*(4), 9-18.

Pennell, J. (with Rikard, R.V., & Ryder-Burge, A.). (2012, February). *Strong Fathers: Community Guidance*. Raleigh, NC: Center for Family and Community Engagement, North Carolina State University.

Pennell, J. (with Rikard, R.V.). (2011, October). *Strong Fathers Program findings*. Raleigh, NC: Center for Family and Community Engagement, North Carolina State University. Retrieved from <http://cface.chass.ncsu.edu/SFdetails.php>.

Pennell, J. (with Allen-Eckard, K., King, J., & Latz, M.). (2011). *North Carolina Family-Centered Meetings Project: Annual report to the North Carolina Division of Social Services, fiscal year 2010 – 2011*. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University, Center for Family & Community Engagement. Retrieved from http://cface.chass.ncsu.edu/documents/NCFCMP_Annual_Report_2010-2011.pdf

Pennell, J. (with Allen-Eckard, K., King, J., & Latz, M.). (2011). *North Carolina Family-Centered Meetings Project: Comprehensive annual*

report to the North Carolina Division of Social Services, fiscal year 2010 – 2011. Raleigh, NC: North Carolina State University, Center for Family & Community Engagement.

Articles

King, J. (2012). Who should be at my CFT? *Fostering Perspectives*.

Poindexter, W. (2012). CFTs and foster parents. *Fostering Perspectives*.

Rikard, R. V. (2011, October 7). Health literacy from a Sociologist's perspective. National Health Literacy Blog Series: Engaging the Patient. Retrieved from <http://engagingthepatient.com/2011/10/07/health-literacy-from-a-sociologists-perspective/> (invited)

Handbooks

Poindexter, W. (2012). *A Place for Voices: A Handbook of Family-Centered Practice*. Hickory, NC.

Presentations and Workshops

National or International Forums

Presenter

Burford, G., & Pennell, J. (2012, June). Holding the course on family engagement: A roundtable on family engagement at the intersection of child protection and domestic violence. Roundtable at the annual *FGDM and other family engagement approaches*, American Humane Association, Orlando, FL (invited).

Burford, G., Morris, K., & Pennell, J. (2012, May). Working with risk in practice: Family engagement. Presentation at *Beyond the risk paradigm: Restoring the client's place in human service intervention*, Monash University, Prato, Italy. (Organized by University of Melbourne, School of Social Work) (invited)

Kearney, C. (2011, October). *The Power of Voice: Family Group Conferencing and Family Violence*. Webinar presentation, American Humane Association.

O'Connor, K., Pennell, J., Starsonneck, L., & Zechman, E. (2011, October). *Strong Fathers*. Webinar presentation, FRIENDS National Resource Center for Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (Service of the U.S. Children's Bureau). (invited)

Pennell, J. (with Rikard, R.V.) (2012, February). *Strong Fathers: Dads engaging responsibly*. Webinar presentation of K. Niedt, F. Mederos, & J. Pennell and chaired by S. Taggart, *Addressing intimate partner violence: Child Welfare approaches to engaging fathers*. Washington, DC: U.S. Children's Bureau. (invited)

Rauktis, M., Crampton, D., Pennell, J., Burford, G., & Merkel-Holguin, L. (2012, June). *Measuring fidelity of various family engagement approaches: Past, present and future*. Panel presentation at the annual *FGDM and other family engagement approaches*, American Humane Association, Orlando, FL. (accepted)

Rauktis, M.E., Pennell, J., & Reinhart, S. (2011, August). *Family group decision making: Strengthening practice through measuring and monitoring fidelity*. Panel presentation at 2nd National Child Welfare Evaluation Summit, U.S. Children's Bureau, Washington, DC. (peer reviewed)

Accepted Thompson, G. & Rikard, R.V., (2012, August). *Bridging Wimberley's Southern Black Belt and Structure of Agriculture Research: Spatial Inequality, Local Food Systems, and Nutritional Health Outcomes across United States Counties*. Paper presentation at 2012 Rural Sociological Society Meeting in Chicago, IL. (peer reviewed)

State, Provincial, or Local Forums

Presenter Kearney, C. (2012, January). *Family professional partnership workshop*. Chapel Hill, NC.

Poindexter, W. (2012, April). *CFT meetings in foster care*. North Carolina Family and Adoptive Parents Association Training Institute, Charlotte, NC.

Poindexter, W. (2012, April). *Negotiation - Its essence, challenges, necessities*. Catawba County Department of Social Services, Hickory, NC.

Zechman, E., & Pennell, J. (2012, May). State and local initiatives. Panel presentation for judges training on *Noncustodial Fathers in Abuse, Neglect, and Dependency Cases*, School of Government, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC.

Facilitator Poindexter, W. (2012, January). Reaching for excellence and accountability in performance (REAP) discussion. *NCDSS Leadership Summit*, North Carolina Association of County Directors of Social Services.

Presider & Organizer Rikard, R.V., (2012, March), Panel Presentation on *Health Disparities: Literacy, Information, and Communication I*, 2012 Southern Sociological Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Rikard, R.V., (2012, March), Panel Presentation on *Health Disparities: Literacy, Information, and Communication II*, 2012 Southern Sociological Society Meeting, New Orleans, LA.

Student Involvement

Staff delivered seven presentations to approximately 123 social work students. Two students participated in the Networking Alliance. Fourteen students participated in research, training delivery, curricular development, DVD editing and authoring, independent study, field placement, and graduate research assistantships. One training coordinator obtained her MS in Management.

Faculty Involvement

Dr. Jodi Hall, Department of Social Work, served as the co-Principal Investigator of the Fostering Youth Education Success Project. Dr. Karen Bullock, Department of Social Work, and Dr. Maxine Thompson, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, collaborated with the center on proposal development.

Community Engagement

Consultant Pennell, J. (2012-present) Consultation on Evaluating Family Group Conferencing, New Zealand Ministry of social Development, in collaboration with Australian National University, University of Nottingham (UK), and University of Vermont.

Pennell, J. (2011-2014) Named Consultant, No Place like Home Project by American Humane Association. Family Connections funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Children's Bureau.

Pennell, J. (2011) Planning Member, Safety, Fairness, & Stability for Youth and Families Creating a Plan of Action, Center for Juvenile Justice Reform, Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

Pennell, J. (2009-present) Consultant, Family Group Decision Making Evaluation by University of Pittsburgh.

Pennell, J. (2007-present) Research Team Member, International Study of Family-Engagement Strategies in Child Welfare. Supported by the American Humane Association.

Pennell, J. (2009-present). Consultant, Network of Experts, Violence Against Women Online Resources (VAWOR), Collaborative Project of the Minnesota Center Against Violence and Abuse (MINCAVA) at the

University of Minnesota and the Office on Violence Against Women at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Member

Gasman, S., & Latz, M. (2008-2012). Family and Agency Collaborative Training Team (FACTT).

King, J. (2011-2012). Family Readiness Group (FRG) Leader for an Army Airborne Infantry Unit at Ft. Bragg.

King, J. & Poindexter, W. (2012). Fostering Perspectives Advisory Group.

King, J. (2011-12). 2-325 AIR Delta Company Family Readiness Group Leader.

Latz, M., & Pennell, J. (2011-2012). Foster Parent Assessment & Training Workgroup, North Carolina Division of Social Services.

Pennell, J. (1996-present). Advisory Council for National Center on Family Group Decision Making, Children's Division of the American Humane Association, Englewood, CO.

Chair

Allen-Eckard, K. (2008-2012). Family and Agency Collaborative Training Team (FACTT).

Meadows, E. (2010-2012). Family and Agency Collaborative Training Team (FACTT).

Liaison

Allen-Eckard, K. & Gasman, S. (2008-12). Strong Able Youth Speaking Out (SAYSO).

Allen-Eckard, K. & Meadows, E. (2006-2012). North Carolina Families United.

Allen-Eckard, K. (2008-2012). The North Carolina Foster and Adoptive Parent Association.

Allen-Eckard, K. & Meadows, E. (2011-2012). Exceptional Children's Assistance Centers (ECAC).

Allen-Eckard, K. (2011-2012). Department of Public Instruction (family involvement program).

Kearney, C. (2011-2012). Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs.

Kearney, C. (2011-2012). Durham Consumer and Family Advisory Committee.

Kearney, C. (2011-2012). Maternal Child and Health Leadership Consortium.

King, J. (2011-2012). Outstanding Volunteer, Operation New Dawn.

Meadows, E. (2011-2012). Chatham County Collaborative.

Meadows, E. (2011-2012). Chatham County Together!

Meadows, E. (2011-2012). Drug Free Chatham.

University and Professional Service

Department of Social Work

Latz, M., Field Instruction, (2010-2012).

Pennell, J., Departmental Voting Faculty (2008-present) – chair.

Pennell, J., Personnel Committee (2008-present) - member, chair (2010-2011).

Pennell, J., Reappointment, Promotion, & Tenure Reader (2008-present).

Pennell, J., Curriculum Committee - member (2011-present).

Pennell, J., MSW Program Committee - member (2005-present).

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Gasman, S., CHASS Awards for Excellence Committee (2011-2012) – member.

Pennell, J., Research Committee (2001-2003, 2005-2008, 2011-present) – member.

Pennell, J., Search Committee for the Associate Dean of Research, Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development (2010) – member.

Pennell, J., Reappointment, Promotion, and Tenure Committee (2009-2011) – member.

Pennell, J., Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development Committee (2010-present) – member (Awards Review Committee, 2010, 2011).

University

Latz, M., SLMS Search Campus Committee (2012) – member.

Pennell, J., University Research Committee (2007-2010, 2010-2013) – member.

Editorial Services

Pennell, J., Editorial Advisory Board Member, *Contemporary Justice Review* (1997-1998, 2005-present).

Pennell, J., Review Board Member, *Child Welfare Journal* (2006-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Psychology of Violence* (2010-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Child Abuse Review* (2010).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Child Abuse & Neglect* (2009-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Children and Youth Services Review* (2008-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Justice Research and Policy* (2010-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *British Journal of Social Work* (2006-present).

Pennell, J., Ad-Hoc Reviewer, *Violence Against Women* (2005-present).

Rikard, R.V., Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Offender Rehabilitation* (2011-present).

Rikard, R.V., Peer Reviewer, *Journal of Health Communication* (2011-present).

Rikard, R.V., Peer Reviewer, *American Evaluation Association Health Evaluation Topical Interest Group* (2012).

Professional Development

Asset Maintenance/Surplus Course, North Carolina State University, 1 staff member.

Public Systems: Responding to Students Affected by Trauma, Chapin Hall, 1 staff member.

Trauma Informed Resource Parenting, National Center for Traumatic Stress Network, 1 staff member.

Trauma Informed Services across a System of Care, Durham System of Care Sponsored training, 1 staff member.

Tribal Connections Gathering, NCDSS and NC Court Improvement Funding, 1 staff member.

Honouring the Circle, Connections and Wisdom Conference, American Humane Association, in Toronto, Canada, 1 staff member.

Social Networking Children's Bureau Webinar, 3 staff members.

Blackboard Collaborate v10 versus v11, NCSU DELTA Webinar, 1 staff member.

Blackboard Collaborate Workshop 2: Putting It All Together, NCSU DELTA Webinar, 1 staff member.

Blackboard Collaborate Help Desk! NCSU DELTA Webinar, 1 staff member.

Coaching Skills, NCDSS 2 staff members.

Building Awareness and Cultural Competency, 2 staff members.

Healing in Broken Places: A Social Justice Perspective to Address Trauma, 5 staff members.

Training Room Tips workshop (How to read the room and participants), 1 staff member.

Signs of Safety, 1 staff member.

How to Partner with Professionals and Be Heard, 1 staff member.