

February 2004

Welcome to the latest issue of the **NCTSN Network E-Newsletter**—news about Network collaborations, activities, and interests.

The National Center is proud to introduce the newly redesigned *Network E-Newsletter*. In our efforts to better serve you, the e-newsletter is now available in .HTML format. If you are having problems reading the text or viewing the graphics, please download a [PDF](#) of the February 2004 issue from our Web site. In order to track reader preferences, please e-mail [National Resource Center](#) if you wish to receive text-only e-mails in the future. Thank you for your continued interest and support of the NCTSN.


 insideNCTSN

Newly Redesigned *Network E-Newsletter* Launched

As 2004 gets underway, the NCTSN unveils its newly redesigned *Network E-Newsletter*. The newsletter has been redesigned to encourage readership and improve usability. “We wanted to eliminate the attached Word document and create a more visually appealing design with Network-focused content that was easy to navigate,” said [Bob Franks](#), director of the NCCTS National Resource Center. “Our goal is support our Network community and provide up-to-date information on the latest issues and news affecting the Network and the field of child traumatic stress.” The NRC encourages readers to [e-mail](#) feedback on the e-newsletter.

New Grantee Video Presentations Now Online

Due to popular demand, the National Center has uploaded to the Web site brief video presentations recorded by new NCTSN grantees during the 2003 All-Network Meeting to introduce new centers, their key personnel, and their programs to the rest of the Network. “Viewing these video presentations is an easy way for Network members to familiarize themselves with some of the new faces and innovative programs that joined our Network in October 2003,” said [John Fairbank](#), director of the NCCTS-Duke. Network members can [log in](#) at the “Your Partners” page to


 recentarticles

Gully, K.J. (2003). Expectations Test: Trauma scales for sexual abuse, physical abuse, exposure to family violence and posttraumatic stress. *Child Maltreatment*, 8, 218-229.

Appleyard, Karen, and Osofsky, Joy D. (2003). Parenting after trauma: Supporting parents and caregivers in the treatment of children impacted by violence. *Infant Mental Health Journal*, 24, 111-125.


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view the presentations of their choice.

Data Core Receives Clinical Exemption from OMB

The Data Core, working closely with colleagues at SAMHSA, has been granted “clinical exemption” by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to immediately proceed with the implementation of the core data set. “We expect to hear confirmation shortly from Duke’s Institutional Review Board that the core data set can be considered quality improvement rather than research,” said [Patrick Loeb](#), project leader at the Duke Clinical Research Institute (DCRI). “As soon as we receive written confirmation from Duke, we will post information on regulatory requirements to the NCTSN Web site. It is our hope that this will be very helpful to the Network Centers to proceed with their site-specific approvals.”

Additionally, the Data Core is working with external consultants to develop data entry and transfer capabilities to begin pilot testing the core data set this spring. “We look forward to having the core data set available for Network members to begin using in the coming months,” said [Betsy Farmer](#), NCCTS director of the Data Core. “We plan to post updates on this process to the *Network E-Newsletter* as things move forward, including information on training and other activities to prepare our Network members for effectively utilizing the core data set.”

In other data news, Monitoring and Evaluation Quarterly Reports and Services Utilization Reports are now available on the Network Web site here. Current and archived reports are located in the Network Performance section of the password-protected members’ site.

UCLA-NCCTS Moving Offices— New Mailing Address Available Now

The UCLA office of the National Center moved January 29, 2004, to a new suite in the same building. The new mailing address for the UCLA office is 11150 West Olympic Boulevard, Suite 650, Los Angeles, CA 90064. All phone numbers and extensions, as well as e-mail addresses, remain the same.

A Memorial for Jane Barker

A memorial celebration in memory of Jane Barker was held in Manhattan, New York on October 25, 2003. Jane had been the project director of the Safe Horizon-Saint Vincent’s NCTSN Center in New York City. [Alan Steinberg](#), associate

KC METRO Child Traumatic Stress Program in Kansas City, Missouri

Whoever dubbed Missouri as the “Show Me” state would stand in awe of the KC METRO Child Traumatic Stress Program. In less than a year, an advisory council of 25 community leaders has been assembled. The council includes representatives of government, medicine, faith communities, education, and philanthropy, and meets twice a year to discuss child traumatic stress. In addition, a local network of 85 service providers and collaborative agency partners has been organized to work on local strategies to raise the standards of care and to improve access to services for traumatized children, their families, and the greater Kansas City community. The partners include law enforcement, juvenile justice, social service, substance abuse, medical, and mental health agencies.

KC METRO accomplishments to date include:

- A strategic plan was written and is being implemented.
- A set of “Quality Principles” were written and adopted by agency partners.
- A series of community trainings have been launched.
- A community needs and professional development assessment tool has been designed and is being administered to agency partners.
- A “lending library” was created to share all training videos and materials on child traumatic stress available from the Network and other partners.
- A community resource guide on child trauma and stress is being developed.
- A tornado/disaster response team has been developed.
- A media relations event was held on September 3, 2003.
- “Children & Trauma: Preparedness & Response,” a community-wide training and awareness event, was held on October 3, 2003.
- Support services were provided to 55 children of parents who were deployed with the U.S. military in Iraq.

The October 3rd training event, sponsored by KC METRO, the American Red Cross, and the Children’s Place, featured two keynote speakers from the NCTSN: Joy Osofsky from the LSU Health Sciences Center focusing on the clinical and developmental aspects of child trauma and Robin Gurwitch from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center focusing on the impact of trauma and disaster on children. KC METRO has also initiated a training grant program for its community partners that provides financial aid to those agencies wanting to attend a training that furthers KC METRO’s goals of improving inter-agency understanding

director of the NCCTS-UCLA, spoke at her celebration on behalf of the Network. Steinberg highlighted her many contributions to the NCTSN, including her leadership of the Network through the challenge of growing while preserving a sense of intimacy. "Dr. Barker will be greatly missed and her efforts to build a national commitment to a safer and more nurturing society will be appreciated and continued by us all," said Steinberg.

Heartland Health Outreach Changes Center Name

Heartland Health Outreach, a Chicago, Illinois NCTSN Center, has officially changed its name to Heartland International Faces. For more information about this name change, please e-mail [Mary Lynn Everson](mailto:MaryLynn.Everson@nctsn.org).



"K-FLASH" Now Available on NCTSN Web Site

Kids First Line Assistance and Support for Healing (K-FLASH) is now available on the password-protected portion of the NCTSN Web site. Designed as a toolkit for training mental health professionals to provide disaster mental health assistance following mass casualty events, this user-friendly information provides logical steps in mental health intervention. Each topic is covered in a module format as well as "vignette exercises" for trainees to immediately apply their knowledge and working skills. A pre-post test is also included to further measure skills and knowledge assessment after the training. For additional information on the K-FLASH training modules, e-mail [Melissa Brymer](mailto:Melissa.Brymer@nctsn.org), NCCTS manager of the Terrorism and Disaster Branch.

Translated Family Preparedness Cards and Information Sheets Now Available Online

To further enhance the Network's cultural competence, the National Center has translated multiple versions of the Family Preparedness Cards and Information Sheets. Translations include Armenian, Korean, Vietnamese, Russian, and Spanish. This information is available on the public [NCTSN Web site](http://www.nctsn.org).

NRC Needs Assistance Building the National Library

The NRC is in the important process of collecting materials

and cooperation.

For more information about the work of KC METRO and its collaborators, e-mail [Sharon Portwood](mailto:Sharon.Portwood@nctsn.org).



Accelerated Collaborative Projects Launch Full Speed Ahead in 2004

With the New Year gearing up, seven accelerated collaborative projects are actively developing informational and training products. These projects will be housed in existing Network collaborative groups, with project management facilitated through the National Center. The goal of these projects is to produce a series of useful, high quality products in the field of child traumatic stress for wide dissemination within and beyond the Network. Although these projects are already in progress, participation and input from other Network members is welcomed. Interested Network members can contact each NCCTS project lead for additional information. These projects, scheduled for release throughout 2004, include:

- Hospital Personnel Toolkit, led by the Medical Trauma Working Group. E-mail [Alessia Gottlieb](mailto:Alessia.Gottlieb@nctsn.org) for additional information.
- Children of War Educational Package, led by the Service Systems Committee and the Refugee Trauma Task Force. E-mail [Judy Holland](mailto:Judy.Holland@nctsn.org) for additional information.
- Measures Review Database, led by the Measure Committee. E-mail [Alan Steinberg](mailto:Alan.Steinberg@nctsn.org) for additional information.
- Domestic Violence/First Responders Protocols, led by the Service Systems Committee and the First Responders Working Group. E-mail [Susan Ko](mailto:Susan.Ko@nctsn.org) for additional information.
- Childhood Traumatic Grief Training Package, led by the Childhood Traumatic Grief Task Force. E-mail [Bob Franks](mailto:Bob.Franks@nctsn.org) for additional information.
- Child Welfare System Training Curriculum, led by the Service Systems Committee and the Systems Integration Working Group. E-mail [Cassie Kisiel](mailto:Cassie.Kisiel@nctsn.org) for additional information.

for the Network's National Resource Center. To achieve this goal, the NRC requests that any relevant resources from Network sites relating to the topic of child traumatic stress be shipped to the NRC librarian. Materials to be submitted include, but are not limited to, journal articles, book chapters, guides, manuals, training curricula, white papers, videos, DVDs, etc. Materials can be sent to:

[Robert James](#)

National Resource Center Librarian, NCCTS
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20th National Symposium on Child Abuse

March 16-19, 2004, Huntsville, Alabama

This symposium is an annual event of the National Children's Advocacy Center (NCAC), a not-for-profit agency and Network member providing prevention, intervention, and treatment services to physically and sexually abused children and their families within a child-focused team approach. This year's symposium will include more than 150 workshops, special plenary sessions for each discipline, and new tracks organized by discipline, including medical, legal, mental health, child protective services, law enforcement, and prevention perspectives. For additional information and online registration, visit the [NCAC Web site](#).

2004 American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children

August 4-7, 2004, Hollywood, California

This 12th annual colloquium will feature a new track focusing specifically on the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. This track will consist of presentations by NCTSN members and focus on Network-related activities. For additional information, visit the [APSAC Web site](#).

- CBT/Sexual Abuse Implementation Toolkit, led by the Learning from Research and Clinical Practice Advisory Group and the Child Sexual Abuse Task Force. E-mail [Charlene Allred](#) for additional information.

Two New Working Groups Seek Membership from NCTSN Centers

Two new working groups have been established to address two different yet equally serious issues affecting our nation's children. They are:

Homelessness and Extreme Poverty Working Group

This working group will address an issue that affects more than 1.3 million children annually in the United States. "Only recently have providers begun to recognize that most homeless mothers and children have experienced multiple and severe traumas and that many have posttraumatic stress disorder, necessitating treatment," said Ellen Bassuk, co-chair of the Homelessness and Extreme Poverty Working Group. Network members interested in joining this group may e-mail co-chairs [Bassuk](#), with the National Center on Family Homelessness, or [Steven Freidman](#), with the Children Who Witness Violence Program.

First Responders Working Group

This working group has formed to advance knowledge and its dissemination to professionals who are first responders in instances of childhood trauma. This group will take the lead on the Domestic Violence/First Responder Protocol Accelerated Project. This project involves developing and adapting protocols and responses to domestic violence by first responders and disseminating protocols as part of an accessible package of materials. Network members interested in joining this working group may e-mail [Steven Berkowitz](#), with the Childhood Violent Trauma Center; [Becky Gaba](#), with the Children's Institute International; or [Sarah McGuire](#), with the Children Who Witness Violence Program.

Enhancing Cultural Competence Priority for Network and National Center

Extensive interest and audience workshop participation in cultural competence was evident at the 2003 All Network Meeting. During this workshop, participants gave much thought as to how to best address this important issue. "We are in the process of working with an outside consultant to develop a long-term agenda and strategic plan for enhancing the focus on cultural competence across the Network and at



[Amy C. Blalock](#), joins the National Center at Duke as the marketing and public relations manager for the National Resource Center. Amy can be reached at 919-682-1552 ext. 246.

[Jan Markiewicz](#), joins the National Center at Duke as a network liaison. Jan can be reached at 919-682-1552 ext. 261.

[H. Preston Finley](#), joins the National Center at UCLA as an administrative specialist, assisting both the Policy and Service Cores. Preston can be reached at 310-235-2633 ext. 239.

[Christine Martin](#), joins the National Center at UCLA as a project support specialist, assisting the Liaison and Training Cores. Christine can be reached at 310-235-2633 ext. 238.

the National Center,” stated [Susan Ko](#), NCCTS director of the Service Systems Core. “We plan to provide updates and details of this project via the *Network E-Newsletter* in the near future.”

NCTSN Adolescent Network Formed

The Adolescent Network, comprising members of the NCTSN from across the country that specialize in the understanding and treatment of traumatized adolescents, met in New York City in November 2003. The mission of this new network is to advance the fields of assessment and treatment of traumatized adolescents. The Adolescent Network designated five working groups to help focus discussion and development of action plans. The groups are:

- Adolescent Car Crashes
- Acute Stressors: Crime Victimization
- Chronic Trauma and Long-Term Interventions
- A New Framework for Adolescent Development and Traumatic Stress
- High-Risk Behavior: Substance Abuse, School Truancy, Teenage Pregnancy, and HIV

Members of the above working groups, in conjunction with additional NCTSN experts and invited consultants, plan to conduct literature searches, develop fact sheets and bibliographies, refine and modify assessment tools, and develop innovations to treatment interventions for adolescents exposed to multiple forms of traumatic stress. Network members can [log in](#) for additional information about this new endeavor.

If you have not yet contacted the National Center about your Network username and password information or you have questions about accessing or navigating the Web site, please e-mail [Peter Kung](#) or [Iliane Morrissey](#).

REMINDERS:

Please send your notice of events, projects, success stories, accomplishments, organization newsletters, and news items of interest to the [National Resource Center](#) with “newsletter ideas” in the subject line. The NCTSN welcomes all ideas for possible inclusion in future e-newsletters.

Do you know someone who should be receiving the *Network E-Newsletter*? E-mail the [National Resource Center](#) the name and e-mail address with “subscription request” in the subject line.

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