

Centre de  
recherche sur les  
services éducatifs  
et communautaires

Centre for Research  
on Educational and  
Community  
Services



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# IMPACT

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Centre for Research on Educational  
and Community Services

## 10e Anniversaire du CRSÉC 2000 – 2010

Nous sommes heureux d'annoncer que le Centre de recherche sur les services éducatifs et communautaires (CRSÉC) de l'Université d'Ottawa fête son 10e anniversaire cette année.

Plusieurs activités tout au long des prochains mois passeront sous cette bannière pour célébrer cet événement marquant, y compris les prochaines conférences et colloques.

Veillez regarder la section « Nouvelles et Événements » de l'article IMPACT pour plus d'information, et restez avec nous sur notre site web pendant que CRSÉC célèbre son passé et se tourne vers son avenir.

<http://www.sciencesociales.uottawa.ca/crecs/fra/index.asp>

## CRECS 10th Anniversary 2000 - 2010

We are pleased to announce that the University of Ottawa Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services (CRECS) is celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year.

A number of activities throughout the next several months will come under this banner to celebrate this landmark event, including upcoming conferences and colloquiums.

Please see the "News and Events" section of IMPACT for more information, and follow us on our website as CRECS celebrates its past and looks to its future.

<http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/crecs/eng/index.asp>

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Evaluation Training in India Continues

By Brad Cousins

Professor Brad Cousins and associates from CRECS and elsewhere continue to assist the National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in developing its capacity to conduct program evaluation. In a prior issue of *Impact* we reported on Phase I of the training, a six-day course delivered in New Delhi by Cousins and Jill Chouinard (Ph.D. candidate, Education). Since that time, two subsequent phases have been implemented.

In June 2009, a delegation of 10 Indian professors came to North America for a study tour arranged by CRECS and coordinated by Catherine Elliott (Ph.D. candidate). In this second Phase of the project, the delegates attended the national conference of the Canadian Evaluation Society, which was held at the Westin Hotel in Ottawa. They then participated in a five-day course given by Cousins (assisted by Elliott) at the University of Ottawa and attended a variety of professional development sessions and activities, most sponsored by CRECS. The Ottawa-Carleton District Board of Education graciously assisted by providing an opportunity for the delegation to visit an elementary school and attend a presentation on assessment at the Board Office.



Elliott demonstrating NVivo software

Visitation to three centers of excellence in evaluation in the United States was also coordinated by the project team. The delegation visited the *Evaluation Consortium* at the University at Albany in Albany NY, the *Evaluation Center* at the University of Western Michigan in Kalamazoo MI, and the *Institute for Organizational and Program Evaluation Research* at Claremont Graduate University in Claremont CA.

The study tour was intended to foster networking opportunities in North America for the professors as well as to further develop their knowledge and skill in conducting program evaluation. The larger project will involve NCERT professors working with members of the program community in four separate states in India to conduct state wide program evaluations of major elementary education reforms, under the banner of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (a nationwide, multi year, educational reform initiative).



Simon contributing to session on data collection quality issues

In September 2009, Phase 3 of the training took place in New Delhi. At this juncture, four evaluation teams had generated draft evaluation plans. In addition to providing input on the plans, specifically around design and sampling issues, the team from North America provided guidance on instrument development and validation.

Cousins was accompanied by CRECS senior researcher Professor Marielle Simon (Education) as well as Professor Chris Coryn from the University of Western Michigan for the training. Local support was provided by Professors Miyan and Srivastiva.



Indian Professors, Miyan (centre) and Srivastiva (right) work with an evaluation team on sampling design

Since the training in September, revised evaluation plans were submitted to an Advisory Panel co-chaired by Cousins. The panel critiqued the report and then held feedback sessions in New Delhi in October. Formal written critiques were subsequently forwarded to each of the four teams. Presently, the teams are revising their drafts which will next be reviewed by an external peer review committee. They are also engaged in instrument development and validation in anticipation of beginning data collection sometime in the new year. Further input can be expected in the form of technical support (as required), feedback from the Advisory Panel and key junctures, and assessment by the Peer Review Committee of draft reports.

The project is a good example of CRECS leadership in program evaluation. This is a sustained training project with expert assistance along the way. It may also provide a basis for furthering our knowledge and understanding about evaluation capacity building and evaluation in cross-cultural settings.



## Un programme de tutorat améliore les résultats scolaires des enfants en famille d'accueil en Ontario : Impact de la première année

By Marie-Pierre Paquet et Robert J. Flynn

Il y a consensus depuis longtemps, parmi ceux qui travaillent pour le bien-être des enfants au Canada et ailleurs, qu'améliorer les résultats scolaires des enfants en famille d'accueil est une grande priorité. Le projet *Régime enregistré d'épargne-études (REEE) pour jeunes en placement* est une étude randomisée, d'une durée de trois ans (2007-2010), qui évalue l'impact du tutorat par les parents d'accueil sur les compétences en lecture et en mathématiques d'enfants d'âge scolaire en famille d'accueil. Le projet est dirigé par le professeur Robert Flynn au Centre de recherche sur les services éducatifs et communautaires, et est financé en partie par le Programme canadien pour l'épargne-études, Ressources humaines et Développement des compétences Canada.

Au cours de la première année du projet, 2007-2008, l'équipe sous la direction du professeur Flynn a cherché la collaboration de Sociétés d'aide à l'enfance en Ontario pour la conception du projet et le recrutement de 77 enfants en foyer d'accueil (et de leurs parents d'accueil) qui rencontraient les critères de sélection. Nous avons randomisé 42 enfants (et leurs parents d'accueil) à un groupe expérimental et 35 enfants (et leurs parents d'accueil) à un groupe contrôle. Les compétences scolaires de tous les enfants ont été évaluées avant l'intervention. En automne 2008, les parents d'accueil qui avaient été randomisés au groupe expérimental ont reçu une formation pour être tuteur utilisant l'enseignement direct. Au cours de l'année scolaire, 2008-2009, ces

parents ont offert 30 semaines de tutorat, 3 heures par semaine, à leur enfant (ou enfants) en famille d'accueil. Les compétences scolaires des enfants ont été réévaluées en juin, 2008, permettant une comparaison du progrès des enfants dans le groupe expérimental vs. le groupe contrôle. À la fin de l'année, nous avons comparé 30 enfants (des 42) dans le groupe expérimental qui avaient reçu le tutorat à 34 (des 35) enfants dans le groupe contrôle, puisque certaines familles s'étaient retirées de l'étude au cours de l'année. En moyenne, les enfants qui avaient reçu le tutorat par leur parent d'accueil avaient fait des gains importants en lecture et en mathématiques, plus que les enfants qui n'avaient pas reçu le tutorat.

Nous avons hâte d'évaluer, au cours de l'année scolaire, 2009-2010, une seconde période de 30 semaines de tutorat pour les enfants dans le groupe expérimental et 30 semaines de tutorat pour la première fois pour les enfants dans le groupe contrôle. Les compétences scolaires des enfants vont être réévaluées une dernière fois en juin, 2010, pour voir les effets d'une année additionnelle de tutorat pour le groupe expérimental.

Nos résultats à date suggèrent que le tutorat par les parents d'accueil est une façon réaliste et économique d'améliorer les compétences scolaires des enfants en foyer d'accueil.

Pour plus d'information, veuillez contacter Marie-Pierre Paquet [mppaquet@uottawa.ca](mailto:mppaquet@uottawa.ca).



Marie-Pierre Paquet  
Associée de Recherche,  
Projet REEE pour Jeunes en  
Placement / RESPs for Kids in Care  
Project



## Working with the Community to Improve Access to Entitlement

By Rick Parker and Rebecca Moore



Each year, too many people are denied access to entitled disability benefits from the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP). To many, applying for benefits can feel like a tumultuous and scary task. Because of this, many give up and have extreme difficulty making ends meet.

Fortunately, Centre 454, in conjunction with CMHA, developed an Application Support Worker Program (ASWP) aimed at assisting prospective recipients to navigate the application process. In the fall of 2008, Centre 454 approached CRECS to conduct a needs assessment of individuals who had either received benefits or were in the application process. Centre 454 wanted to know what else they could do to help these individuals. Rebecca Moore and Rick Parker, interns in clinical psychology working at CRECS under the supervision of Tim Aubry spearheaded the project in consultation with staff at Centre 454.

The needs assessment involved gathering information from a range of sources including a survey of ASWP clients completed with the support worker, interviews with knowledgeable professionals in the field as well as focus groups with ODSP applicants and recipients. The aim was to collect a broad source of information to best understand the needs of the target group.

The results found that the client population served by ASWP presented with complex needs (e.g., little access to adequate food and shelter, mental health problems, housing instability, and improper care). Additionally, the stress related to change (e.g., applying for and receiving ODSP), and feelings of loneliness were reported by many participants.

Based on the findings, recommendations were made on how Centre 454 could better address the needs of these clients. These included increasing the links of the program to existing social programs and examining how employment opportunities for clients could be developed. It was also recommended that Centre 454 use the findings to ensure continuation of ASWP and develop services aimed at assisting individuals to adjust to life after receiving benefits.

*For additional information please contact Rick Parker at [rpark025@uOttawa.ca](mailto:rpark025@uOttawa.ca)*



Rebecca Moore  
*Intern and doctoral candidate in clinical psychology*



Rick Parker  
*Intern and doctoral candidate in clinical psychology*



## Community Partners and Researchers Together: the From Homeless to Home Project

By Lynne Browne



In Ottawa, there is a long-standing collaboration between Alliance to End Homelessness (ATEH) and area academics so we were excited in 2007 to work on the 'From Homeless to Home Project'. The project would develop innovative ways to share (disseminate) the findings in the 66-page final report of the *Panel Study on Persons Who Are Homeless in Ottawa*, published by the Centre for Research in Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa. Back in 2002 and 2003, the Panel Study researchers interviewed 412 people among the thousands who were homeless in Ottawa and were able to interview 255 of them (62%) two years later to learn what had changed.

This project would give the findings a “human voice” that could reach beyond the research community and it would answer several questions – *Who is homeless in Ottawa? What challenges do they face? How do people become homeless? How can community organizations, governments and people in the community work together to end homelessness?*

Our strongest asset in the project was the contribution of community members as research participants who generously shared their experiences.

Our next asset was our interdisciplinary team: prominent homelessness researchers, Tim Aubry from the University of Ottawa and Fran Klodawsky and Josh Greenberg from Carleton University; and myself from the community partner ATEH and Co-coordinator with Brenda Gallagher who kept us plus several grad students on track. My role was to bring in ATEH communications expertise as the Report Card coordinator and web master and to liaise with ATEH member agencies in locating interview participants.

Together we created several communication vehicles to transfer the Panel Study research into *stories* for different media – print, radio, TV, internet.

- Brief audio-visual interviews with 11 people who share their different experiences of being homeless.
- Eight of these were used in print in the Housing WORKS section of the ATEH Report Card on Ending Homelessness in Ottawa, Jan-Dec 2007.
- The “From Homeless to Home” booklet for non-academic audiences, a “popularized”, easy to read 12 page versions of the Panel Study highlighting findings in English and French.
- A moving documentary *From Homeless to Home* by independent filmmaker Jason Gondziola featuring individuals in Ottawa whose experiences over several months are similar to those in the Panel Study with commentary from researchers and community partners.
- A two part radio show about homelessness in Ottawa on CHUO produced by Heather Gilberts, Communication Studies at Carleton University who also wrote an article for the online magazine, (Cult)u're.

All of these are on the ATEH website, [www.endhomelessnessottawa](http://www.endhomelessnessottawa)



Lynne Browne,  
Coordinator, Alliance to End Homelessness



## Nouvelles et événements/ News and Events

### 2009 Community Forum on Homelessness



Robert J. Flynn,  
*Professor, School of Psychology  
& Director, CRECS*

The Community Forum on Homelessness, hosted by The Alliance to End Homelessness (ATEH) and the University of Ottawa, was held on November, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 at the uOttawa Desmarais Building. Among several keynote speakers was CRECS own Director and Professor Robert Flynn participating as a member of the expert panel section entitled “Children, Youth, and Family Perspectives on Homelessness.”

### Christmas Fundraising for St. Joe’s Women’s Centre

As the Christmas season was quickly approaching, CRECS very own Liz Hay came up with a wonderful idea to support the St. Joe’s Women’s Centre with their 2009 Christmas Sponsorship event. St. Joe’s is a non-profit organization serving women who are homeless, at risk of becoming homeless, disadvantaged, and/or living in poverty.

Within a few weeks we were able to collect several donations for women and children that were offered on behalf of CRECS to St. Joe’s on December 8<sup>th</sup>. CRECS would like to thank everyone who participated in this event and made it a success. Thanks to your kindness we were able to bring a little joy to those who need it most during the holiday season, and realize the true meaning of Christmas giving!



Elizabeth Hay,  
*Research Coordinator, Health and  
Housing in Transition Project*



## Nouvelles et événements/ News and Events

### OAHSRN 2010 Symposium

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Le Réseau de recherche en sciences sociales et en soins de santé de l'Université d'Ottawa, en partenariat avec l'Agence Ontarienne de protection et de promotion de la santé, est fier d'annoncer le Quatrième symposium :

« Choisir les meilleures preuves pour informer la population et les décideurs en matière de politiques de santé publique »

**le vendredi 9 avril 2009**

de 8 h 30 à 16 h 30

**Hellenic Banquet Centre**

1315, promenade Prince of Wales, Ottawa, ON

Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements, envoyez un courriel à : [lplante@bruyere.org](mailto:lplante@bruyere.org)

The University of Ottawa Applied Health and Social Research Network, in partnership with the Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, proudly announces its Fourth Symposium:

*“Choosing the Best Evidence to Inform Population and Public Health Policy Decision-makers”*

**Friday, April 9, 2009**

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

**Hellenic Banquet Centre**

1315 Prince of Wales Drive, Ottawa, ON

For more information please send an email to:

[lplante@bruyere.org](mailto:lplante@bruyere.org)

### Colloque national en psychologie communautaire/ National Community Psychology Conference

May 20<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

Un colloque national intitulé « *La psychologie communautaire au Canada: Réflexion sur le passé et regard vers le future* » est planifié pour jeudi le 20 mai au samedi le 22 mai 2010. Le colloque aura lieu à l'Université d'Ottawa et est organisé en partenariat avec l'Université Laval, l'Université du Québec à Montréal, et l'Université Wilfrid Laurier

Plus d'information est disponible sur notre site web : <http://www.sciencessociales.uottawa.ca/crecs/fra/index.asp>

A national student conference entitled "*Canadian Community Psychology: Reflecting on our Past and Looking to the Future*" is planned for Thursday, May 20th to Saturday, May 22nd, 2010. The conference will be held at the University of Ottawa, and is organized in partnership with Université Laval, Université du Québec à Montréal, and Wilfrid Laurier University

More details are available on our website: <http://www.socialsciences.uottawa.ca/crecs/eng/>



### Conference of the Association des centres jeunesse du Québec and the 9th International *Looking after children* Conference

October 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Veillez noter à votre agenda le prochain congrès de l'Association des centres jeunesse, en collaboration avec la 9e Conférence internationale s'occuper des enfants (SOCEN), le 25 et 26 octobre 2010 à Montréal. La journée du 27 octobre 2010 sera consacrée uniquement au symposium SOCEN, un événement international qui a lieu tous les deux ans.

Vous êtes invités à soumettre des propositions de communication. Le thème retenu pour cette édition est : « *Jeunesse en tête. Au-delà du risque : les besoins de développement* »

Pour plus d'information veuillez consulter : <http://www.acjq.qc.ca>

Please note in your calendars the biennial conference of the Association des centres jeunesse du Québec in partnership with the 9<sup>th</sup> International Looking after children Conference (LAC), will be held on October 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2010 in Montréal. The day of October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2010 will be solely devoted to the LAC symposium, an international event held every two years.

You are invited to submit proposals for presentations. The conference's main theme will be "*Youth in mind. Beyond risk: the developmental needs*".

For more information please visit: <http://www.acjq.qc.ca>



**Nouvelles et événements / News and Events**

**Colloques Du midi / Noon Hour Colloquia**



**February 3** - “Homeless to Home: knowledge dissemination of research on homelessness” (followed by a video presentation)

with  
Professor Tim Aubry

Wednesday, February, 3rd, 2010  
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm  
30 Stewart Street, Room 105



**February 24** - “Does tutoring by foster parents help foster children in primary school make gains in reading and math? First-year results from a randomized evaluation”

with  
Professor Bob Flynn and Marie-Pierre Paquet

Wednesday, February 24th, 2010  
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm  
30 Stewart Street, Room 105



**March 24** - “My Neighbourhood, My Voice: Results of a large photovoice study in Ottawa”

with  
Professor Elizabeth Kristjansson

Wednesday, March 24th, 2010  
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm  
Desmarais Building Room 3105



**April 28** - “Is it cost-effective to provide more intensive services for homeless individuals with severe mental illness?”

with  
Sarah Birnie, PhD

Wednesday, April 28th, 2010  
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm  
Desmarais Building Room 3105





**Centre de recherche  
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**Centre for Research  
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**Liste des employés / Personnel List**

Robert Flynn	Directeur CRSÉC/Director CRECS
Brad Cousins	Co-directeur CRSÉC/Co-Director CRECS
Tim Aubry	Chercheur principal et ancien directeur du CRSÉC/ CRECS Senior Researcher & Past Centre Director
David Vincent	Coordonnateur du CRSÉC/CRECS Coordinator
Krista Tambakis	Assistante administrative/Administrative Assistant
Colin Vincent	Assistante de recherche/Research Assistant- Work Study Position
Andreeane Laframboise	Assistante de recherche/Research Assistant- Work Study Position
Jessica Wa Kumbu	Assistante de recherche/Research Assistant- Work Study Position
Victoria Miron	Assistante de recherche/Research Assistant- Work Study Position
Cynthia Patterson	Assistante de recherche/Research Assistant
Elizabeth Hay	Coordonnatrice de recherche – projet Santé et Logement en Transition Research Coordinator – Health and Housing in Transition Project
Meagan Miller	Coordonnatrice de recherche – projet S’occuper des Enfants en Ontario Research Coordinator - Ontario Looking After Children Project
Lisa Peeke Marie-Pierre Paquet	Coordonnatrice de recherche – projet REEE pour jeunes en placement Research Coordinator – RESPs for Kids in Care Project
Michèle La Roche	Coordonnatrice de l’évaluation – projet Communities That Care de Prescott-Russell Evaluation Coordinator – Prescott-Russell Communities That Care Project
Cynthia Vincent	Associée de recherche – projet S’occuper des enfants en Ontario Research Associate– Ontario Looking After Children Project

**Chercheurs principaux au CRSÉC de l’Université d’Ottawa /  
CRECS Senior Researchers at the University of Ottawa**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Bernie Andrews – Faculté d’éducation                       | Raymond Leblanc – Faculté d’éducation                  |
| Caroline Andrew – École d’études politiques                | Colla Jean MacDonald – Faculté d’éducation             |
| Doug Angus – École de gestion                              | Ron Melchers – Département de criminologie             |
| Tim Aubry – École de psychologie                           | Anne Mevellec – École d’études politiques              |
| Brad Cousins – Faculté d’éducation                         | Lilian Negura – École de service social                |
| Eric Dionne – Faculté d’éducation                          | Marielle Simon – Faculté d’éducation                   |
| Marie Drolet – École de service social                     | David Smith – Faculté d’éducation                      |
| Robert Flynn – École de psychologie                        | John Sylvestre – École de psychologie                  |
| Tanya Forneris – École des sciences de l’activité physique | Jennifer Lennox-Terrion – Département de communication |
| Swee Goh – École de gestion                                | David Trumpower – Faculté d’éducation                  |
| Jeff Keshen – Département d’histoire                       | Jessica Whitley – Faculté d’éducation                  |
| Betsy Kristjansson – École de psychologie                  | Marta Young – École de psychologie                     |

**Chercheurs Filiales / Affiliated Researchers**

- Susan Farrell- Adjunct Professor, School of Psychology, & Community-Clinical Psychologist, Royal Ottawa Hospital
- Fran Klodawsky- Professor of Geography, Carleton University
- Steven Noble – Replacement Professor, Faculty of Education
- Caroline Sullivan – Replacement Professor, School of Psychology
- Purima Sundar- Research and Knowledge Exchange Consultant. The Provincial Centre of Excellence for Child and Youth Mental Health at CHEO
- Ismael Ngnie Teta- Canadian Institute of Health Research
- Manal Guirguis-Younger- Assistant Professor, Program in Pastoral Counselling, St. Paul University

