

## Curriculum Vitae

Karen McCurdy, Ph.D.  
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### EDUCATION

*Doctor of Philosophy*, 1994-97, Human Development and Social Policy, Northwestern University

*Master of Arts*, 1987-89, Human Development and Social Policy, Northwestern University

*Bachelor of Arts*, 1982, Political Science, Stanford University

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 2005- **Associate Professor, Human Development & Family Studies, *University of Rhode Island***, Kingston, RI  
With a 3/3 academic year teaching load, teach 3-4 undergraduate and 1-2 master level courses annually, with an emphasis on service learning; serve as graduate program coordinator for the terminal Masters program in Human Development and Family Studies; conduct research on child health and parenting issues among disadvantaged families; and engage in service activities with local, university, and professional communities.
- 2000 - **Assistant Professor, Human Development & Family Studies, *University of Rhode Island***,  
2005 Kingston, RI  
With a 2/3 academic year teaching load, taught 3-4 undergraduate and 1-2 master level courses each year; expanded the Masters program to include a family policy emphasis; led national study of parental participation in voluntary home visitation programs; and coordinated efforts to create a systemic method to assess student learning outcomes for the College of Human Science and Services.
- 1992 - **Deputy Research Director, *National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse***, Chicago, Illinois  
1999 Served as project director for randomized study of statewide home visiting services in Hawaii; project director of client impact study of nine diverse child abuse prevention programs in Pennsylvania; and, principal analyst for national studies of child abuse reports and fatalities. Led workshops on evaluation results and techniques, developed publications, supervised support staff and interns.
- 1989 - **Senior Analyst, *National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse***, Chicago, Illinois  
1992 Designed and conducted quantitative and qualitative research on various aspects of child maltreatment including: a secondary analysis of national incidence data on abuse and neglect,

an evaluation of 14 child abuse prevention programs; and, national studies on child abuse reports and fatalities.

- 1987 - **Research Assistant, *Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Studies, Northwestern University,***  
1989 Evanston, Illinois. Assisted on three major research projects: an examination of decentralization in five urban school districts, an evaluation of the effects of the Gautreaux Housing Program, and a study of the development of defense-based high technology industry in Chicago. Responsible for development of instruments, respondent interviews, data analysis, and preparation of written reports and articles.
- 1985 - **Co-Director, *Special Commission Relative to Divorce, Massachusetts State Legislature,***  
1987 Boston, Massachusetts. Reviewed divorce/custody procedures and caseloads throughout Massachusetts and nationally. Created legislative recommendations and the final policy report.
- 1984 - **Legislative Aide, *Massachusetts State Legislature,*** Boston, Massachusetts.  
1985 Wrote press releases, speeches and fact sheets on priority bills. Drafted budget amendments and legislation. Responded to constituent inquiries and supervised interns.
- 1983 - **Administrative Assistant, *Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators,*** Boston,  
1984 Massachusetts.

## GRANTS/CONTRACTS/RESEARCH SUPPORT

### *External funding (\$1,79,002)*

- 2009- **Principal Investigator, *Maternal depression, family food behavior, and child nutritional***  
2011 ***health*** with Gorman, K, Metallinos-Katsaras, E., and Kisler, T. Funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Development (R03HD05224) for \$149,000. This grant provides funding to collect and analyze data on the relationship between obesity and food insecurity among low-income, preschool children in urban areas of Rhode Island.
- 2005- **Principal Investigator, *Recruitment and retention of early childhood professionals for***  
2012 ***Children with Special Health Care Needs programs*** (\$597,002). Funded by Rhode Island College and RI Department of Human Services. This grant provides funding to promote and provide internship and professional development opportunities to pre- and in-service professionals in the fields of early intervention and children with special health care needs.
- 2000 - **Co-Principal Investigator, *Engagement and Retention in Family Support Programs,*** with  
2003 D. Daro (PI) and C. Nelson. Designed and implemented a three year, multi-site study of parental participation in voluntary support programs, funded by a three year grant from the William T. Grant Foundation (\$435,000) and three one-year grants from the Annie E. Casey Foundation (\$375,000).

- 1998 – **Co-Principal Investigator, *Parental Involvement in Home Visiting Programs***, with D. Daro (PI) and C. Nelson. Funded by the William T. Grant Foundation (\$75,000) and the Annie E. Casey Foundation (\$65,000) to support the development of a proposal for a multi-site examination of parental engagement in family support programs and the creation of a theory of parental involvement in voluntary programs.
- 1996 - **Co-Principal Investigator, *Improving HFA participant targeting, engagement and retention***, with D. Daro (PI) and K. Harding. This grant, funded by the Chicago Community Trust for \$100,000, supported a comparative study of engagement behavior of participants at three home visitation programs located in high risk, inner city neighborhoods.

#### ***Internal funding (\$15,494)***

- 2010 **Co-Investigator, *Literacy beliefs and practices of preschool teachers and parents with young children from low income families***, with L. Harper (PI), and B. Young. HSS Research Partnership Grant, URI (\$5,000). This grant supported a pilot study investigating congruence in educational beliefs and practices between parents and Head Start teachers in low-income areas of Newport, Rhode Island.
- 2008 **Principal Investigator, *Developing the Family Food Behavior Survey***, Center for Urban Studies and Research, University of Rhode Island (\$4,500). This grant supported the data analysis and write-up of a pilot study testing a project-created measure of family food behavior.
- 2005 **Principal Investigator, *HDF Outcomes Assessment Planning Grant***, URI Provost's office (\$1702). Coordinated, proposed and developed student learning objectives for the Department of Human Development and Family Studies
- 2001 - **Principal Investigator, *Evaluation of the Strategic Support Mentoring Program with R. Laird (Shared PI)***. Funded by the URI Council for Research (\$4,292), this study analyzed existing process and outcome data related to a school-based mentoring program (K-8), and revised data collection instruments to develop a more comprehensive evaluation plan.

#### **CONSULTANT**

- 1999 **Consultant, *Human Development and Family Studies Department***, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, RI. Created several recommendations and a family policy framework for the department to utilize as it sought to build a focus in family policy across its undergraduate and graduate programs.
- 1995 **Advisor, *Evaluation of Ohio's Early Start Program***, Columbus, Ohio  
Provided input into the development of an evaluation plan for the Early Start Program.
- 1988 **Consultant, *Evanston Neighborhood Conference***, Evanston, Illinois

Identified and examined the organizational strength and policies of various neighborhood block groups in Evanston, Illinois.

## PUBLICATIONS

- McCurdy, K., Gorman, K., Kisler, T., and Metallinos-Katsaras, E. (in press). Maternal mental health and child health and nutrition. In V. Malhommes and R. King (Eds.), *The NICHD/Oxford Handbook on Child Development & Poverty*. Oxford, OH: Oxford University Press.
- McCurdy, K., and Metallinos-Katsaras, E. (2011). Socio-demographic determinants of food security status among first-time WIC participants. *Topics in Clinical Nutrition*, 26 (3), 216-228.
- McCurdy, K., Gorman, K., and Metallinos-Katsaras, E. (2010). From poverty to food insecurity and child overweight: A family stress approach. *Child Development Perspectives*, 4 (2), 144-151.
- McCurdy, K., and Gorman, K. (2010). Measuring family food environments in diverse families with young children. *Appetite*, 54, 615-618.
- Taylor, M. and McCurdy, K. (2010). The contribution of the helping relationship in promoting retention in a home visiting program to prevent child maltreatment (pp. 63-80). In E. Douglas (Ed.), *Innovations in child and family policy*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books.
- McCurdy, K. (2009). Integrating field experiences into an infant-toddler classroom. *SRCD Developments*, 52, 4.
- Daro, D., McCurdy, K., Falconnier, L., Winje, C., Anisfeld, E., Katzev, A., Keim, A., LeCroy, C., and Nelson, C. (2007). The role of community in facilitating service utilization. *Journal of Prevention & Intervention in the Community*, 34 (1/2), 181-204.
- Also published as: Daro, D., McCurdy, K., Falconnier, L., Winje, C., Anisfeld, E., Katzev, A., Keim, A., LeCroy, C., and Nelson, C. (2007). The role of community in facilitating service utilization. In J. Galano (Ed.), *The Healthy Families America Initiative: Integrating research, theory and practice*. Binghamton, NY: Haworth.
- Daro, D., and McCurdy, K. (2007). Interventions to prevent child maltreatment. In L. S. Doll, S. Bonzo, J. Mercy, and D. Sleet (Eds.), *Handbook of injury and violence prevention* (pp. 137-156). Secausus, NJ: Springer.
- McCurdy, K., Daro, D., Anisfeld, E., Katzev, A., Keim, A., LeCroy, C., McAfee, C., Nelson, C., Falconnier, L., McGuigan, W., Park, J., Sandy, J., and Winje, C. (2006). Understanding maternal intentions to engage in home visiting programs. *Children and Youth Services Review*, 28, 1195-1212.

- McCurdy, K. (2005). The influence of stress and support on maternal attitudes. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 29, 251-268.
- Daro, D., McCurdy, K., Falconnier, L., and Stojanovic, D. (2003). Sustaining new parents in home visitation services: Key participant and program factors. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 27, 1101-1125.
- McCurdy, K. (2003). Commentary: Spare-time life of Chinese children. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 24 (4), 403-405.
- McCurdy, K., Gannon, R., and Daro, D. (2003). Participation in home-based, family support programs: Ethnic variations. *Family Relations*, 52 (1), 3 -11.
- McCurdy, K. and Daro, D. (2001). Parent involvement in family support programs: An integrated theory. *Family Relations*, 50 (2), 113 – 121.
- McCurdy, K. (2001). Can home visitation enhance maternal social support? *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 29 (1), 97-112.
- McCurdy, K. (2000). What works in child abuse prevention programs: Healthy Families America. M. Kluger, G. Alexander, and P. Curtis (Eds.), *What works in child welfare* (pp. 45-55). Washington, DC: CWLA Press
- McCurdy, K., and Jones, E. (2000). *Supporting families: Lessons from the field*. The results from the William Penn Foundation Child Abuse Prevention Initiative. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications.
- McCurdy, K., Hurvis, S. and Clark, J. (1996). Engaging and retaining families in child abuse prevention programs. *The APSAC Advisor*, 9 (3), 1, 3-8.
- McCurdy, K. (1995). Risk assessment in child abuse prevention programs. *Social Work Research*, 19 (2), 77-88.
- McCurdy, K., and Daro, D. (1994). Child maltreatment: A national survey on reports and fatalities. *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, 9 (1), 75-94.
- Daro, D., and McCurdy, K. (1994). Preventing child abuse and neglect: Programmatic interventions. *Child Welfare*, 5, 405-430.
- Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (1994). Letter to the editor. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 18 (3), 298 - 301.
- Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (1992). The links between types of maltreatment and demographic characteristics of children. *Child Abuse and Neglect*, 16 (2), 201-215.

Wohlstetter, P., and McCurdy, K. (1991). The link between school decentralization and school politics. *Urban Education*, 25 (4), 391-414.

Markusen, A., and McCurdy, K. (1989). Chicago's defense-based high technology: A Case Study of the 'Seedbeds of Innovation' Hypothesis. *Economic Development Quarterly*, 3 (1), 15-31.

## REPORTS/REVIEWS

McCurdy, K., Daly-Cano, M., Seperack, A., & Kloss, M. (2011). *Year End Report: Recruitment and retention of early childhood professional in Children with Special Health Care Needs programs*. Prepared for the Rhode Island College Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities.

McCurdy, K., Kutzler, A., O'Neill, R., & Powers, J. (2010). *Year End Report: Recruitment and retention of early childhood professional in Children with Special Health Care Needs programs*. Prepared for the Rhode Island College Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities.

McCurdy, K., Penhallow, P., Kutzler, A., O'Neill, R., & Powers, J. (2009). *Year End Report: Recruitment and retention of early childhood professional in Children with Special Health Care Needs programs*. Prepared for the Rhode Island College Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities.

Uttley, C., McCurdy, K., & DeFrance, J. (2008). *Year End Report: Recruitment and retention of early childhood professional in Children with Special Health Care Needs programs*. Prepared for the Rhode Island College Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities.

McCurdy, K. (2004). [Review of the book *Unequal childhoods: Class, race and family life*]. *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, 25 (2), 271-273.

Daro, D., McCurdy, K., and Nelson, C. (2004). *Engagement and retention in voluntary new parent support programs: Final report*. Prepared for the William T. Grant and Annie E. Casey Foundations.

McCurdy, K. (1995). *Evaluation of the William Penn Foundation Child Abuse Prevention Initiative: Final Results*. Prepared for the William Penn Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

McCurdy, K. (1995). *Home visiting*. Monograph prepared for the National Resource Center on Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, DC.

Daro, D., Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (1990). *Reliability and validity of the National Incidence of Child Abuse and Neglect Study conducted by Westat Associates in 1988: Methodological review*. Prepared for Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, Washington, DC.

**PRESENTATIONS - Juried**

- McCurdy, K., Gorman, K., Kisler, T., Metallinos-Katsaras, E., & Guertin, K. (2011). *Maternal depression and child nutritional outcomes in low-income families of preschoolers*. Poster presented at the Biennial Conference of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada, March 31-April 2.
- McCurdy, K. (2009). *Cultural influences on the parent-provider relationship*. Paper presented at the Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, San Francisco, CA, November 11-14.
- McCurdy, K., and Taylor, M. (2008). *Parent/provider relationships in child abuse prevention programs*. Paper presented at the XVIIth IPSCAN International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, Hong Kong, China, September 7-10.
- Taylor, M., and McCurdy, K. (2008). *The contribution of helping relationships on retention in a home visiting program*. Paper presented at the 1st National Research Conference on Child and Family Programs and Policy, Bridgewater, MA, July 10-11, 2008.
- Uttley, C. and McCurdy, K. (2008). *Learning from the 2007 Rhode Island Early Childhood Summer Institute*. Paper presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the New England Educational Research Organization, Hyannis, MA, April 9-11.
- Metallinos-Katsaras, E., McCurdy, K., and Kallio, J. (2007). *Demographic moderators of food insecurity and overweight in low income preschool children*. Poster presented at the 2007 Annual Conference of the National Council on Family Relations, Pittsburgh, PA, Nov. 6 – 10.
- Miller, M.K., and McCurdy, K. (2006). *Resiliency in children and adolescents in long-term foster care: A longitudinal perspective*. Paper presented at the International Family Violence and Child Victimization Research Conference, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH, July 9 – 12.
- McCurdy, K., Daro, D., McGuigan, W., Park, J., and Nelson, C. (2004). *Understanding parental engagement in home visitation programs*. Poster presented at the 2004 National Conference on Family Relations Annual Conference, Orlando, Florida, Nov. 17 – 20.
- McCurdy, K., Nelson, C., Anisfeld, E., Park, J., and Katzev, A. (March 2003). *Retaining diverse families in child abuse prevention programs: The critical first three months*. Paper presented at the 14<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, St. Louis, Missouri.
- McCurdy, K. (April 2002). *The impact of stress and support on maternal attitudes*. Paper presented at the Conference on Human Development, Charlotte, NC.
- McCurdy, K., Daro, D., and Stojanovic, D. (April 2001). *Engaging families in home visitation*

*programs*. Symposium presenter (K. McCurdy, chair) at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Minneapolis, MN.

McCurdy, K., and Daro, D. (June 2000). *Involvement in child abuse prevention programs: An ecological theory*. Paper presented at the Victimization of Children and Youth International Research Conference, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.

McCurdy, K. (July 1998). *Can we improve parenting attitudes? Factors promoting change among at-risk mothers*. Presentation at the Sixth Annual National Colloquium of American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Chicago, IL.

McCurdy, K. (August 1997). *Home-based child abuse prevention research: Directions for the future*. Symposium (C. Schellenbach, Chair) presented at the 195th Convention of the American Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.

McCurdy, K. (September 1996). *Intensive home visitation: A randomized trial study of Hawaii's Healthy Start Program*. Paper presented at the 11th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Washington, D.C.

McCurdy, K., Harding, K., and Hurvis, S. (May 1996). *A healthy start for families: Results from a randomized trial evaluation of home visitation services*. Paper presented at the 24th Annual Child Abuse and Neglect Symposium, sponsored by the C. Henry Kempe National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Keystone, CO.

McCurdy, K., and Jones, E. (July 1995). *Meeting the child abuse prevention challenge*. Paper presented at the Fourth Family Violence Research Conference, University of New Hampshire, Durham, NH.

McCurdy, K. (September 1992). *Current trends in child abuse reports and fatalities in the United States*. Paper given at the Ninth International Congress on Child Abuse and Neglect, Chicago, IL.

McCurdy, K. (November 1991). *Current trends in child abuse reporting and fatalities: The results of the 1990 annual fifty state survey*. Paper presented at the Eighth National Conference on Research, Demonstration and Evaluation in Public Human Services, Washington, D.C.

McCurdy, K. (September 1991). *Findings from the Second National Incidence study*. Workshop presented at the Ninth National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, Denver, CO.

Lewis, D., McCurdy, K., and Wohlstetter, P. (1990). *School decentralization as social control: Assessing the urban variations*. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA.

Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (May 1990). *Links between maltreatment types and demographic*

*characteristics of children.* Paper given at Meeting the Challenge: Research in Child Abuse and Neglect, A Research Symposium, sponsored by Temple University, Philadelphia, PA.

McCurdy, K. (April 1990). *Dade County and Chicago: A comparative case study of decentralization in the 1980s.* Master's Thesis presented at the Annual Conference of the American Educational Research Association, Boston, MA.

Rosenbuam, J., Popkin, S., Rusin, J., and McCurdy, K. (August 1989). *Social integration of low-income black adults in white middle-class suburbs.* Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association, San Francisco, CA.

Popkin, S., Rosenbaum, J., Rusin, J., and McCurdy, K. (August 1989). *Neighborhood satisfaction of low-income blacks in middle-class suburbs.* Paper presented at the 39th Annual Meeting of the Society for Study of Social Problems, Berkeley, CA.

### **PRESENTATIONS - Invited**

McCurdy, K. (2009). *Maternal depression, family food behavior, and child nutritional health.* Colloquium presentation to faculty and students from the URI/RIC PhD in Education Program.

McCurdy, K. (2006). *The face of poverty.* Lecture/workshop presented at the Academic Experience, sponsored by University of Rhode Island's University College, Kingston, RI.

McCurdy, K., Daro, D., and Falconnier, L. (2002) *Engagement and retention in voluntary support programs: New theory.* Paper presented at the Prevent Child Abuse America National Conference, Dallas, TX.

McCurdy, K. (September 2000). *Should I stay or should I go? Parent participation in HFA programs.* Paper presented at Healthy Families America: Sharing Our Strengths Conference, Atlanta, GA.

McCurdy, K. (April 1997). *Child maltreatment: How prevalent is it and how do we prevent it?* Workshop presented at the Fifth Annual Children's Justice Conference, Bellevue, WA.

McCurdy, K. (March 1997). *Comprehensive home visitation research: Implications for program design.* Research briefing presented at the Healthy Families America Conference, Chicago, IL.

McCurdy, K. (February 1997). *Applying research findings to home visitation programs.* Keynote Address at the Second Annual Conference on Home Visitation, Healthy Families-Wisconsin, Stevens Point, WI.

Ayoub, C., Daro, D., Bigelow, K., Lutzker, J., and McCurdy, K. (January 1997). *Sustaining child abuse and neglect prevention efforts: Promising models and strategies.* Advanced Training Institute with at the Eleventh Annual San Diego Conference on Responding to Child

Maltreatment sponsored by Children's Hospital, San Diego, CA.

McCurdy, K. (October 1995). *Child abuse prevention with high risk families: Findings from a six year evaluation of nine prevention programs*. Research briefing presented at Leadership and Healthy Families America Conference, Chicago, IL.

McCurdy, K. (November 1994). *Public opinion poll*. Workshop presented at the Annual Leadership Conference of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, Chicago, IL

McCurdy, K. (May 1994). *Evaluating your efforts*. Workshop presented at the First Healthy Families America Conference, Chicago, IL.

Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (November 1992). *Results matter: Evaluating home visiting programs*. Workshop presented at the Families in Focus: Forum, sponsored by the Wisconsin Council on Human Concerns, Milwaukee, WI.

Jones, E., and McCurdy, K. (September 1992). *Final evaluation results of the William Penn Foundation Prevention Initiative*. Paper presented at the Annual Leadership Conference of the National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, Chicago, IL.

## **AWARDS/HONORS**

- Selected to Leadership Development Program, College of Human Science and Services, University of Rhode Island
- Nominated by the College of Human Science and Services, University of Rhode Island, for the 2006 Ernest A. Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service & Academic Outreach
- Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society
- Summer Research Institute Participant, National Data Archive on Child Abuse and Neglect, Cornell University, June 19-24, 1994.
- Research Fellowships by the Center for Urban Affairs and Policy Research, Northwestern University 1994; 1988-1989.

## **SELECTED PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH ACTIVITIES**

- Editorial Board, *Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal*, 2006 - current
- Grant Reviewer: United Way of Rhode Island, Spencer Foundation, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
- Invited participant, Summit on Children, United Way of Rhode Island
- Member, Society for Research in Child Development
- Member, National Council on Family Relations, 2000-2009

- Former Editor for Prevention, *The APSAC Advisor*, American Professional Society on Abuse of Children
- Reviewer: *Applied Research on Children, Child Abuse & Neglect, Children and Youth Services Review, European Psychologist, Family Relations, Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, Journal of Family and Economic Issues, Journal of Family Issues*
- Governor's appointee, Interagency Coordinating Council, Early intervention services, 2008-present
- Member, Faculty Senate, University of Rhode Island, 2007-8
- Member, URI Academic Plan Task Force on Graduate Education, 2010
- Co-Chair and member, School Improvement Teams, South Road Elementary School and West Kingston Elementary School, South Kingstown, RI, 2003-2005
- Appointed parent representative, Reconfiguration Advisement Committee, South Kingstown School Committee, South Kingstown, RI, 2010-current
- Family Partner, South County Habitat for Humanity, South Kingstown, RI, 2004 – current