

# LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research Newsletter

Summer 2024 Issue | June 2024



The LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research is a collaborative group of faculty and students that supports community-engaged interdisciplinary research in health, education, relationships, and development of infants, children, adolescents, emerging adults, and families everywhere. The Centre conducts leading edge research and mobilizes knowledge in ways that improve wellbeing and resilience for children and youth.

Our newsletter aims to share some of this incredible work and provide updates to the LaMarsh Community.

[Visit our website](#) to learn more about the research that is done at LaMarsh.

# Director's Message

**Dr. Rebecca Bassett-Gunter, LaMarsh Centre Director**



Happy Summer LaMarsh!!

Wow! The past few weeks have been full of joy and excitement at LaMarsh. So refreshing after a difficult winter term! Our recent graduate student symposium was a wonderful community-building event. It was amazing to see so many people come together and share knowledge around mental health and well-being. What a reminder of the importance of our LaMarsh community. I hope that we can build on this momentum with some exciting events planned for the fall. We will look forward to our fall open

house, the Jackman Scholars' Learning forum, and a LaMarsh research talk in the fall term.

One of the most important missions of the LaMarsh centre is to support student growth and development so that the future of Child and Youth research is in the hands of well-trained leaders in the field. This fall, we will offer several exciting opportunities to support our LaMarsh trainees. For example, we will be launching a series of research and knowledge mobilization support initiatives that will provide funding to several LaMarsh students. We will also be collaborating with the York Knowledge Mobilization Unit to offer our students a tailored knowledge mobilization training opportunity. I am really excited about these initiatives. If you have not already done so, be sure to register your students as LaMarsh members to ensure they are eligible to benefit from these opportunities!

I spent a good chunk of time this spring putting together our annual report. This was an opportunity to collate data regarding the work of our centre. Subsequently, it has been such a joy to put together this newsletter. Looking at all our members' amazing accomplishments is so rewarding. I am so proud to be part of such an amazing group. As we continue to build momentum and capacity at LaMarsh, I remind everyone to please be sure to list LaMarsh as your home research centre on any grants that you are submitting. In particular, please list LaMarsh on the ORS checklist so that we can benefit from any overhead that might come to the university. We are still working to secure support from a centre coordinator but I hope this fall we will fill the role and in turn be able to better support our members. Until then, please feel free to reach out to myself or Shabnam Nikfar in the Faculty of Health for any support.

The summer is a time for celebration of all our achievements, and recharging our batteries so we can enter the fall term fully motivated and refreshed. I am wishing each of you a wonderful summer that balances rest and productivity. Very much looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall!

All the best, Rebecca

## Article of the Season

Each season, the LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research highlights an article that has been produced by one of our members. Check out this issue's research spotlight, which comes from Dr. Jennifer Connolly's lab!

### An exploratory evaluation of a model of care for youth who are at risk of sexual exploitation and human trafficking

**Kyla P. McDonald, Riana Fisher, Jennifer Connolly**

The article "An exploratory evaluation of a model of care for youth who are at risk of sexual exploitation and human trafficking" examines a therapeutic program aimed at protecting youth in the child welfare system who are at heightened risk of trafficking and sexual exploitation. The team examined how combining trauma-informed care, mental health support, and medical/legal assistance can help these at-risk individuals move away from dangerous activities into adaptive pathways of development. The study found that a comprehensive and tailored approach, based on enhancing the relationship between the youth and their foster parent significantly improves the well-being and safety of these young people, highlighting the importance of integrated support systems in addressing their complex needs. For more details, you can read the full article by clicking on the [link](#).

## Recent Events

The following events were hosted through the Centre over the Spring term:

- **The LaMarsh Graduate Student Symposium** was held in person on **May 8, 2024**. The event included a collaboration with Unsinkable about important topics such as mental health and stress management. The event provided opportunities for faculty members as well as trainees to share stories on mental health and connect better. Thank you to everyone who participated!
- The **LaMarsh Faculty Members and Trainees Talk** took place with Dr. Lara Pierce's group giving a Virtual talk on **April 25, 2024**. The team shared their research regarding the connections between socioeconomic status (SES), early life stress, and infant neurodevelopment. Using longitudinal samples of infants from low- to mid-SES backgrounds, the discussion focused on how variables like early life stress, caregiver-child interactions, and language environment influence the development of abilities such as language and executive function. Findings provide insights into how early experiences shape cognitive development. We enjoyed learning about this work and engaging in really interesting discussions. Thank you to Dr. Pierce and her students!



## Upcoming Events

We are excited to share information regarding the following upcoming events::

- Nazilla Khanlou (Organizer) is hosting the 7th Lillian Meighen Wright Maternal-Child Health Learning Academy: Impacts of Natural Disasters on Maternal-Child Health, July 15 & 17, 2024. York University. For more information visit: <https://nkhanlou.info.yorku.ca/files/2024/05/Register-7th-LMW-Learning-Academy.2024.pdf?x46752>

## Member Profiles

We welcomed one new member to LaMarsh this spring. We look forward to engaging and learning with Dr. Conder!

### **Dr. Julie Conder**

**Title :** Associate Professor & Distinguished Fellow in Learning and Teaching Excellence

**York U Profile :** [visit Dr. Conder's York U profile](#)

**Email :** [conder@yorku.ca](mailto:conder@yorku.ca)



Dr. Conder is an Associate Professor, Teaching Stream, in Psychology, and Distinguished Fellow in Learning and Teaching Excellence in the Faculty of Health at York University. With a background in cognitive neuroscience and cognitive science, Dr. Conder's teaching areas include critical thinking, writing/rhetoric, and science communication. Her research focuses on the experiences and academic outcomes of first-generation students in Canada and developing resources to support academic experiences for first-generation and intersectionally marginalized students.

## Articles, Hot Off The Press!

Our team has been busy publishing! Check out some publications from late 2023 and early 2024:

- Darwiche, Philipp, D., Prime, H. (2023). An ultra-brief systemic therapy to address child mental health symptomatology. *Family Process*, 00:1–14. doi: 10.1111/famp.12875.
- Wilkinson, C. L., Pierce, L. J., Sideridis, G., Wade, M., Nelson, C. A.(2023). Associations between EEG trajectories, family income, and cognitive abilities over the first two years of life. *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, 101260. doi: 10.1016/j.dcn.2023.101260.
- Fraser-Thomas, J., Harlow, M. (2023). Describing early years sport: take-up, pathways, and engagement patterns amongst preschoolers in a major Canadian city. *Sport in Society*, 1-23. <https://doi-org.ezproxy.library.yorku.ca/10.1080/17430437.2023.2234306>
- Khan A, Khanlou N, Nunes F, Seto L, Vazquez LM (2024). “My multiple cultural backgrounds are pulling me in all directions with my identity”: Asian and Latino Canadian youth experiences of cultural identity. *Identities*, 20 pages. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/1070289X.2024.2353465>
- Francis Xavier J, Khanlou N, Moradian S, Seto Nielsen L (2024). Enhancing paternal support: A concept analysis of social support for first-time fathers. *Nursing Forum*, 2024, (11 pages). <https://doi.org/10.1155/2024/2803795>
- Darroch, F.E., Ferreira Gomes, J.\*, Hayhurst, L.M.C., Warner, M.. (2024). "Let's talk about, like, how they're struggling with their sexuality": Exploring Gender Diversity and Trauma-and Violence-informed Sport for Development. *Sociology of Sport Journal*. <https://doi.org/10.1123/ssj.2023-0114>
- Giles, A., Hayhurst, L.M.C., McRae, N. (2024). Safe Sport for Whom?: Are National Sport Organizations Addressing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action for Sport through Safe Sport Policies? *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19406940.2024.2323006>
- Hayhurst, L.M.C., Nachman, J., Wang, R. (2024). Bicycling for mutual aid: Centering racialized and 2SLGBTQ+ cyclists in Toronto. *Urban, Planning and Transport Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21650020.2023.2277804>
- Darroch, F.E., Ferreira Gomes, J.\*, Hayhurst, L.M.C., McSweeney, M., Sinclair, T. (2024). Gender-based violence and trauma-and violence-informed approaches to sport for development: A scoping review. *Journal of Sport for Development*.

- Hayhurst, L.M.C. & Iqbal, I.\* (2024). The challenges of addressing sexual and gender-based violence and climate (in)justice: Tensions and challenges for the Sport for Development and Peace sector. In J. Rookwood & M. Holmes (Eds.), *Sport, Development and Peace: Critical Global Challenges*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Hayhurst, L.M.C., McSweeney, M.J., Nachman, J. (2024). Digital Knowledge Translation Considerations from a Bicycles for Development Project. In K. Rich, R. Smith & A. Giles (Eds.), *Participatory Research in Sport and Physical Activity*. London: Routledge.
- Ferreira Gomes, J.\* , Hayhurst, L.M.C., McSweeney, M., Nachman, J. (2023). Gender and leadership in sport for development and peace. In P. Markula & A. Knoppers (Eds.), *Handbook on Gender and Diversity in Sport Management*. Northampton, MA: Edward Elgar Publishers.



## Recent Presentations

Congratulations to our members who have shared their research in recent presentations:

- Kurtz Landy, Christine; Angle, Pamela; Barrieau, Gabrielle; Berndl, Anne; Osepchook, Claire; Fleming, Karen. (June, 2024). *Exploring women's experiences of preterm urgent/emergent Caesarean Section (UE-CS): A qualitative study examining stressors and potential interventions to mitigate negative emotional/psychological impact*. Canadian National Perinatal Research Meeting: Bringing the Perinatal Child Canadian Research Community Together. Vancouver, CA.
- Barrieau, Gabrielle; Angle, Pamela; Kurtz Landy, Christine; Berndl, Anne; Osepchook, Claire; Flemming, Karen. (June, 2024). *Women's experiences of term urgent/emergent Caesarean section (UE-CS): a qualitative study, in a patient-centric approach, examining stressors and possible interventions to improve the childbirth experience*. Canadian National Perinatal Research Meeting: Bringing the Perinatal Child Canadian Research Community Together. Vancouver, CA.
- Angle P, Barrieau G, Berndl A, Fleming K, Kurtz Landy C, Montbriand J, Osepchook C, Pardy B, Sarabia M. (May, 2024). Women's experience of anesthesia care during urgent or emergent Cesarean section: A qualitative study examining stressors and potential solutions [Oral presentation]. *Obstetric Anesthesia Annual Scientific Meeting*, Obstetric Anaesthetists' Association, Nominated for the *Felicity Reynolds Free Papers Competition*. Birmingham, UK.
- Angle P, Barrieau G, Berndl A, Fleming K, Kurtz Landy C, Osepchook C, Pardy B, Prescod A, Sarabia M, Sharma I. (May, 2024). Women's experiences of anesthesia care during urgent or emergent Caesarean section: A qualitative study examining stressors and potential solutions [Poster presentation]. *Shields Research Day 2024*. University of Toronto, Toronto, CA.

## Awards & Achievements

**Congratulations to Lyndsay Hayhurst, Rebecca Bassett-Gunter and Julia Ferreira Gomes who are part of a team who received the following Abuse-Free Sport Research Grant:**

- Abuse-Free Sport Research Grant Program, Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. "Investigating the Utility of Trauma-and Violence-Informed Sport for Development in Supporting Youth Sexual and Gender-Based Violence Survivors in Canada." (\$82,440, 2024-2027).

**Congratulations to Isra Iqbal for being awarded the Ontario Graduate Scholarship.**

## Partner Stories

- Dr. Lyndsay Hayhurst, along with Dr. Francine Darroch and Dr. Rebecca Bassett-Gunter, partnered with NUTMEG Soccer for the Abuse-Free Sport Canada Grant. NUTMEG Soccer is a youth soccer organization that serves sport-for-development programs for children and youth aged 6-12, operating out of Alexandra Park in Toronto.

## Announcements

### Call for Applications

The 2024-2025 **Dr. Eric Jackman Health Scholars Award** is designed to support student research teams who will be funded to carry out community-engaged research alongside a LaMarsh Faculty Member and community partner. The award will be granted annually to two teams of Jackman Scholars, each composed of one undergraduate and one graduate student. Applications are due **July 31, 2024**. Make sure you have registered your students as LaMarsh members so that they are eligible!

### Join the LaMarsh LinkedIn Group!

We have established a LinkedIn group for the LaMarsh Community. The goal of this group is to provide a platform for LaMarsh members to support one another.

You're invited to actively engage with this virtual community in ways that are most meaningful to you. For example, you can use the LinkedIn group to contribute to discussions, ask questions, share announcements, seek out mentors, schedule meetups, and network with fellow LaMarsh members.

We hope this platform will serve as a helpful tool to foster communication among our Community. This group will evolve based on your contributions and needs, and we welcome your suggestions to improve the service.

[Click here to join the LaMarsh LinkedIn group.](#)

## Follow Us On Social Media

Be sure to **follow** LaMarsh on social media to stay up-to-date with the latest news and events from the Centre. We also encourage you to **tag @LaMarshCentre** in your posts, so that we can re-share your work with our community!

**Instagram:** [@LaMarshCentre](#)

**Twitter:** [@LaMarshCentre](#)

**LinkedIn:** [LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research at York University](#)



## Interested In Joining Our Trainee Network?

The LaMarsh Trainee Network is a group of undergraduate students, graduate students, and post-doctoral fellows studying in the area of child and youth research from a variety of disciplines at York University. The aim of the Trainee Network is to help students establish meaningful academic relationships with researchers in their field of interest, share research with peers, and give talks at symposium events for learning and development purposes. The Network is also designed to broaden interest and awareness of child and youth research, encourage multi-disciplinary research, and provide a means for skill development.

To get involved, email the LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research [lamarsh@yorku.ca](mailto:lamarsh@yorku.ca)

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