

# LaMarsh Centre for Child & Youth Research Newsletter

Fall 2024 Issue | December 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**



It feels impossible that we are closing out 2024 and about to welcome 2025! This year has been a really excellent year for the LaMarsh centre. We have exchanged knowledge, celebrated many achievements, welcomed new members and grown our community. This year we initiated several new research and knowledge mobilization support opportunities for our members. We recently launched our “Researcher Spotlight” feature so that we can continue to learn about our colleagues’ work and think about opportunities for collaboration. I truly believe that our centre can have tremendous impact through the philosophy that our whole can be greater than the sum of our parts! At a time when our institution is facing many challenges, I think that community and collaboration will be more important than ever. The LaMarsh centre is meant to be a space for both! We have several exciting events planned for the new year including research talks and our graduate student symposium. I am very much looking forward to 2025 where we can continue to work as a collective to move toward our centre goals and positively impact the lives of children and youth.

I wish everyone a wonderful holiday season. I hope you are able to rest and enjoy time with loved ones. Thank you for your support and engagement. Best wishes. 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. This month, we are highlighting the work of our newest member Dr. Benedict Weobong who leads meaningful work on health and well-being check-ups in Ghana.

### **Reaching adolescents with health services: systematic development of an adolescent health check-ups programme in Ghana (Y-Check, Ghana)**

**Benedict Weobong, Franklin N Glozah, Hannah B. T. Abdulai, Eric Koka, Nancy Addae, Stanley Alor, Kid Kohl, Prerna Banati, Philip B Adongo, David A Ross**



Despite global health efforts, an estimated 1.2 million adolescents die each year. These harrowing statistics are due in part to a lack of information, quality services, and environments that are conducive to the health and well-being of youth, an obstacle that is more pronounced for many low and middle-income countries. Of particular relevance is the context of Ghana, where policy to safeguard the well-being and health of adolescents has been implemented through the Adolescent Health and Development program. A mandate of this policy is to provide health services and health information to Ghanaian youth. This effort, though intended to affect positive change, has nefarious barriers such as poor integration, uneven quality and coverage, and disproportionate focus on sexual and reproductive health. Dr. Weobong and colleagues aim to address this through the implementation of a person-centred, systematically developed framework advocating for adolescent health and well-being check-ups in Ghana. The article discusses findings across three stages of research within the ‘Y-Check Research Programme’ a World Health Organization-supported initiative spanning three African cities (Chitungwiza - Zimbabwe, Mwanza - Tanzania, Cape Coast - Ghana).

In the first stage of the research, the authors aimed to (1) identify adolescent health policies, programs, and interventions, (2) describe the educational context in Ghana by discussing the health system at school and attendance, and (3) obtain estimates of adolescent health problems. In the second stage, the authors developed the health check-up intervention with two samples of different age groups (10-14 years old, 15-19 years old). Using a multi-stage cluster sampling approach, participants were recruited from schools and communities, stratified to ensure diversity by socioeconomic status, school year, sex, among others. Participants ranked content, settings, and delivery modality, as well as shared facilitators/barriers. In the third and final stage, the health check-up framework was finalized through a consensus-building workshop with key informants across various sectors (e.g., health, education, community-based organizations).

Several key concepts emerged from the research findings. First, the importance of co-production; it is critical to engage knowledge users and adolescents concurrently so that interventions can foster ownership, become tailored, promote acceptability, and ultimately work towards improving implementation. Adolescents also emphasized preferences for

respectful, trained staff and convenient settings like schools or communities. Second, the importance of establishing clear content selection criteria was highlighted. Screening interventions were limited to conditions with effective, accessible treatments. Thus, it is paramount to maintain transparent communication to facilitate knowledge-user understanding. Finally, the findings emphasize cross-country collaboration. Findings from research teams in Ghana, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe were useful, specifically as it pertains to highlighting the strengths and gaps within the school health program in Ghana.

To conclude, the Y-Check intervention builds upon Ghana's existing adolescent health policies, while simultaneously addressing gaps including the lack of mental health assessments and follow-ups in current school-based health screenings. The authors propose that adolescents receive two check-ups at 10-14 years and 15-19 years, respectively. **The full article can be found [here](#)**; check it out!



## Past Events

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

### LaMarsh Fall Open House Drop-In

Our annual open-house drop-in was held on October 23, 2024. This event provided an opportunity for networking and community building. Thanks to everyone who came out!



### LaMarsh Research Talk

Dr. Karl Eriskon and his lab group delivered a research talk on September 25, providing an overview of their interdisciplinary, systems-oriented, and community-based research on youth development in sports. Specifically, they presented their work addressing how participating in sports promotes psychosocial development in youth, and how this can foster positive development, learning, and growth. Thank you Karl and Winnie! We loved learning about your research!

### Jackman Scholar Learning Forum 2024

This year's keynote speakers Kim Hesketh (left) and Andrea Cross (right) delivered a presentation discussing the importance of using implementation science to turn evidence-based frameworks into evidence-based practice. Their presentation focused on how the 'F-Words' framework (i.e., functioning, fun, friends, family, and future) has been turned into an implementation program, and is now recognized as evidence-based practice used globally. Drs. Hesketh and Cross discussed their experience with this initiative, and highlighted some of the key lessons learned.



# Upcoming Events

We are excited to host the following events in 2025:

## **LaMarsh Winter Research Talks**

VIRTUAL research talk with **Dr. Sarah Jensen** (Boston Children's Hospital) on Thursday, February 27th at 10AM via Zoom. Dr. Jensen is a psychologist with a special interest in how pre- and postnatal stress affects children's development and well-being, and the biological mechanisms linking psychosocial and biological stress with child outcomes. She completed her degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Copenhagen, and obtained a PhD in Developmental Psychopathology at the *Institute of Psychiatry, Psychology and Neuroscience, King's College London*. After her graduate studies, Sarah completed postdoctoral training with Professor Charles Nelson, where she studied the effects of early biological and psychosocial adversity on neurodevelopmental outcomes in children in Bangladesh. She currently works on the ENAT and LIDG studies of child development in the context of maternal stress and nutrition intervention in Ethiopia.



IN-PERSON research talk with **Dr. Madison Aitken** on Tuesday, April 15th at 10AM (room location: HNES 140). Dr. Aitken's research focuses on improving youth psychotherapy outcomes by understanding how evidence-based therapies bring about change, and by testing new interventions targeting factors that predict poor treatment response. She is also interested in innovative approaches to increasing the real-world relevance of psychotherapy outcome measures. Her research is funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Cundill Centre for Child and Youth Depression.



## **LaMarsh Annual Graduate Student Symposium**

Save the date! The annual Graduate Student Symposium will take place on Thursday, May 29 from 10AM-2PM (Location: HNES-140). Details to follow. We hope to see you there!

**Winter Knowledge Mobilization course for students** – [email Rebecca for information!](#)

If you or your lab are interested in giving a talk at a LaMarsh event please let Rebecca know!

# Member Profiles

## Congratulations to our 2024-2025 LaMarsh Graduate Student Leaders:

### Paul De Luca

**Supervisor: Dr. Heather Prime Department: Psychology**

**Email:** pdeluca@yorku.ca

Paul is a graduate student in the Clinical Developmental Psychology program. He has an undergraduate degree (BA) in Psychology from McGill University and a graduate degree (MA) in Child Studies from Concordia University. Paul's research interests include evidence-based practices in contextualized family care (e.g., parent training, couples intervention in parenting couples), maternal mental health, and links between the social determinants of health and subsequent developmental/mental health outcomes. Through his research, Paul employs a family systems lens to understand the complex relationship between members of the family unit, with careful consideration for 'Justice, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion' to ensure communities who have been historically underrepresented in psychology have their voices amplified.



### Emma Resendes

**Supervisor: Dr. Jonathan Weiss Department:**

**Psychology Email:** emmares@yorku.ca

Emma is a first year master's student in the Clinical Developmental Psychology program. She has an undergraduate degree (Honours BA) in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour, specialized in Mental Health from McMaster University. Emma's master's thesis research aims to understand the factors that predict mental health trainees' intentions to work with autistic youth and youth with intellectual disabilities. Broadly, Emma is interested in the development of inclusive interventions to support the mental health of individuals with neurodevelopmental and intellectual disabilities to promote greater accessibility within the mental health system.



## We are excited to welcome our new LaMarsh member:

### Benedict Weobang

Dr. Benedict Weobang's research involves instrument development, perinatal depression, alcohol and substance use, mental healthcare systems, and health promotion interventions. His research portfolio is informed by the principles of global mental health along three strands (developing and evaluating psychological treatments; implementation research to scale up evidence-based interventions for mental disorders in routine primary health care settings; and school-based health and wellbeing programmes), tied together through the innovative use of task-sharing strategies. His current research laboratory holds three important activities: developing a step-up care intervention to treat depression and anxiety among adolescents in Ghana

(<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/research/african-youth-in-mind>); evaluating the implementation of a routine health check-up programme for adolescents; and building a critical mass of global mental health researchers through doctoral and post-doctoral training (<https://amari-africa.org>). **Welcome Benedict!**



## Articles, Hot Off The Press!

Congratulations to all of our LaMarsh members who recently published their work. Here are just a few of our team's amazing publications to check out.

- Bay-Cheng, L. Y., & Ginn, H. G. (2024). Capable of risk: Sexual risk and the dignity of marginalized women. In P. J. Kleinplatz (Ed.), *New Directions in Sex Therapy: Innovations and Alternatives* (3<sup>rd</sup>ed., pp. 81-98). Routledge.  
<https://dx.doi.org/10.4324/9781003388760-6>
- Bay-Cheng, L. Y., Sutton, E. R., & 4theRecord Research Team. (2024). Put at & kept from risk: The sexual risk dilemmas confronting marginalized youth. *Journal of Adolescence*. <https://doi.org/10.1002/jad.12430>
- Bohr, Y., Hankey, J., Thomas, A., Abdelmaseh, M., Armour, L., McCague, H., Barnhardt, J., Oskalns, M., Garvey, N., Singh, Y., Danz, C., Singoorie, C., Qaunaq, R., Oshweetok, I., Lucassen, M., Merry, S., Shepherd, M., Bornstein, M. H., Ahmad, F., . . . Weiss, J. (2024). A Nunavut community-directed Inuit youth mental wellness initiative: Making I-SPARX fly. *International Journal of Circumpolar Health*, 83(1).  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/22423982.2024.2401210>
- Disimino, K., Bassett-Gunter, R. L., Rassi, S., Ezaddoustdar, J., Sich, C. & Vanderloo, L. M. (2024). A systematic review of strategies for developing inclusive message content to promote physical activity among people with disabilities. *Journal of Exercise, Movement, and Sport*, 55(1).
- Garvey, N., Hankey, J., Bohr, Y., Barnhardt, J. (In press). Self-kindness, mindfulness, and common humanity: Effects of self-compassion on wellbeing for Indigenous participants in self-compassion-related interventions. *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*.



- Khanlou N, Khan A, Vazquez LM, Nunes F, Seto Nielsen L, Hasan N, and Francis Xavier J. (2024). Information Sheet 21: Asian-Canadian Youths’ Pandemic Experiences Through Visual Arts. Toronto, ON. York University.  
<https://nkhanlou.info.yorku.ca/files/2024/10/Info-Sheet-21-Asian-Canadian-Youth-Visual-Arts.Oct2024.pdf?x46752>
- Khanlou N, Vazquez LM, Khan A, , Hart M, Ohiku T, and Hutchinson N. Information Brief 20: Racialized Youth with Developmental Disabilities: Barriers to Inclusion in Services and Education. York University.  
<https://nkhanlou.info.yorku.ca/files/2024/05/Info-Sheet-20.-May-2024.pdf>
- Prime, H., Muise, A., Jambon, M., Koven, M., Markwell, A., Wade, M. (2024). A pilot randomized controlled trial of a brief conflict reappraisal intervention for community couples with young children. *Cognitive Therapy and Research*, 48, 895–909.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10608-024-10485-x>
- Virk, T., Letendre, T., & Pathman, T. (2024). The convergence of naturalistic paradigms and cognitive neuroscience methods to investigate memory and its development. *Neuropsychologia*, 196, 108779.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuropsychologia.2023.108779>

## Presentations

- ISRII 2024: The Bohr lab attended the International Society for Research on Internet Interventions (ISRII) Annual Meeting from June 2–5, 2024, in Limerick, Ireland, where they presented in a symposium titled “*Around the World with SPARX: Lessons in Digital Therapy for Adolescents*”. The symposium highlighted SPARX, a digital CBT tool adapted for Inuit youth in Nunavut, showcasing its cultural impact on mental wellness in remote communities. The event provided valuable connections with global experts and insights into innovative digital mental health solutions.
- Jazzmin Demy, Maya Koven, Alex Markwell & Gillian Shoychet presented at the 27th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development in Portugal, in June 2024.




- Khan A, Khanlou N, Vazquez LM, Nunes F, Lampkin M, Susanto D. (October 24, 2024). “Black and Asian Canadian youth with Developmental Disabilities: Barriers to Social Support”. Annual Canadian Children, Youth and Communities (CCYC) Health In | Equity Conference. (Poster).
- Chan, S., Estill, A., Samuel, C., Samuel, R., Rawana, J.S., & Connolly, C. (2024, April). An exploratory, mixed methods evaluation study of a community-based program to support child welfare youth’s transition from adolescence to adulthood. Flash talk presented at the 2024 Annual Meeting of the Society for Research on Adolescence, Chicago, IL.
- Charalampopoulou, M., Ibrahim, A., Prime, H., Eddy, N., Kerry, C., Langdon, P.E., Gray, K., Desai, S., Tilleczek, K., Rivto, P., Tint, A., Khanlou, N., Lunskey, Y., McMorris, C., & Weiss, J.A. (5 August 2024), IASSIDD 2024. A Therapeutic Photography Intervention for the Well-being of Autistic Young Adults. International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IASSIDD), Chicago, United States.
- Demy, J., Jambon, M., Wade, M., Muise, M., & Prime, H. (2024). *Snowball effects of a brief couple intervention on the coparenting relationship: A randomized controlled trial* [Poster presentation]. 2024 Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA, United States.
- Khan A, Vazquez LM, Hasan N, Nunes F, & Khanlou N. (July 15 & 17, 2024). Mothering during the COVID-19 pandemic: Social Support to Promote the Wellbeing of Mothers of Racialized Youth with Developmental Disabilities. 7th Lillian Meighen Wright Maternal-Child Health Learning Academy: Impacts of Natural Disasters on Maternal-Child Health.
- Khanlou N. (21 February 2024). Intersectionality-informed approach to addressing health disparities and social support inequities for racialized families of youth with developmental disabilities. Access and Use of Health Services by Black and Racialized People panel. Black and Racialized Health Equity (BARE) Research Program & African Child and Youth Migration Research Network (ACYMN), Calgary, Alberta. (Virtual presentation).
- Lee., K., Rawana, J.S., & Prime, H. (2023, June). Parenting behaviours and emotional socialization on emerging adults’ happiness, life satisfaction and flourishing: Emotion regulation as a mediator. Individual paper presented at The Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), San Diego, CA.
- Markwell, A., & Prime, H. (2024, February). *Who benefits from a brief online wise intervention for interparental couples?* Society for Personality and Social Psychology Annual Convention, San Diego, CA.
- Onorato, P.R., Rawana, J.S., & Flett, G.L. (2023, June). The relations among social anxiousness, interpersonal emotion regulation, and well-being: Support for a structural equation mediation model. Individual paper presented at The Society for the Study of Emerging Adulthood (SSEA), San Diego, CA.



Members of the REACH Lab at the ‘Growing Minds’ conference (November, 2024)

## Community Partnerships

- **New Collaboration with Connected North to Engage Youth Across Nunavut Schools:** Connected North hosts live interactive educational sessions on a variety of topics for classroom settings. This organization offers request-based lessons that teachers in schools across Nunavut can select from a database based on their students' needs and interests. The research team at the Bohr Lab has begun working with Connected North to identify which psychoeducational materials might be of interest to teachers. For example, one of the proposed classroom sessions might consist of psychoeducation about bullying and other mental wellness challenges, which are topics that are covered in the Inuit-specific mental wellness app that their research team is evaluating. Session content will be delivered by one or more of the Nunavut-based research assistants on their team who will also provide students with information about research participation.
  - **ADHD Research Day (September, 2024):** Dr. Maggie Toplak co-chaired the 11th Annual CADDRA ADHD Research Day, a professional event for researchers, post-doctoral fellows, and students and healthcare professionals conducting research on ADHD. The event included a keynote talk, poster session, panel discussion, and oral presentations. For more information on the event, please check it out [here](#)!
  - **7th Lillian Meighen Wright Maternal-Child Health Learning Academy:** Dr. Nazilla Khanlou organized this year's Learning Academy, focusing on the impact of natural disasters on maternal-child health. Given the ongoing climate crisis (and its related challenges), this event represents a timely opportunity to address many pertinent issues in this area, including diverse and complementary aspects of climate change. Careful consideration was paid to the impact of climate change on child development, youth, and families, racialized populations, and rural/coastal communities. The full details of presenters and abstracts can be found [here](#).
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- **Unsinkable:** The REACH Lab (Dr. Jennine Rawana) has partnered with Unsinkable as part of a first-generation study to assist in developing focus group materials and support both the training and facilitation of the sessions. Unsinkable is an organization that uses storytelling to bridge the gap between traditional mental health resources and innovative, psychosocial support models. They empower youth to share their personal stories, helping them understand that they are not alone in their journeys.
  - **Collective Results:** The REACH Lab is working with Collective Results, an organization with extensive experience in working with child welfare programs. The REACH research team is conducting their first-generation study to understand the challenges faced by youth in child welfare systems. The knowledge and insights gained will help to develop focus group sessions and a support program.

- **Let's Talk About Youth:** Gillian Shoychet co-chaired the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Let's Talk About Youth: A Clinical Developmental Conference at Guelph University.



*Gillian Shoychet (PhD2; bottom left) and fellow “Let’s Talk About Youth “ committee members.*



## Awards & Achievements



Congratulations to **Sepher Rassi, Carikaalan Sarvaanatham, Emma Regier and Johdeth Dela Cruz** for receiving the Dr. Eric Jackman Award! The award recognizes research which supports community-engaged interdisciplinary research into child and youth development including children at risk.

Congratulations to **Emma Resendes** and **Paul De Luca** for receiving the LaMarsh Centre Leadership Award.

Congratulations to **Sepehr Rassi** and **Winnie Li** for receiving the LaMarsh Conference Travel award. Sepehr and Winnie were supported in presenting their collaborative LaMarsh research at academic conferences this fall.

Congratulations to **Dr. Maggie Toplak** for receiving the LaMarsh Minor Research Grant. This award will provide support for Masters student **Adrian Torres** to work with **Dr. Toplak** and **Dr. Christine Till** on their collaborative research regarding cognitive performance tasks among youth with ADHD.

Congratulations **Gillian Shoychet** for receiving the Certificate of Excellence by the Canadian Psychological Association to acknowledge the Psychology Department's top thesis students at the Master's level.

Congratulations to **Julia Ferreira Gommès** on being awarded the LaMarsh Graduate Student Research Award.

Congratulations **Maya Koven** for receiving Canada Graduate Scholarship - Michael Smith Foreign Study Supplement to study systemic couple's interventions at the University of Lausanne.

Congratulations to **Jazzmin Demy** who was awarded the CIHR Canadian Graduate School Scholarship to fund her PhD research.

Congratulations to **Paul De Luca** and **Maya Koven** who were awarded the SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship to fund their MA research.

## Grants

**Dr. Rebecca Bassett-Gunter & Dr. Jennine Rawana** (Principal Investigators) were awarded a LaMarsh Catalyst Grant titled “Cultivating resiliency among underserved university students: Developing a brief intervention to promote well-being among first-generation emerging adults.”

**Dr. Jennifer Connolly & Dr. Jennine Rawana** (Principal Investigators) were awarded a LaMarsh Catalyst Grant titled “A scaling up of the community-based Milestone Program for youth transitioning out of care.”

**Dr. Heather Prime** (Principal Investigator) was awarded a two-year Insight Development Grant titled "Daily Stress for Whom? Development of a Daily Stress Scale for Diverse Parent Populations."

**Dr. Heather Prime** was awarded the LaMarsh Knowledge Mobilization and Community Engagement Support award to support knowledge mobilization efforts to translate the high-quality research findings from the Prime Family Lab. Namely, findings from a brief couple’s intervention developed in the lab - “Love Together, Parent Together.” These efforts will be led primarily by doctoral student

**Alexandra Markwell**, who has a previous degree in Film Studies and specialization in integrated digital media. These knowledge mobilization efforts will include one infographic and one short video summarizing the overall project, as well as findings from graduate student theses led by graduate student LaMarsh Members (in alphabetical order: De Luca, Demy, Koven, Markwell).



**Dr. Lyndsay Hayhurst** was awarded the LaMarsh Knowledge Mobilization and Community Engagement Support award to support her knowledge mobilization efforts via the screening of her documentary ‘Changing Gears’ about bicycles and development. The screening took place on November 14th and was followed by a panel discussion. Congratulations Lyndsay on a hugely successful event!

**Dr. Heather Prime** was awarded the Collaborative and/or Community-Based Research Seed Grant from York University to study processes of family resilience to everyday stress.

**Drs. Prime, Pillai-Riddell, and Rawana** (Principal Investigators) were awarded the LaMarsh Centre for Child and Youth Mental Health Catalyst Grant (Co-operators Accelerator Fund) to study a brief parent-child relationship intervention for emerging adults.

## In the Media

- **Dr. Nazilla Khanlou** was interviewed for her extensive work addressing the mental health challenges faced by women, youth, and families from diverse/marginalized communities. Check out the final interview [here](#).
- **Dr. Nazilla Khanlou's** recent review on nursing care for persons with developmental disabilities was highlighted for its profound impact. Following its publication in *Nursing Open*, a high-impact journal, the paper would go on to reach the top 10% most downloaded papers during its 12 months of publication. The full story can be found [here](#).
- **Dr. Nazilla Khanlou** co-organized a virtual book launch webinar for “The Stories Around us: Mental Health Narratives of South Asian Women” in collaboration with the York Centre for Asian Research and Office of Women’s Health Research Chair in Mental Health.
- **The REACH lab** (pictured) recorded its first podcast episode! The REACH team discussed the research they are conducting in the lab and also answered frequently asked questions about graduate school. The episode will be available soon, so be sure to check out the [REACH Lab website](#)! Stay tuned!



# Announcements

## Executive Team Announcement

After many, many years of service, **Dr. Jennifer Connolly** has taken a break from her role as a LaMarsh executive member. We want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Connolly for all of her wonderful contributions to the LaMarsh executive!



## Meet the Executive Team 2024-2025!

**Dr. Jonathan Weiss** is a Clinical Psychologist, Researcher, and Professor in the Department of Psychology. He is currently the Director of Clinical Training for students in the Clinical-Developmental Psychology program. His research aims to understand mental health in autistic people, and individuals with intellectual disabilities across the lifespan.

**Dr. Jessica Fraser-Thomas** is a Researcher and Professor in the Department of Kinesiology. Her research focuses on children/youth's development through sports, as well as how psychosocial influences and sport participation shape the developmental life course.

**Dr. Thanjeni Pathman** is a Researcher and Professor in the Department of Psychology. Her research explores learning and memory in children, and how this changes across different developmental periods (i.e., infancy to adolescence). She also studies memory performance as a function of brain development and changes, working closely with children and families in a variety of settings (e.g., lab, school, etc.).

**Dr. Melody Wiseheart** is a Researcher and Professor in the Department of Psychology. Her research investigates the impact of spacing of learning episodes on developmental outcomes, such as the retention of long-term critical thinking skills necessary for success in the 'STEAM' fields (e.g., physics, math, musical performance, computer programming).

**Dr. Heather Prime** is a Clinical Psychologist, Researcher, and Professor in the Department of Psychology. Her research program employs a family-based lens to understand socio-emotional and cognitive development in children. Specifically, her research explores family interactions and relationships and their implications for parent and family well-being.



## Join the LaMarsh LinkedIn Group

Did you know we have 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.

[Join the LaMarsh LinkedIn group.](#)

## Follow and Engage with 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](#)

## Call for Newsletter Content

Would you like to be featured in the next edition of the LaMarsh newsletter or have your research as the article of the season? Kindly send content and photos to [lamarshmedia@gmail.com](mailto:lamarshmedia@gmail.com) by **February 26**. This newsletter is designed to highlight YOUR accomplishments, including:

- Scholarships/grants you've been awarded
- Articles/books you've published
- Conferences you've presented at
- Community partnerships you've developed
- Past events you've hosted
- Upcoming events you're planning to host
- Any other newsletter-worthy materials!

We look forward to continuing to circulate the LaMarsh newsletter each quarter.

## 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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