

McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research

NYU SILVER SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Annual Report 2013–2014



NYU | **SILVER**

"Eternal Love" by Jesus Calixto, a student from McSilver's Step UP program from Central Park East High School.

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**The McSilver Institute
conducts, promotes,
and disseminates
interdisciplinary, applied
research to address root
causes of, effects of, and
responses to poverty
locally, across the US,
and globally.**

Drawing on intellectual and scholarly strengths of New York University and located within the Silver School of Social Work, the Institute partners with agencies and communities to develop research projects and policy recommendations that have short and long term social impact.

The Institute recognizes the significant link between individuals, families, communities, and their external environments, as well as the interrelatedness of race and poverty. With this important framework in mind, the Institute will encourage innovative efforts in the following areas:

OBJECTIVES

- Applied Research in diverse areas of direct practice
- Development of Mutually Beneficial Partnerships between the Institute and agencies and community organizations that are “on the ground”
- Organizational Development efforts that build on untapped strengths and prioritizes enhancing capacity in agencies and communities
- Policy Development and Dissemination grounded in research and informed by “theories of justice,” in order to address the underlying causes and consequences of poverty
- Locating Research and Related Projects in the larger field of poverty studies in the U.S. and across the globe

Director's Greeting

Dear Friends,

The 2013-14 year has been full of monumental developments at The McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research. As a research institute, we have grown exponentially and are conducting groundbreaking research and translating these results into effective programs and policies to directly address issues related to poverty.



Dr. Mary McKay
Director

Our extremely successful second annual McSilver Awards ceremony, held on May 28th in the Fisher building of the Brooklyn Academy of Music, was the largest event in McSilver's short history. We honored five outstanding individuals for their efforts in the fight to eliminate poverty. Prior to the awards ceremony, the McSilver Institute held symposia focused on two critically important issues, food insecurity and homelessness. We are so thankful to our ten expert

panelists, including Sheena Wright, one of our partners from the United Way of New York City, and Lorraine Stephens from the Department of Homeless Services, who came to share their ideas about how we can address the issues that negatively influence the lives of poverty impacted populations.

We have been fortunate to host our second Visiting Scholar, Dr. Robert Walker, from Oxford University. Dr. Walker has collaborated on a U.S.-based study focused on the intersection of poverty and shame. Our committed, talented Community Collaborative Board, staff, and student interns have conducted interviews and focus groups with Dr. Walker to explore how people in poverty cope with financial hardship in New York City.

In addition, we are so pleased that the New York City Department of Education has started to partner with McSilver to expand our Step-UP program to five additional high schools starting in Fall 2014. Step-UP is now in schools in East Harlem, the Bronx, and Brooklyn.

The Silver School of Social Work has also just launched a study abroad program in Ghana, with McSilver faculty taking the lead. Students took a course focused on mental health and human rights, participated in service learning projects, and visited service sites while learning the key concepts of human rights and social justice in a global context.

This year we also received funding from the National Institute of Health allowing for an expansion of the Collaborative HIV Prevention and Adolescent Mental Health Project (CHAMP+) in Thailand and Indonesia. Similar programs have already been

implemented in Argentina and in South Africa, and we are excited to expand its testing to Asia.



2014 McSilver Awardees, from left to right: Dr. Pedro Noguera, Andrea Elliott, Jonathan Edwards, Hon. Ruben Diaz, Jr., and Commissioner Rosemonde Pierre-Louis

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the tireless efforts of the McSilver Institute staff, our Community Collaborative Board, as well as our wonderful community partners, Faculty Fellows, the McSilver Advisory Committee, policy and government colleagues, funders, and so many others. Without all of your support, we would not be able to collaboratively create

meaningful studies to examine the complicated issues surrounding poverty or work unrelentingly to alleviate some of the challenges our neighbors (both locally and globally) living in poverty face on a daily basis. It has been quite an eventful year, full of growth at McSilver with more highlights, collaborations, and successes than there is room to write about in this letter. I cannot wait for what this coming year has in store for the McSilver Institute.

Sincerely,

Mary McKernan McKay, PhD
Director

About The McSilver Institute

Mary McKernan McKay, PhD
Director

Gary Parker, MSW
Deputy Director

McSilver Leadership Team

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Lydia Franco, LMSW

Ammu D. Kowolik, LMSW

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Hadiza Osuji, MPA

Gisselle Pardo, LCSW, MPH

Anthony Salerno, PhD

Ervin Torres

Chris Villatoro, LMSW

McSilver Faculty Fellows

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Phil Coltoff, MSW

Patrick J. Egan, PhD

Liliana Goldín, PhD

Judy Grossman, DrPH

Wen-Jui Han, MSW, PhD

Robert L. Hawkins, MPA, MA, PhD

Darcey Merritt, MSW, PhD

Michelle R. Munson, MSW, PhD

Pedro Noguera, PhD

Deborah Padgett, MPH, PhD

C. Cybele Raver, PhD

Barbara Schwartz, PhD

Lynn Videka, PhD

Robert Walker, PhD

McSilver Community Collaborative Board Members

Geraldine Burton

Indamora Castro

Linus Iwuanyanwu

Kerby Jean

Laura Lee Jenkins

Ammu D. Kowolik

Maria M. Maldonado

Juana Martinez

Mary McKay

Micaela Mercado

Ana Miranda

Aida Ortiz

Hadiza Osuji

Gary Parker

Nancy Parker

Angela Paulino

Anita Rivera

Jaime Rivera

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Sheila Walker

Janet Watson

McSilver Advisory Board Members

Lawrence Aber, PhD

Phyllis Barasch, MA, MBA

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Phil Coltoff, MSW

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Linda Mills, PhD

Nancy Morawetz, JD

Deborah Padgett, MPH, PhD

Constance Silver, PhD

Lynn Videka, AM, PhD

Nancy Wackstein, MSW

Jerome Wakefield, MA, MSW, PhD, DSW



McSilver Institute's Community

Collaborative Board (CCB), consisting of community members, parent advocates, educators, and research staff, is charged with oversight of NIH-funded urban community-focused research studies. Currently, the CCB is engaged in a research study with Visiting Scholar Dr. Robert Walker examining how individuals are coping with

financial hardship in New York City. As part of a seven-country study, the CCB has been essential in shaping the research that is taking place in the study's eighth location, New York City.



Dr. Constance Silver addresses McSilver Institute staff at an all-staff Undoing Racism workshop.

Anti-Oppressive Research and Practice:

The McSilver Institute is defined by its mission to anti-oppressive research and practice. In September, the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond hosted a two-day workshop on Undoing Racism with fifty McSilver Institute staff and affiliates. After the two-day workshop, the Institute formed an Anti-Oppressive Steering Committee to incorporate elements from the training into

our policies, procedures, and practice. McSilver student interns were also offered scholarships to attend the Undoing Racism Workshop and facilitators provided student interns with two trainings (see page 34 for a full list).

Applied Research and Program Evaluation

The McSilver Institute's primary mission is the pursuit of new knowledge to identify the root causes and to address the consequences of poverty. The McSilver Institute consistently seeks out new external funding sources to create substantial means to support faculty and staff to further the mission of the institute.



Dr. Mary McKay with Norma Khuzwayo, Thembelihle Mnguni, Sphindile Machanyangwa, Nolwazi Nzama, Zamambo Mhhize and Sindiswa Shezi from the VUKA Family Program team in South Africa.

National Institute of Health (NIH)

VUKA: Supporting HIV-Infected Youth in South Africa (PI: McKay; R01HD074052) The VUKA Family Program (VUKA) study, funded by NICHD, aims to meet the urgent need for theory-driven, empirically-informed, effective and sustainable HIV prevention and care approaches for the unprecedented numbers of perinatally HIV-infected (PHIV+) youth in South Africa.

Improving Child Behavior using Task-shifting to Implement MFGs in Child Welfare (PI: Gopalan; R21 MH102544) The purpose of this study is to refine and pilot-test task-shifting strategies to support the implementation of a family-focused, Evidence Based Practice (EBP) to reduce child behavioral difficulties in low-resourced child welfare settings.

Mobile Health Solutions for Behavioral Skill Implementation through Homework

(PI: Chacko; R34 MH100407) This study will create and test a phone application (“app”) that will supplement treatment individuals are receiving for mental health issues. The new app will provide educational, interactive games that patients can work on between treatments.

CHAMP+Asia: Supporting HIV-infected Youth in Thailand (PI: McKay; R01

HD074052) The Collaborative HIV Prevention and Adolescent Mental Health Project, or CHAMP+, develops and examines family-friendly prevention and care interventions for perinatally HIV-infected (PHIV+) youth and their parents/guardians. The program test will expand to Asia.



The McSilver Institute’s Post-Doctoral Fellows Drs. Rachel Flynn, Leyla Karimli and Samira Ali present new research findings at a lunchtime lecture in the spring.

McSilver Institute Funded Pilot Studies

The McSilver Institute awards annual research grants to support pilot studies. The objective is to encourage collaborative projects between researchers across NYU representing different disciplines, as well as, stakeholders (e.g. public policy makers, organizations providing direct services to poverty impacted individuals and communities) to advance knowledge in areas related to poverty studies.

The following awards were granted this year:

On Shame as a Psychosocial Dimension of Poverty:

A Complementary Study in the United States

Visiting scholar Dr. Robert Walker has come to the United States to conduct additional research about the relationship between living in poverty and feelings of shame. Through qualitative interviews with adults impacted by poverty and their dependent children and focus groups with people not living in poverty, Dr. Walker is exploring feelings of shame among those living in poverty.

Family and Food Matters

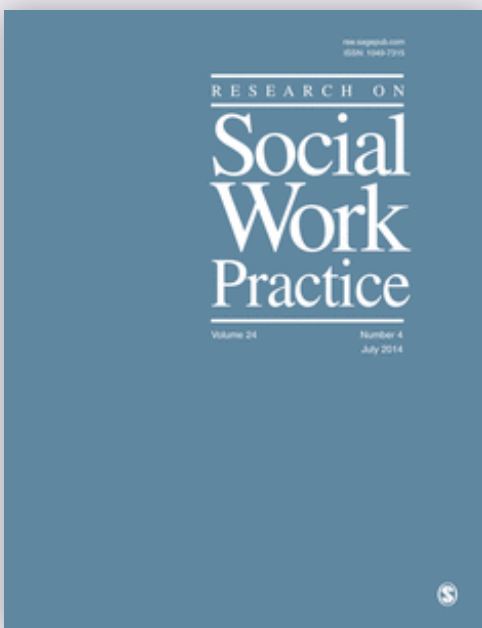
There is a current gap in the literature and services focusing on the relationship between caregiver stress, aspects of family life, and food insecurity. The proposed research aims to further explore these intersections and address this gap as well as inform family strengthening services and policies.

Academic Journals



Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy & Practice

In March 2014, the McSilver Institute premiered its first issue of *Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy, and Practice*, in collaboration with Springer Publications. This journal brings together research that informs the fields of global social work, social development, and social welfare policy and practice. It serves as an outlet for manuscripts and brief reports of interdisciplinary applied research which advance knowledge about global threats to the well-being of individuals, groups, families, and communities.



Research on Social Work Practice

Drs. Jerrold Jackson and Mary McKay are guest co-editors of a special issue of *Research on Social Work Practice* slated to be issued later this year entitled "Mental Health Practices with Urban Families Experiencing Multilevel Stressors."



Currently, McSilver has partnered with the Brooklyn Academy of Music's Arts and Justice After-School Program. This innovative program is designed to improve students' academic and psychosocial wellbeing through immersion in the arts. This free program covers a range of interests, from critical viewing and writing about performance and film, to dancing and choreography, to examining issues of social justice.

Preliminary data from students who completed the program indicate that students developed skills aligned to the Common Core State Standards and scored higher than average on several psychosocial measures.

The McSilver Institute is committed to applied research and conducts program evaluations with community-based organizations across the city and state that provide support and care to New Yorkers impacted by poverty. This work involves developing validated survey tools, conducting focus groups and interviews with program participants and staff, as well as helping agencies build internal capacity for data collection and data analysis.

Our goals with this service are to help agencies build their capacity to use data and evaluation results to inform program decision-making and to use applied research to improve outcomes for the populations they serve. The institute works with the following groups to provide evaluation services:

1. YMCA (Y Roads, Y Scholars, Y Schools)
2. National Alliance on Mental Illness
3. Institute for Community Living (ICL)
4. Long Island Behavioral Alliance (LIBA)
5. FECS Health & Human Services
6. National Council for Behavioral Health
7. Brooklyn Academy of Music Education & Arts Program
8. Police Athletic League

Evidence-Informed Training and Technical Assistance

McSilver continues to apply research-derived knowledge to real world settings (e.g. clinics, schools) to help mediate the effects of poverty. Our collaborative approach brings together researchers, educators, policy makers, practitioners and consumers to identify pathways for adapting evidence based practices (EBPs) to address the needs of diverse, often under-resourced community based settings, with their concomitant financial, staffing, and consumer challenges.

McSilver has secured a number of contracts to provide technical assistance to public and private organizations ensuring the highest quality of services and helping to maintain and build the public safety net serving those made vulnerable by poverty.

New York State Office of Mental Health (OMH) and the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)

For the past three years, with funding from the New York State Office of Mental Health, the Clinic Technical Assistance Center has provided a wide range of training, consultation, and educational resources free-of-charge to Article 31 mental health clinics with the goal of improving outcomes for families, adults, and children. This year the Center was expanded and rebranded as the **Community Technical Assistance Center of New York (CTAC)**.

As New York State approaches a transition to Medicaid managed care in 2015, CTAC will provide critical information and resources to all mental health and substance use agencies—a major undertaking that will fall under the designation of the **Managed Care Technical Assistance Center (MCTAC)**. MCTAC will work with agencies to help them maintain critical services and prepare for managed care. MCTAC will also dive deeper into an array of potential topics including outcomes management, new business structures, partnerships, and the development of new clinical and program models through trainings, group consultations, and the formation of new learning communities.

Co-directed by Drs. Kimberly Hoagwood, Mary McKay, and Andrew Cleek, CTAC was founded in 2011 as the Children's Technical Assistance Center and expanded in 2012 to offer technical assistance to all Article 31 mental health clinics in New York State. Since its inception, CTAC has hosted over 215 in-person and online events, and 69% of all child and adult serving mental health clinics in New York State have participated in at least one CTAC offering.

CTAC is a robust partnership between the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research at the NYU Silver School of Social Work, the IDEAS Center at NYU School of Medicine, Coordinated Care Services, Inc. (CCSI), the Institute for Community Living, Inc. (ICL), Families Together (FT), the Urban Institute for Behavioral Health (UIBH), and the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services (NYAPRS). Additionally, the Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse (CASA) and FEGS Health & Human Services have joined CTAC and MCTAC as partners for this expanded effort.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The McSilver Institute has been awarded a grant from the Veteran's Administration (VA) to enhance the capacity of the workforce to deliver evidence-informed service approaches aimed at aiding families in great need. The grant supports the development of a comprehensive training program for homelessness prevention and housing assistance staff to increase their knowledge of evidence-informed practices. The program will assist care coordinators and case managers with addressing issues that either place female veterans and their families at risk for future episodes of housing instability or are the consequences of the stressors associated with homelessness, with the ultimate goal of increasing permanent housing placements.

National Council for Community & Behavioral Healthcare Partnership Agreement

Trauma Informed Care Learning Community

(42 provider organizations across U.S.)

The values of trauma-informed communities are to ensure that all consumers served will experience a safe and trusting physical and social environment that provides trauma-informed and trauma-specific services that are easily accessible, person-centered, competently delivered, culturally respectful and consistent with recovery-oriented principles of collaboration, shared decision making and self-direction.

Group-Delivered Mental Health Care Learning Community

(launched September 2014)

Although services delivered in group modalities are increasingly employed throughout the country, insufficient attention has been paid to training group facilitators in the use of effective group facilitation skills coupled with direct and ongoing support from supervisors. McSilver and the National Council have partnered to organize a national learning community designed to provide participating organizations with an opportunity to disseminate best practices in group work and to improve the knowledge and skills of supervisors to effectively coach and guide their staff in providing high quality group based services.

Optimizing the First 30 Days of Mental Health Care Curriculum

The changing behavioral healthcare system will increasingly challenge organizations to avoid the underuse, overuse, or misuse of services. Greater accountability will require behavioral health organizations and providers to effectively engage clients, assess critical improvement goals, design a treatment protocol aligned with best practices, establish discharge criteria, and monitor progress and outcomes. It is during the first thirty days that organizations are likely to accomplish these clinical activities in a way that aligns with the clients' expectations and ensures that there is a highly focused approach to service delivery that is time limited and outcome oriented. McSilver and the National Council are working together to create a training curriculum to support practitioners and supervisors to design a service model that provides high quality care with the optimal amount of clinical time and interventions.

McSilver continues to apply research-derived knowledge to real world settings to help mediate the effects of poverty.

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Enhancing Housing Stability for Child Welfare Involved Families in Supportive Housing; 2014–2015

McSilver was awarded a grant from the Corporation for Supportive Housing to train front-line staff within supportive housing programs to advance core competencies in engagement, family strengthening, wellness self-management, trauma informed care, and financial literacy. The trainings are provided through a series of webinars and McSilver staff are currently performing an impact evaluation on the trainings.

New York State Health Foundation

Introducing Fast-Track Outcome Assessments to New York's Mental Health Clinics

McSilver, in partnership with its affiliate, the Community Technical Assistance Center of New York, has been working with mental health clinics throughout New York State to integrate outcome measures into their clinical treatment. Services include training, consultation, educational resources, and database development.

Policy

Legislative Advocacy

The McSilver Institute, in partnership with Comunilife and the Institute for Community Living, presented testimony at the request of the New York City Council on two critical issues – homelessness and foster care youth.



First Deputy Commissioner Lorraine Stephens of the New York City Department of Homeless Services speaks at the McSilver Awards Afternoon Symposium, sharing new plans that DHS has made and plans to implement soon.

March 26, 2014: Proposed Resolution No. 123-A which highlighted the need for resources for the thousands of homeless families in New York City.

June 16, 2014: Proposed Intro Nos. 104, 137, 187 on the need for more comprehensive data collection and dissemination on outcomes for youth both within and who age out of the foster care system. **McSilver Faculty Fellow Dr. Michelle Munson** contributed critical research and background to this testimony

that argued how little is known at the local level about the foster youth population and the critical need for data to better inform policies, programs, and research.



Congresswoman Barbara Lee (D CA13) addresses the importance of providing children's mental health services at the Children's Mental Health Symposium in Washington, D.C.

Children's Mental Health Conference

In the fall of 2013, McSilver partnered with the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy (CRISP) and Social Justice Solutions (SJS) to host a daylong symposium on children's mental health. Representatives Barbara Lee and Grace Napolitano offered special guest remarks, and leaders from SAMHSA, the National Council for Behavioral Health, the DC Department of Mental Health, and others,

joined as part of three dynamic panels that focused in on Medicaid, school-based services, and improving public education and awareness on the topic.

Following the event, McSilver worked with the event co-sponsors to create a special issue policy brief on the topic of children's mental health featuring videos from the panels and highlighted resources. The brief will be built out over the summer of 2014 into a dynamic curriculum for educators in policy and social work focused fields to use with their students.

Poverty Policy News Briefs

Thirty-four briefs were sent out to a list of over 2,800 over the last year. McSilver also partnered with the Congressional Research Institute for Social Work and Policy on a special issue brief on Children's Mental Health, based around the symposium held in Washington D.C. in the fall.

New York State Health Foundation

Drawing on Lessons from Thirty Years of Integrating HIV Prevention and Care Systems: Implications for the Creation and Implementation of Health Homes

In collaboration with the New York State Health Foundation, McSilver created a comprehensive report that offers actionable recommendations for the development of Health Homes. The report highlights findings from McSilver's research related to HIV care and their implications for Health Homes.

Education



Gisselle Pardo translates a lecture from Spanish to English at Hospital Interzonal Dr. Diego Paroissien in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Integration with the Silver School of Social Work allows for the McSilver Institute to contribute to high-quality, science-informed, and poverty and social justice focused, social work education.

Whether it is providing over 30 students with internships and

volunteer opportunities, or developing new courses taught in Washington Square and around the globe, our mission is to support the next cadre of social workers and public health professionals ready to address the root causes and consequences of poverty.

2013-14 ACADEMIC YEAR

- McSilver hosted over thirty student interns and volunteers from bachelors to post-doctoral level, representing a range of disciplines including public health and social work. Throughout both the fall and spring, they were provided with professional development trainings to enhance their learning experience at McSilver (see page 34 for a full listing).
- Six multi-disciplinary pre doctoral students participated in research practicum or paid research experience (Small, Stephens, Rotko, McGuire-Schwartz, Beharie, and Franco)
- Sponsor for two CSWE minority fellowships (Small & Stephens)
- Sponsor of minority PhD candidates dissertation research (Jackson, Franco, Alicea, Beharie)
- Three post-doctoral fellows (Drs. Samira Ali, Leyla Karimli, Rachel Flynn)

Integrated Primary and Behavioral Health Advanced Certificate Program

In collaboration with the NYU Silver School of Social Work's Office of Global and Lifelong Learning, the McSilver Institute has developed a program focused on the transforming primary and behavioral healthcare systems resulting from the recent passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Led by a team of experts, the course is designed to offer a comprehensive overview of the healthcare reform movement for social workers and related health care professionals. The program is directed by McSilver Senior Scholar Dr. Peter Campanelli.

Evidence-Informed Service Delivery

Project Step UP, funded by the Robinhood Foundation, is a youth development and mental health support program that aims to promote social-emotional development, academic achievement, “on-time” high school graduation, and a positive transition to young adulthood. Over the past six years, Step UP has worked in partnership with youth, parents, and staff of three high schools in East Harlem and the Bronx. The



Photo courtesy of Step UP's PhotoVoice project.

program has served over 300 students and achieved a graduation rate of 86%, among many other positive educational and mental health outcomes.

This February, Step UP youth participants conducted a photographic community needs assessment using a method called PhotoVoice. Led by the Josephine Herrick

Project (JHP), students learned photography skills and, using cameras donated by JHP, documented needs and strengths within their communities. In May, PhotoVoice participants displayed their work at the National Council of Behavioral Health Conference in DC and at the 2nd Annual McSilver Awards.

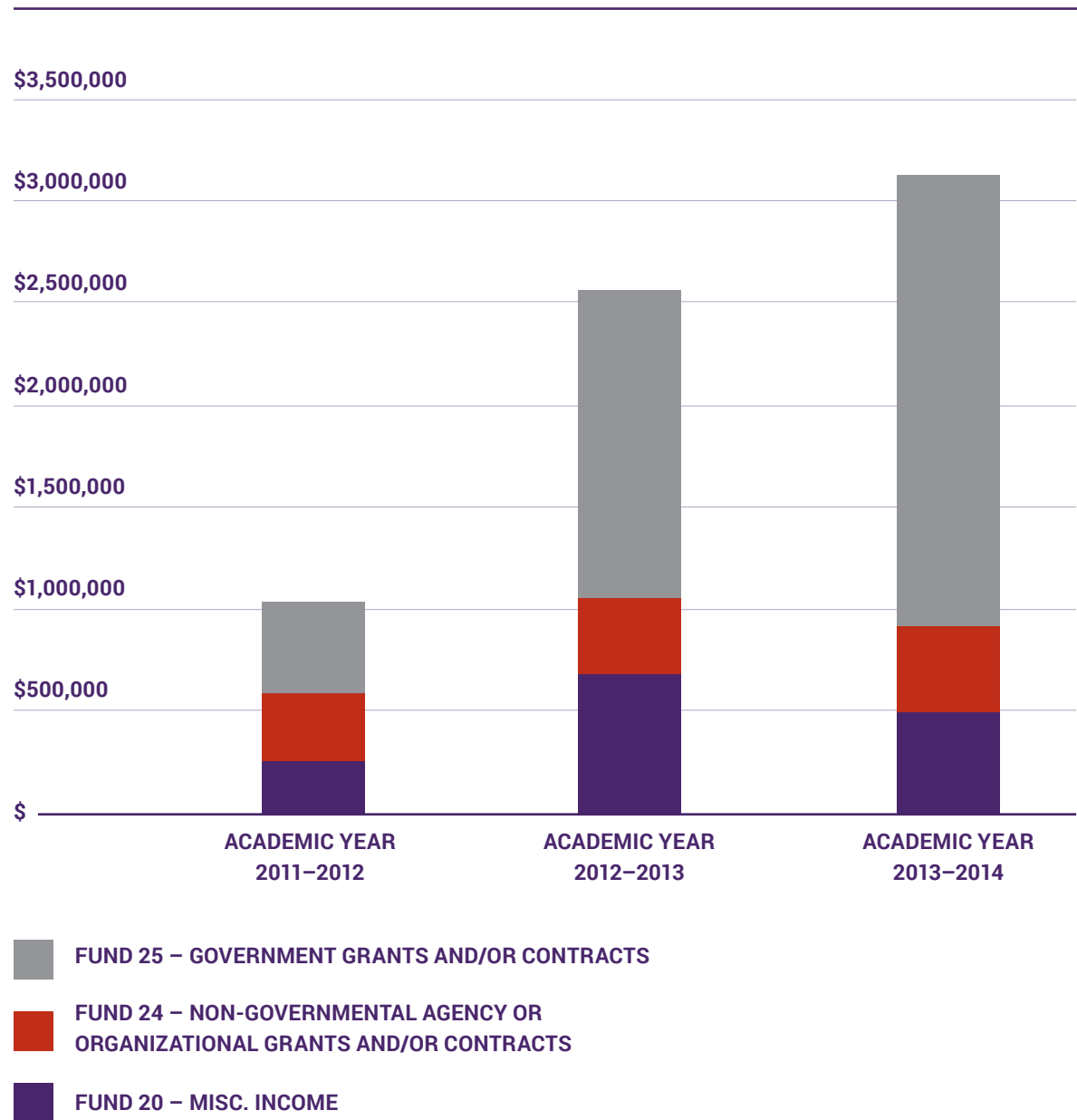
Due to Step UP's success, the program will expand to five new high schools this fall, more than doubling the program's size and reach.

McSilver utilizes applied research to develop policy recommendations that allows families impacted by poverty to access services with dignity.

McSilver Institute by the Numbers

Over the last three years in both direct and indirect costs, the McSilver Institute has been awarded a total of \$10,033,536.

Direct Cost Revenue



McSilver Human Capital

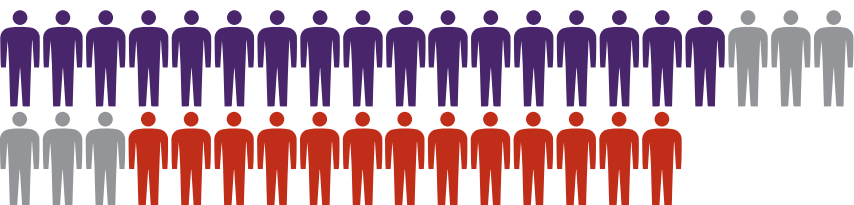
Academic Year 2013–2014



Academic Year 2012–2013



Academic Year 2011–2012



Appendix

Publications 2013-14

Acri, M. & Hoagwood, K. (in press). Addressing parental mental health within interventions for children: A review. *Research on Social Work Practice*.

Acri, M.C., Frank, S., Olin, S.S., **Burton, G.**, Ball, J.L., Weaver, J., & Hoagwood, K.E. (2013). Examining the feasibility and acceptability of a screening and outreach model developed for a peer workforce. *Journal of Child & Family Studies*, 1-10.

Acri, M., Olin, S. S., **Burton, G.**, Herman, R. J., & Hoagwood, K. E. (2013). Innovations in the identification and referral of mothers at risk for depression: Development of a peer-to-peer model. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 1-7. Published online.

Acri, M., **Mercado, M.**, **Cleek, A.**, **Dean Asseal, M.**, **McKay, M.**, Hoagwood, K., **Franco, L.**, & **Salerno, A.** (in review). The Clinic Technical Assistance Center: Building Capacity in New York State's Child Public Mental Health System.

Ali, S., Ghose, T., Jana, S., & Chaudhuri, S. (2014) Exceeding the Individual: a Qualitative Examination of a Community-Led Structural Intervention and Its Implications for Sex Workers and Their Families. *Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy & Practice*, 1 (2), 53-63.

Bhana, A., Mellins, C., Petersen, I., **Alicea, S.**, Myeza, N., Holst, H., Abrams, E., Johns, S., Chhagan, M., Nestadt, D., & **McKay, M.** (2013). The VUKA Family Program: Piloting a family-based psychosocial intervention to promote health and mental health among HIV+ early adolescents in South Africa. *AIDS Care*, 26 (1), 1-11.

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Chor, K, Olin, S., Weaver, J., **Cleek, A.**, **McKay, M.**, Hoagwood, K., Horwitz. (in press). Characterizing Clinic Adoption in Child Mental Health Initiatives in New York State. *Psychiatric Services*.

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- Lewandowski, R.E., **Acri, M.**, Hoagwood, K.E., Olfson, M., Clarke, G., Gardner, W., Scholle, S.H., Byron, S., Kelleher, K., Pincus, H., Frank, S., & Horwitz, S. (2013). Evidence for the management of adolescent depression. *Pediatrics*, 132, 1-14.

McGuire-Schwartz, M., Parker, G., Small, L., Kim, P., & McKay, M. (in press). Relationships between Caregiver Violence Exposure, Caregiver Depression, and Youth Behavioral Health among Homeless Families. *Research on Social Work Practice*.

McKay, M., Small, L., Jackson, J., & Gopalan, G., (in press). Using research to inform practice with youth evidencing co-morbid or complex difficulties. *Research on Social Work Practice*.

McKay, M., Alicea, S., Elwyn, L., McClain, Z., **Parker, G., Small, L.** & Mellins, C. (2014). Addressing the need for theory-driven programs capable of impacting urban children's health, mental health, and prevention needs: CHAMP and CHAMP+, evidence-informed, family-based interventions to address HIV risk and care. *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, 43, 428-441.

Mokrue, K. & **Acri, M.C.** (2014). Subjective health and health behaviors as predictors of symptoms of depression and anxiety among ethnic minority college students. *Social Work in Mental Health*. DOI: 10.1080/15332985.2014.911238

Mokrue, K., & **Acri, M.** (2013). Feasibility and effectiveness of a brief cognitive behavioral skills group on an ethnically diverse campus. *Journal of College Student Psychotherapy*, 27 (3), 254-269.

Nadeem, E., Olin, S., Gleacher, A., Chor, K., Weiss, D., **Cleek, A. F., McKay, M.M.**, & Hoagwood, K. E. (2014). From experience to experiment: Using state systems as laboratories for implementation of evidence-based practices for children. In *Dissemination and Implementation of Evidence-Based Practices in Child and Adolescent Mental Health* (pp. 143-157). New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

Parker, G., Ali, S., Ringell, K., & McKay, M. (2014). Bi-directional Exchange: The Cornerstone of Globally Focused Social Work. *Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy & Practice*, 1 (1), 1-8.

Richert, R.A., & **Flynn, R.M.** (2013). Social learning from media. In M.S. Eastin (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Media Violence* (pp. 337-339). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Small, L., Mercado, M., Gopalan, P., Pardo, G., Mellins, C., & **McKay, M.** (2014). Enhancing the Emotional Wellbeing of Perinatally HIV Infected Youth across Global Contexts. *Global Social Welfare: Research, Policy & Practice*, 1 (1), 25-35.

Small, L., Jackson, J., Gopalan, G., & McKay, M. (in press). Meeting Complex Family Needs through the 4Rs 2Ss Family Strengthening Program. *Research on Social Work Practice*.

Stern, S., Walsh, M., **Mercado, M.**, & Lowe, E. (in press). When they call, will they come? A contextually responsive approach for engaging multi-stressed families in an urban child mental health center. *Research on Social Work Practice*

Stevens, T., Schwartz-McGuire, M., Rotko, L., Fuss, A. & McKay, M. (in press). A learning collaborative supporting the implementation of an evidence-informed program, the 4Rs and 2S for children with conduct difficulties and their families. *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*.

Traube, D. E., Kerkorian, D., Cederbaum, C., Bhupali, C., & **McKay, M.** (2013). African American children's perceptions of participating in research. *The Journal of Empirical Research on Human Research Ethics*, 8 (1), 1- 10.

Vu, C., **Mercado, M, Fuss, A.**, Peri, D., **Cleek, A.**, Cleek, E. (in review). The Business Efficiencies and Effectiveness Project: A Learning Collaborative to Improve Business Practices for Mental Health Clinics.

Wisdom, J., Lewandowski, R.E., Pollock, M, **Acri, M.**, Shorter, P., Armusewicz, K., Horwitz, S., & Hoagwood, K.E. (2014). What family support specialists do: Examining service delivery. *Administration and Policy in Mental Health and Mental Health Services Research*, 41, 21-31.

Select Presentations

Ali, S., Robinson, K., Ghose, T., Shubert, V., & Stanton, M. (2013, September). Understanding needs and outcomes: Examining a transitional housing program for women living with HIV. Paper presented at the North American Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit VII, Montreal, Canada.

Ali, S., Stanton, M., Clarke, M., Shubert, V., Ghose, T., Chaudhuri, S. (2013, November). Civic Engagement as a Component and Outcome of Direct Services for Formerly Homeless People with HIV/AIDS. Paper presented at the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Organizations and Voluntary Action 42nd Annual Conference, Hartford, Connecticut.

Cleek, A., Beharie, N., & Fuss, A. (2013). *Knowledge Empowers You: Empowering youth to make decisions that work for them.* OMH/Children's Mental Health Coalition Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY

Cleek, A., Mercado, M., & Fuss, A. (2013). *Using Data in a transformed behavioral health system.* OMH/Children's Mental Health Coalition Conference, Saratoga Springs, NY

Dean-Assael, K., Franco, L., & Stern, S. (2014, May). "The Practitioner's Dilemma: To Involve or Not Involve Caregivers." Oral Presentation. National Council for Behavioral Health Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Dean-Assael, K., Franco, L., & Shorter, P. (2013, April). "The 4 Rs and 2 Ss for Strengthening Families Program: Advances in the Treatment of Children with Behavioral Difficulties." Pre-Conference Institute, Oral Presentation, National Council for Behavioral Health Annual Conference. Las Vegas, NV.

Flynn, R., & Tazartes, L. (2014, February). Managing difficult behavior: A professional development model for safe schools. Poster presented at the annual National Association for School Psychologists convention, Washington, DC

Flynn, R., Richert, R., Staiano, A., Wartella, E., & Calvert, S. (2013, October). Acute effects of physically active versus inactive video game play on executive functioning skills in children. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Memphis, TN

Franco, L. & Dean-Assael, K. (2014). "The First 30 Days: The Foundation for Successful Treatment." Oral Presentation, National Council for Behavioral Health Annual Conference, Washington, DC.

Gopalan, G. (2014). *Multiple family groups to reduce child behavior difficulties: Moderating effects of child welfare status on child outcomes*. Presented at the 22nd Annual American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children (APSAC) Colloquium, New Orleans, LA.

Gopalan, G. (2014). *Task-Shifting: A method to improve child behavior in family-level interventions*. Presented at the Collegium of Scholars, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland Center for Health Equity, College Park, MD.

Gopalan, G., Fuss, A., & Wisdom, J. (2013). *Multiple Family Groups: Factors affecting retention for caregivers involved in the child welfare system*. Oral Presentation for 26th Annual Children's Mental Health Research and Policy Conference, Tampa, FL.

Hoagwood, K.E., **Acri, M.C.**, & Morrissey, M. (2014). *Equine assisted therapy for adolescent depression: Research review and therapeutic curriculum*. Presented at the 2014 PATH International Conference and Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA.

Lewandowski, R.E., **Acri, M.C.**, Hoagwood, K.E., Scholle, S.H., Byron, S., Ireland, A., et al. (2013). *An evidence-based care pathway with quality indicators for the management of adolescent depression*. Poster session presented at the 2013 AcademyHealth Annual Research Meeting, Baltimore, MD.

McGuire-Schwartz, M., Parker, G., Kim, P., & McKay, M. (2014). *Relationships Between Caregiver Violence Exposure, Caregiver Depression, and Youth Behavioral Health Among Homeless Families*. Presented at the 18th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Mercado, M., Beharie, N., McKay, M., & Dean-Assael, K. (2014). *Examining the Association Between Food Insecurity and Children's Educational Outcomes*. Presented at the 18th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Mercado, M., Cleek, E., Chow, E., & McKay, M. (2014). *"We have all this data!" Building Evaluation Capacity at a Social Service Agency*. Third International Conference on Practice Research, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York City, NY.

Mercado, M., Gopalan, P., Fuss, A., Forth, M., & McKay, M. (2014). *Changing the Game: The "Next Generation Evaluation" Initiative*. Third International Conference on Practice Research, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York City, NY.

Osuji, H., Mercado, M., & McKay, M. (2014). *Do Community HIV Mentors Trained in Evidence-Based, Youth-Focused HIV Prevention Program Have an Effect on Youth Outcomes?* Presented at the 18th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Parker, G., Ali, S., Ringell, K., & McKay, M. (2014). *Is Global Social Work the New Western Imperialism?* Presented at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Melbourne, Australia.

Rotko, L., Franco, L.M., Gopalan, G., & McKay, M.M. (2013, January). "Addressing the mental health consequences for youth reared in poverty and reliant on public safety net services: The 4 Rs and 2 Ss for Strengthening Families. Oral Paper Presentation, Society for Social Work and Research Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.

Schlesinger, M.A., **Flynn, R.**, Richert, R.A. (2013, October). Young Children's Transfer of Problem Solutions from Television Characters. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Cognitive Development Society, Memphis, TN

Small, L., Mellins, C., & McKay, M. (2014). *New Challenges for a Young Generation: Understanding Medication Adherence and Mental Health Impairments Among South African Perinatally Infected Youth in Early Adolescence.* Presented at the 18th Annual Society for Social Work and Research Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Small, L., Pardo, G., Mercado, M., Gopalan, P., Ali, S., McKay, M., & Mellins, C. (2014). *Addressing the global needs of HIV-impacted families: How community collaborations modeling the CHAMP family program support perinatally HIV-infected youth entering adolescence.* Presented at the Joint World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development, Melbourne, Australia.

Small, L., Mellins, C., & McKay, M. (2014). *Enhancing the emotional wellbeing of perinatally HIV infected youth across global contexts.* Presented at the 20th International AIDS Conference, Melbourne, Australia.

Small, L., Jackson, J., Gopalan, G., & McKay, M. (2013). *Meeting the complex needs of urban youth and their families through the 4Rs 2Ss Family Strengthening Program: The 'real world' meets evidence-informed care.* Paper presented for Bridging the Research and Practice Gap: A Symposium on Critical Considerations, Successes and Emerging Ideas, University of Houston School of Social Work, Houston, TX.

Small, L., McGuire-Schwartz, M. & McKay, M. (2013). *Reducing the effects of homelessness on adolescents and their families by embedding evidence-informed prevention activities within shelters: The HOPE (Homeless Outreach to Parents and Early adolescents) Family Program.* Paper presented for the Society for Social Work and Research 17th Annual Conference: Social Work for a Just Society: Making Visible the Stakes and Stakeholders, San Diego, CA.

Small, L., Stephens, T., & McKay, M. (2013). *Where is family-based HIV prevention needed most: Poverty, homelessness & family-level mental health need as critical influences on youth outcomes.* Poster presented for the Society for Social Work and Research 17th Annual Conference: Social Work for a Just Society: Making Visible the Stakes and Stakeholders, San Diego, CA.

Small, L., Ali, S., Mellins, C., & McKay, M. (2014). *Incorporating Existing Practice Knowledge into a Global Family-Based HIV Intervention: The community collaborative process of the VUKA Family Program.* Oral Presentation for 3rd International Conference on Practice Research - Building Bridges Not Pipelines: Promoting Two-Way Traffic Between Practice and Research, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College, New York City, NY.

Stanton, M., Ghose, T., **Ali, S.**, Shubert, V., & Walker, L. (2013, November). Housing as a structural intervention for transgender and gender non-conforming PLWHA: Promoting positive health behaviors. Paper presented at the American Public Health Association 141st Annual Meeting and Exposition, Boston, Massachusetts.

Stanton, M., Walker, L., **Ali, S.**, Ghose, T., & Shubert, V. (2013, September). Trans-competent housing for women living with HIV. Paper presented at the North American Housing and HIV/AIDS Research Summit VII, Montreal, Canada.

Taussig, H., **Gopalan, G.**, & Leathers, S. (2014). *Pushing the Boundaries: Implementation of Evidence-Based Practice in Child Welfare*. Presented at that 19th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN), New Orleans, LA.

Tazartes, L., & **Flynn, R.**, (2014, February). Managing difficult behavior: A professional development model for safe schools. Paper presented at the annual National Association for School Psychologists convention, Washington, DC

Vu, C., **Mercado, M.**, **Fuss, A.**, & Peri, D. (2014). *Addressing the Gap between Clinical and Business Practices through a Learning Collaborative Model*. Presented at the 28th Annual Research & Policy Conference on Child, Adolescent, and Young Adult Behavioral Health, Tampa, FL.

Select Trainings

CSH National Project:

Trauma Informed Care in Supportive Housing – in collaboration with the Supportive Housing Resource Center (March 2014)

Engaging Families in Supportive Housing I - in collaboration with the Supportive Housing Resource Center (April 2014)

Engaging Families in Supportive Housing II - in collaboration with the Supportive Housing Resource Center (May 2014)

Supervision within Supportive Housing - in collaboration with the Supportive Housing Resource Center (June 2014)

National Council Conference:

The Practitioner's Dilemma: To Involve or Not Involve Caregivers – Presentation at National Council for Behavioral Health Annual Conference, Washington, DC. (May 2014)

The First 30 Days: The Foundation for Successful Treatment - Presentation at National Council for Behavioral Health Annual Conference, Washington, DC. (May 2014)

NAMI NYC- FRC Learning Collaborative:

Facilitating Successful Groups – In collaboration with NAMI NYC for Family Resource Centers (February 2014)

Goal Setting with Clients – In collaboration with NAMI NYC for Family Resource Centers (April 2014)

Self-Care and Managing Work Stress – In collaboration with NAMI NYC for Family Resource Centers (June 2014)

VA Hospital Project: (Each topic area was conducted at 3 VA sites within NY/NJ plus a webinar)

Engagement of Female Veterans – In collaboration with the VA Hospital System of NY/NJ (April 2013)

Strengthening Veteran Families – In collaboration with the VA Hospital System of NY/NJ (August/September 2013)

Veteran Whole Health: Wellness Self-Management – In collaboration with the VA Hospital System of NY/NJ (Jan/February 2014)

Financial Literacy for Veterans – In collaboration with the VA Hospital System of NY/NJ (April-June 2014)

Silver School:

Advanced SIFI Presentation: Suicide Assessment and Prevention – In collaboration with NYU Silver School of Social Work Field Learning Department (February 2014)

Motivate! Engaging Students in the Supervisory Process – In collaboration with NYU Silver School of Social Work Field Learning Department (May 2014)

Other:

Stressed Out! Practical Tips for Managing Stress Everyday – For New York coalition of aging service centers (March 2014)

Enhancing Skills to Support Motivation and Engagement with Female Veterans – NYU Primary and Behavioral Integrated Health Care Program (January 2014)

Parent and Family Strengthening Intervention for Veterans – NYU Primary and Behavioral Integrated Health Care Program (January 2014)

Veteran Whole Health: Wellness Self-Management – Corporation for Supportive Housing NYC Veteran Academy (April 2014)

Parent and Family Strengthening Veteran Families – Corporation for Supportive Housing NYC Veteran Academy (April 2014)

Supporting the Workforce: Client Engagement – Mental Health Agencies Learning Community, Pittsburgh, PA (November 2013)

2013-2014 Student Professional Development Trainings

Poverty, Politics and Health Outcomes, Facilitator: Gary Parker, McSilver (November 2014)

Seminar on Integrated Health at Institute for Family Health, Facilitators: Mary McKay and the HRSA Project (November 2013)

Undoing Racism, Facilitators: Undoing Racism Internship Project/Interschool Council on Undoing Racism (December 2013)

"How Does Wonderwoman Find Time For a Haircut? A Creative Exploration of Professional Identity to Prevent Burnout." Facilitator : Drena Fagen, Art Therapist and Clinical social worker (January 2014)

An Introduction to RefWorks, Facilitators: Arthur Tannenbaum & Samantha Guss, NYU Librarians (February 2014)

Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods, Facilitator: Dr. Robert Walker, Visiting Scholar, McSilver (February 2014)

Undoing Racism: Racial Microaggressions, Facilitators: Undoing Racism Internship Project/Interschool Council on Undoing Racism (March 2014)

Loan Forgiveness for Social Workers, Facilitator: Ammu Kowolik, McSilver (March 2014)

Creating a Community Organizing Campaign, Facilitator: Gary Parker, McSilver (April 2014)

Self-Care Workshop, Facilitator: NYU Stressbusters and Kara Dean-Assael, McSilver (April 2014)

McSilver Events

Wednesday, February 19th

Harsh Mander, Director, Centre for Equity Studies and Aman Biradari (People's Campaign for a Secular, Peaceful, Just and Humane World)

Living Rough: Surviving City Streets in India

Tuesday, February 25th

Highlights from the Society for Social Work and Research Conference

Tuesday, March 25th

Dr. Ellen DeVoe, Associate Professor at Boston University School of Social Work & Principal Investigator of the Strong Families Strong Forces Project

Strong Families Strong Forces: Engagement and Intervention with Military Families

Monday, March 31st

Robert Walker, PhD, McSilver Visiting Scholar

Poverty & Shame A Multi-Country Qualitative Study Comes to NYC

Monday, April 7th

McSilver Post-Doctoral Fellows Present New Research Findings

Wednesday, May 7th

HBO Documentary Screening: American Winter

Wednesday, May 28th

Afternoon Symposium and 2nd Annual McSilver Awards

McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research

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