More prevention
More support
More research
More accomplishment
More protection
More interventions

Moore Center  Celebrating Six Years of Research and Outreach

More future
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More partners
More dedication
More eradication
More achievements
More strategies
More innovation
More hope
Letter from the Director, Elizabeth J. Letourneau, PhD

Since our founding in 2012, the Moore Center for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse has made incredible strides in researching and communicating about child sexual abuse prevention. Our Center aims to change the way the public thinks about child sexual abuse and to prove, through rigorous research, education and outreach, that child sexual abuse is preventable, not inevitable. Not only are we convincing the public that child sexual abuse is preventable, we are also leading the way to prevent it in our schools, communities and in youth-serving institutions and organizations.

We know that, in the United States, at least 15% of girls and 5% of boys will experience child sexual abuse before they turn 18 years old. In the six years since the Moore Center was established, we have developed and are rigorously evaluating several primary prevention interventions that we believe will improve the safety of children and reduce the risk of child sexual abuse victimization and perpetration.

We are currently piloting our school-based prevention program in Baltimore City public schools targeting sixth and seventh graders; we will also pilot our online Help Wanted prevention program that targets young people struggling with an unwanted attraction to prepubescent children, and we will pilot a program that targets at-risk parents with education and communication tools to help them support the healthy development of their children.

We cannot do this work alone! With generous gifts from Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Julia Moore, we have been able to establish our Center and support research efforts that would be impossible to fund from traditional science funding streams. Since our founding, we continue to receive personal donations from friends, family and partners who believe in our mission and support our vision of a world without child sexual abuse.

There is so much more we hope to accomplish in the coming years. With our talented and dedicated team and the support of our friends, partners and funders, I believe that we are well on our way to protecting every child from child sexual abuse.

Elizabeth J. Letourneau, PhD
Director, Moore Center for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse
Professor, Department of Mental Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Mission, Vision and Framework

Mission
The Moore Center for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse conducts research that increases our understanding of why child sexual abuse occurs. In so doing, we collaborate with policymakers, practitioners and the public to develop and disseminate proven strategies to prevent child sexual abuse perpetration in the future.

Vision
Our vision is a world without child sexual abuse. We believe that everyone shares the responsibility for child sexual abuse prevention, and everyone benefits when children remain safe from abuse. We know child sexual abuse is preventable, not inevitable, which is why our work centers on developing strong prevention strategies.

RECAP Framework: A Public Health Perspective

From clean water to safe housing to near-universal immunization, established public health practices dating back to the mid-19th century have delivered longer life, better health and higher quality of living in communities around the world. The same techniques can be applied to preventing child sexual abuse, based on five fundamentals:

- **Research** to advance the primary prevention of child sexual abuse perpetration, including the development and rigorous evaluation of prevention interventions
- **Education** for and from policymakers, funders, advocates, educators, health and social service practitioners, media, parents and other stakeholders engaged in child sexual abuse prevention efforts
- **Communication** that conveys clear, unbiased, objective information on all aspects of child sexual abuse, including victimization, perpetration and prevention
- **Advocacy** that secures resources and support for evidence-based policies and practices to prevent child sexual abuse
- **Policy** efforts that support a public health approach to child sexual abuse prevention

Scientific Advisory Board

We sincerely thank our Scientific Advisory Board members for their leadership and support over the past several years. They have helped us identify knowledge gaps and prioritize areas where our resources can achieve the greatest impact. In 2018 our board included:

- **Karen Baker**, director of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center
- **Esther Deblinger**, co-director, Child Abuse Research Education & Service Institute, and professor, School of Osteopathic Medicine, Rowan University
- **David Finkelhor**, director, Crimes Against Children Research Center; co-director, Family Research Laboratory, and professor of sociology, University of New Hampshire
- **Andrea Gielen**, director, Center for Injury Research and Policy, and professor, Health, Behavior and Society, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
- **James A. Mercy**, director, Division of Violence Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention & Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
The Moore Center successfully competed for a Bloomberg American Health Initiative High Impact Award to facilitate the first-ever collaboration between the nation’s largest youth serving organizations and leading public health experts to identify and disseminate the most promising child sexual abuse prevention efforts, which will in turn aid in the development of evidence-based child sexual abuse prevention policies.

The Moore Center’s advocacy efforts resulted in both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees requesting a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention detailing their current work in child sexual abuse prevention, what gaps exist, and what resources are necessary to fill those gaps. This report, due out in Spring 2019 will further support the argument that federal funding is critical to preventing child sexual abuse.

The Moore Center successfully competed for a National Institutes of Health grant that will allow the Moore Center to collaborate with Frameworks Institute and experts in child sexual abuse prevention to identify and shape messaging to be used with the public to communicate that child sexual abuse is preventable.

The Moore Center successfully competed for a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention grant to allow the Moore Center to evaluate the impact of Medicaid expansion policy on the primary prevention of child abuse and neglect, youth violence, and intimate partner violence.

The Annie E. Casey Foundation provided the Moore Center with a generous gift to support research into the effects of Medicaid expansion on family and intimate partner violence prevention.

Together for Girls provided the Moore Center with funding to examine data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s International Violence Against Children Surveys to identify factors that might contribute to widely disparate rates of child sexual abuse between countries.

The Moore Center kicked off a collaboration with U.S. Center for Safe Sports to address strategies for keeping young athletes safe.
Child Sexual Abuse Prevention: Research Highlights

Preventing Child Sexual Abuse in At-Risk Populations

A better approach to preventing child sexual abuse is long overdue. Instead of devoting resources after harm has already occurred, our Center advocates a prevention focus. Consequently, we are working on several prevention interventions to stop abuse before a child is hurt.

Online Prevention

Our Help Wanted prevention program, which is funded in part by RALIANCE and The HAND Foundation, is an online prevention intervention for adolescents and young adults with a sexual interest in younger children. We are currently developing additional content for family and friends of young people with a sexual interest in younger children and for professionals who work with these young people. The goal of this intervention is to provide young people with the tools to live happy and healthy lives free of offending.

School-Based Prevention

With funding from the National Institutes of Health’s National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, we have created a middle-school prevention program designed to teach students how to interact responsibly with younger children and their peers. We are currently working with several Baltimore City middle schools to pilot this prevention program.

Family-Based Prevention

With Dr. Tamar Mendelson, Bloomberg professor of mental health, JHSPH, we developed and are beginning to evaluate a parent-focused prevention intervention to provide parents with evidence-based knowledge and skills to support the healthy sexual development of their children.

We believe that prevention interventions should focus on people most likely to engage in harmful sexual behavior with children, people charged with protecting the wellbeing of children, and the population at large. With these targets in mind, we stand to make great strides in preventing sexual violence against children.
Donors, Funding

Because child sexual abuse prevention is not a strong focus for research funding agencies, the Moore Center has a special need for private philanthropy as we continue our groundbreaking and innovative research to end child sexual abuse. Our prevention projects like Help Wanted, rely heavily on the generosity of private foundations and individuals who are committed to preventing child sexual abuse.

We are grateful for our donors whose generous contributions allow our Center to continue to work and flourish. In 2018 we raised $36,665 in private contributions, a 4.1% increase from last year!

We know that private philanthropy is a deeply personal decision. Our donors are instrumental in allowing the Center to conduct research that will lead to the eradication of child sexual abuse. We thank them for their support.

Moore Center Benefactors
Stephen Moore, MD, MPH ’93 and Mrs. Julia Moore*

Moore Center Donors
- Anonymous (2)
- Alexander Daignault Jr.*
- Annie E. Casey Foundation*
- Anne Daignault
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- Michael Klag MD, MPH and Lucy Meoni*
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- Rebecca Rollins
- Sara Fulton and Michael Roberts
- Stephen Letourneau and Ian James*
- The Daignault Family Foundation*
- The HAND Foundation*
- The Kaszuba Family*
- Thomas Mitchell

*Indicates gifts $1,000 or more

Grant Awards
We regularly apply for grants from the federal government and national organizations that support our mission and research. Below are grants awarded in 2018 or continuing into 2019.

- Annie E. Casey Foundation
  October 2018
- Bloomberg American Health Initiative High Impact Award
  April 2018
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
  September 2018
- National Institutes of Health
  September 2018
- US Center for Safe Sports
  December 2018

More gratitude
Moore Center Staff

Elizabeth J. Letourneau, PhD
Director

Rebecca Fix, PhD
Assistant Scientist

Meghan Collins, MSW
Associate Director of Development

Reshmi Nair, PhD
Assistant Scientist

Luciana Assini-Meytin, PhD
Assistant Scientist

Marcus Nole
Research Program Assistant

Ericka Muempfer, MA
Research Associate

Christina Knepper, LCSW-C
Research Coordinator

Amanda Ruzicka, MA
Director of Research Operations

Meghan Collins, MSW
Associate Director of Development

Reshmi Nair, PhD
Assistant Scientist

Luciana Assini-Meytin, PhD
Assistant Scientist

Marcus Nole
Research Program Assistant

Amanda Ruzicka, MA
Director of Research Operations
Keep in Touch

- Visit us on the Web at jhsph.edu/moorecenter
- Read our blog at jhsph.edu/moore_prevention_news
- On Twitter, follow Dr. Letourneau at @eletourn