

# NEWSLETTER

# CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION "A Center Without Walls"

### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR Professor Ian Barron

CIE focus and priorities: Responding to global challenges Endowment scholar Welcoming Fulbright community building peace corps return student publication success

#### **CIE Endowment Fellow**

The CIE Endowment Fund supports an international graduate student each year. Read about Fellows <u>here</u>.

In a world of increasing challenges, CIE provides a constant force for good. Driven by a passion to transform lives, CIE over the past year, has responded to the war in the Ukraine, climate change, the enduring impact of COVID-19, the devastating denial of education for women and girls in Afghanistan, the abuse of girls in Malawi and historic trauma for children and families in occupied Palestine. As part of CIE's commitment to UMass being a land grant institution, faculty, staff, and students have challenged the endemic racism and discrimination of indigenous American's and African Americans in education and health systems.

### **Current Projects**

### Education and healing for Ukrainian refugees

CIE, in partnership with <u>Ana Gomez</u> (Agate Institute, Colombia) and <u>Daniela Lempertz</u> (EMDR Global Alliance, Germany) has spearheaded the training of mental health workers for Ukrainian child refugees in seven countries Russia and the Ukraine.



**Egyptian Pioneers success** Building on the consortium success involving the American University of Cairo (AUC), FHI360, and CIE in winning the Egyptian

Frontiers award, <u>Lamiaa Eid</u>, our CIE Endowment Scholar, has established a new relationship between Center for International Education (CIE), Middle East Institute for Higher Education (MEIHE) and the United Nations Development program (UNDP) to empower women's educational leadership in addressing digital literacy and disabilities.



# Women's access to quality education

Despite the close out of higher education and health literacy projects in Afghanistan because of the Taliban defacto government, <u>Nangyali Attal</u> has continued to lead policy-development for women's agricultural education, funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, involving 7 consultants working on the ground <u>Javid</u> <u>Mussawy</u>, in response to the exclusion of girls from education, has plans underway to bolster the *underground girls-school movement* in rural settings in Afghanistan.





Pempho Chinkondenji, Director of Loving Arms, a CIE partner, is working tirelessly to increase access to schooling for girls in Malawi through her Mama mentors' program as well as develop her community awareness to reduce violence against girls.



#### **Empowering Afghan refugees**

Three female undergraduates (<u>Rubaba</u> <u>Azad, Sadaf Tokhi & Seema Amin</u>) led the start-up of our Afghan women's empowerment group, in partnership with Catholic Charities, and Focusing International, now running for over a year. A participatory approach has followed the women's agenda including language development, health care, child-care, and employability. Our own Barbara-Gravin Wilbur established the child group running along the 'empowerment teas' as they are affectionately known.

# Healing for marginalized communities

<u>Gerald Fonville, Mukhayyo Azamova and</u> <u>Nanak Hiymatullah</u>, compared racial trauma as a consequence of (i) slavery in the USA with (ii) the military occupation in the occupied Palestinian territories. A unique approach developed by <u>Dr Fonville</u>, embedding racial socialization into state-of the-art trauma therapy is soon to be tested in both countries.





<u>Gerald</u> also led one of CIE's TiGR seminars entitled '*Racial Socialization and* <u>African American Trauma."</u>







<u>Madison Palmer's</u> participatory action research on cultural safety for Indigenous American's experiences of US health professionals led to the development of a proposal for UMass to develop its own indigenous American IRB.



#### Fighting COVID-19

CIE is starting a new project to address Long-COVID-19 in occupied Palestine. Funded by the Children and War Foundation, the project introduces a mental health coping skills programs into schools across the West Bank.



CIE's public engagement in partnership with the Trauma Response Network, has provided wellbeing support for hospital medics on the front line responding to COVID-19. Early analysis of data by <u>Dr.</u> <u>Barron</u> and <u>Quinnetuhqut Lamore</u>, *former PhD student*, indicates that medics experience PTSD *and* posttraumatic growth as a consequence of the pandemic





### A welcome to UMass Fulbright Association

CIE welcomed the UMass international students' <u>Fulbright Association</u> to Montague House.



The recent showing of *Persepolis*, organized by <u>lpek Bayram</u>, Association president, highlighted the centrality of a compassionate lens for girls and families living under violent oppression.



#### Peace Corp recruitment

Finally, past Peace Corp members will be pleased to hear we are working with the Peace Corp to encourage a more international lens at the College of Education and across the UMass Amherst campus. Recruitment sessions will be organized over the coming year.





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- Matthew, L. & Barron, I.G. (2022). Young child sexual abuse survivors experience as participative researchers. *Journal of Family Violence*. In Press.
- Barron, I. & Darker-Smith, S. (2022). Efficacy of EMDR with Adolescents. *EMDRIA 'Go With That,* '19-26. <u>https://www.emdria.org/practice-resources/emdr-therapy-and-teenagers/</u>







Barron, I. G., Ashcroft, P. & Fonville, G. (2022). Militarized Police Violence and Child Trauma & Healing in the Brazilian Favela. *Centre for Research and Evidence on Security Threats (CREST)*. October 2022. https://crestresearch.ac.uk/comment/police-violence-child-trauma-in-the-brazilian-favelas/



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- Farrell, D., Fadeeva, A. Zat, Z., Knibbs, L., Miller, P. Barron, I., Matthess, H., Matthess, C., Gazit, N., & Kiernan, K. (2022). A Stage 1 Pilot Cohort exploring the use of EMDR therapy as a Video-Conference Psychotherapy during Covid-19 with Frontline Mental Health Workers - A proof of concept study utilizing a Virtual Blind 2 Therapist Protocol. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 13, 1-14. 901855. doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2022.901855
- Rashid, F. & Barron, I.G. (2022). Clerical Child Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church in Spain: A Contemporary or Historical Phenomena? *Georgetown Journal of International Affairs*, 23(2), 227-237. doi: 10.1353/gia.2022.0035



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#### CALL FOR COLLABORATION

### PROJECT OPPORTUNITIES

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