



Exciting News: Nurture Connection Is Moving to Georgetown University's New Thrive Center!

We are thrilled to share a major milestone in the journey of Nurture Connection — a national network committed to promoting strong, positive, and nurturing early relationships to build healthier, more connected communities. Starting this fall, Nurture Connection will be anchored within Georgetown University's newly established [Thrive Center for Children, Families and Communities!](#)

This move marks an exciting new chapter for Nurture Connection — which, for over the past five years, has brought together parents, caregivers, researchers, medical professionals, philanthropists, early childhood leaders, and policymakers to strengthen families across the country. The Thrive Center's mission and values align perfectly with our work — with innovative research and opportunities that help children, families, and communities flourish.

We are grateful to the Center for the Study of Social Policy (CSSP) for incubating and guiding Nurture Connection through its early years, and look forward to continuing our important work together and exploring the exciting possibilities ahead at Georgetown!

[Read more](#) about the move from Nurture Connection Founder and Director, David W. Willis, MD, on our website.

[Learn More](#)

How do clinicians help prevent trauma in their pediatric patients?

A new book leads the way. . .

R. J. Gillespie, MD, MHPE, FAAP and Amy King, PhD are the authors of [“The Trauma-Informed Pediatric Practice: A Resilience-Based Roadmap to Foster Early Relational Health,”](#) published by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Nurture Connection [talked with the authors about the book](#) and how it can

The Trauma- Informed Pediatric Practice

A Resilience-Based
Roadmap to Foster
Early Relational
Health

R.J. Gillespie, MD, MHPE, FAAP
Amy King, PhD

American Academy
of Pediatrics
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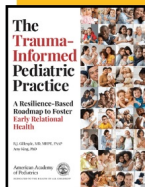
transform pediatric practice for clinicians and families.

[Read the Full Q&A](#)

Upcoming Webinar: [Putting Trauma-Informed Pediatric Care into Practice](#)



Thursday, 11/21
12:00PM - 1:00 PM ET



Nurture Conversations: *Putting Trauma-Informed Pediatric Care into Practice*

A Conversation with Amy King, PhD and
R.J. Gillespie, MD, MHPE, FAAP



Amy King, PhD



R.J. Gillespie,
MD, MHPE, FAAP



David W. Willis,
MD, FAAP
Professor of Pediatrics,
Georgetown University, and
Founder, Nurture Connection

R. J. Gillespie, MD, MHPE, FAAP and Amy King, PhD are the authors of "[The Trauma-Informed Pediatric Practice: A Resilience-Based Roadmap to Foster Early Relational Health](#)," published by the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Join us Thursday, November 21, 2024 from 12:00pm - 1:00pm EDT for a conversation with the authors about the book and how it can transform pediatric practice for clinicians and families.

[Click the button to register!](#)

[Register Here](#)

Explore More



[Reflecting Forward: The Public Health Crisis of Parental Stress](#)

This blog by Claudia M. Gold, MD (Pediatrician, Early Relational Health Specialist), and David Willis, MD is the second in Nurture Connection's *Reflecting Forward* series. Following a recent advisory by Surgeon General Vivek Murthy, MD that calls for a fundamental shift in how we value parents, the authors stress the critical importance of centering the needs and well-being of parents and caregivers in order to nurture connections, Early Relational Health, and next generation flourishing.

[Read More](#)



What is Early Relational Health?

[Early Relational Health](#) is the state of emotional well-being that grows from emotional connection between babies and toddlers and their parents and caregivers when they experience strong, positive, and nurturing relationships with each other.

ERH is foundational to children's healthy growth and development and parents' and caregivers' sense of competence, connection, and overall well-being. These strong and enduring relationships also help to protect the family from the harmful effects of stress.



[Thrive Center Innovation Hub Fellowship: Applications Now Open!](#)

Georgetown's Thrive Center is launching an Innovation Hub Fellowship. This fellowship aims to help innovators like *you/your colleagues* across key dimensions of scaling impact, including intervention validation, economic model development, and go-to-community strategies. Fellows will receive expertise, mentorship, and a network to accelerate impact, and the program is free (no cost or equity sharing)!

If you are interested in learning more, please check out Innovation Hub @ Thrive Center's [website](#) and [FAQ](#). If you would like to apply or view the Fellowship Application, [click here](#).

[Apply Now!](#)

If you have any questions, you can contact the Innovation Hub team directly (innovationhub@georgetown.edu).

Core ERH Resources

Frameworks Institute. [Building Relationships: Framing Early Relational Health](#). Prepared in collaboration with the Center for the Study of Social Policy. May 2020.

Willis D, Chavez S, Lee J, Hampton P, Fine A. [Early Relational Health National Survey: What We're Learning from the Field](#). Center for the Study of Social Policy. 2020.

Willis D, Sege R, Johnson K. [Changing the Mindset: Foundational Relationships Counter Adversity with HOPE](#). (Blog) Center for the Study of Social Policy. May 2020.

Perspectives on ERH Video Series. [Perspectives on Early Relational Health Series](#). Center for the Study of Social Policy. 2022.

Center of the Study of Social Policy and Health+ Studio. [How to Communicate Effectively About Early Relational Health: What It Is and Why It Matters](#). 2022.

Find additional resources on our [website](#).

What We're Reading

- Literacy Promotion: An Essential Component of Primary Care Pediatric Practice: Technical Report, Pediatrics. Klass, P, Mendelson, A., Hutton, J., Dunlap, M, Anderson T., High, P, et al (2024). DOI: 10.1542/peds.2024-069091. [Read here.](#)
 - Integrating community health workers in early childhood well-child care: A statement from the Pediatric Academic Societies Maternal Child Health: First 1000 Days Special Interest Group. Coker, T., Gregory, E., McCord, M., Cholera, R., Bakken, H., Chapman, S., Anwar, E., Lee, J., Henry, S., & Chamberlain, L. (2024). BMC Primary Care, 25, 345. DOI: 10.1186/s12875-024-02582-3. [Read here.](#)
 - Adverse childhood experiences predict anxiety during postpartum and early childhood parenting. Walker-Mao, C., Farewell, C., Nagle-Yang, S., Blackwell, S., & Leiferman, J. (2024). Journal of Psychosomatic Obstetrics & Gynecology, 45:1 2410203. DOI: 10.1080/0167482x.2024.2410203. [Read here.](#)
 - The Systems Work of Social Change: Practices of Systems Work by Cynthia Raynor and Francois Bonnici. OUP Oxford, 2021. ISBN 9798765002919.
 - The Message by Ta-Nahishi Coates. Random House, 2024. ISBN 9780593230381.
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Contact

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