CHILD AND FAMILY CENTER FOR INNOVATIVE RESEARCH (CFCIR)

Director: Monit Cheung, PhD, LCSW, Mary R. Lewis
Endowed Professor in Children & Youth
Graduate College of Social Work, University of Houston
Updated 7/1/2022
Mission

The mission of the Child and Family Center for Innovative Research (CFCIR) at the University of Houston is to **improve youth and family well-being, strengthen interpersonal relationships, and promote social justice.**

CFCIR aims to:

1. **Conduct research and engage in community-based projects using innovative methods and approaches;**

2. **Collaborate with national, state and local agencies to perform child and family service workforce analyses;**

3. **Develop and test treatment and strategic plans to improve child and family services;**

4. **Identify effective prevention and evaluative measures and treatment programs for children, youth and families across diverse cultural backgrounds, especially among ethnic minorities and LGBTQX communities.**

5. **Provide a platform for interdisciplinary collaboration, between government and not-for-profit agencies and among community organizations, scholars and other service providers, from local to global, aiming to ensure health development for all youths and stop family and interpersonal violence.**
Child Welfare Education Project (Title IV-E)

- **Sponsor:** Texas Department of Family and Protective Services
- **Funding:** $1 million plus matching
- **Purpose:** Prepare master's level social work students for the challenging and rewarding work found in children's protective services.
- **Project years:** 1999 to 2023 annually renewable based on performance and needs
- **PI:** Dr. Monit Cheung
Evaluation of Project HYPE

- **Sponsor**: Change Happens!
- **Purpose**: Evaluation
- **Project Year**: 5 years

- **Evaluator**: Dr. Sheara Williams Jennings
Title IV-E Education Project

- Sponsor: DFPS
- Purpose: To use research as an advocacy tool to increase funding to work with children and their families
- Project year: Ongoing

- PI: Dr. Patrick Leung
- Co-PI: Monit Cheung
Building Civic Engagement Strategies

• Sponsor:
• Purpose:
• Project years:

PI: Suzanne Pritzker
Civic Engagement Through the Voices of Latino/a Youth

- Sponsor:
- Purpose:
- Project years:

PI: Suzanne Pritzker
Partnership Training Skills” Connecting MSW and BSW Students in Two UH Campuses: Year 3 Implementation

- **Sponsor**: Advancing Community Engagement and Service
- **Purpose**: Interuniversity collaboration to use community engagement skills to improve child welfare training in the state of Texas
- **Project Years**: 2018-2022
Other Projects

• E-Journal: *Child and Family Journal for Innovative Practice and Research* ("CFJ") is a publication providing an integrated practice-research platform for all child and family programs, agencies, and institutions, in the United States as well as globally, to share child welfare innovative practice and research experiences. It aims to provide updated information and innovative practice and research to promote child and family well-being from the community, universities, and clinical or research centers. Scholars and practitioners who dedicate working with children and families are our contributors to share knowledge, innovative assessment and intervention, practice insights, service outcomes, policy updates, and sources of professional and educational development from statewide, nationally, and internationally are welcome.

• [https://uh.edu/socialwork/New_research/cfcir/child-and-family-journal-cfj/](https://uh.edu/socialwork/New_research/cfcir/child-and-family-journal-cfj/)
Other Funded Research Projects

• Doctoral student projects
  1. October 2021 to December 2022: Professional Identity Development in Social Work during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Urgent Care Social Work Education in Mexico, Taiwan, and the United States. Funded by the International Association of Schools of Social Work. (PI: Monit Cheung; Co-PI: Yu-Ju Huang; Taiwan Liaison: Hsin-Hsieh Wen; Mexico Liaison: Gabriela Mohr; Funded: $4,000; In-kind Match: $4,000; Total Budget: $8,000).

• MSW student projects
  • April 4, 2022-2023. Faculty mentor for Royal Kelly, PlainsCapital Schweitzer Fellow. A grant to support a research project: Any Baby Can ‘Building Connections’ Group for First-Time Mothers. Funded by The Albert Schweitzer Fellowship with financial support for a researcher position by Mark Troth, President of PlainsCapital Bank, Medical Center.