



NORTON SCHOOL OF HUMAN ECOLOGY

Frances McClelland  
Institute for Children,  
Youth & Families



## Greetings from the Frances McClelland Institute,

We are pleased to share updates from FMI. We hosted our first [Turbeville Series](#) speaker of the semester on February 7th. Dr. Michelle Téllez from the University of Arizona Department of Mexican American Studies shared insightful research on communities in the U.S. - Mexico Borderlands. Her presentation highlighted digital archive projects on Mexicana/Chicana activists in the Borderlands and Afro-Chicanx communities and identity. She shared the voices and experiences of her participants with the audience. If you missed this talk, you can watch it now on our [YouTube Channel](#). We hope you can join us in-person or virtually on Friday, March 21, 2025 when Dr. Steve Rains from the Department of Communication at The University of Arizona joins us to share his research on effective and ineffective ways to communicate positive social support in times of need. See below for details.

As Black History month comes to a close, we want to acknowledge that it is important all year long to learn and reflect on Black history, which is an

integral part of United States history, so that we can celebrate the resilience of Black families, individuals and communities and understand the ongoing impact of discrimination and oppression.



Finally, in these challenging times, we are more inspired than ever to honor the legacy of Frances McClelland. She lived a life that demonstrated, facilitated and celebrated resilience. Frances was a generous and tireless advocate for children, youth, women, disabled individuals, and families, especially those who experienced injustice and adversity. She believed passionately that children deserved the opportunity to meet their full potential. She invested in the power of research to identify strategies to strengthen youth and families. We continue our work in her name to collaboratively build strong communities that promote family resilience so that children, youth and families have the opportunity to thrive.

[READ MORE](#)

## Research from the Institute

## Guaranteed Income Programs as a Strategy to Reduce Poverty and Boost Upward Mobility

Jennifer Haggerty

### The Problem of Poverty and the Impact on the Community

The cost of poverty is expensive to individuals and communities. According to an expert panel commissioned by The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM) childhood poverty costs the United States an estimated range of \$800 billion to 1.1 trillion annually (NASEM, 2019). Children and individuals from marginalized or minoritized communities, such as those who have disabilities or are people of color, face poverty at alarming rates. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2023 the child poverty rate was 16% in the United States, with rates ranging across states from 8.0% to 25.3% (Benson & Bishaw, 2024). The growing cost of living has increased vulnerability to financial instability. The impacts of poverty ripple throughout the community with adverse effects on core societal systems and structures such as the justice system, educational institutions, housing markets, healthcare providers, and our workforce economy. Given the multifaceted complexity of poverty, experts agree that multiple strategies are needed to help families achieve upward mobility (NASEM, 2019). Guaranteed income programs are gaining in popularity across the United States as an effective strategy to fight poverty and boost prosperity.

### What is Guaranteed Income?

Guaranteed Income is a systematic approach to addressing the economic vulnerabilities of low-income families by providing monthly cash support payments to fund basic needs and family stability. There are no restrictions on how individuals may use the funds, and they are not required to pay them back. By giving unrestricted cash allotments, these programs allow for personal autonomy for families to best fund their own unique immediate needs. NASEM experts agree on the importance of putting cash into the hands of families raising children (NASEM, 2019).

Communities pursue guaranteed income programs for a variety of reasons. Some communities aim to close the gap in wealth inequality for minoritized populations, while others aim to create 2-generational approaches to fighting poverty that simultaneously address the need of parents and children to reduce intergenerational poverty. Guaranteed income is not meant to be a replacement policy for other social welfare programs currently in place as it is an additional economic strategy available in an anti-poverty toolkit.

### Growing Momentum and Opposition to Guaranteed Income Programs

Guaranteed income pilot programs, like the examples listed below, have gained momentum over the past decade with local governments in collaboration with philanthropy co-funding these efforts. Their aim is to support low-income marginalized families in their local communities while also providing much needed evidence on the effectiveness of these programs.

Table 1. Examples of Guaranteed Income Pilot Programs

Denver Basic Income Project (DBIP) Denver, Colorado	Guaranteed Income Education Study (GIES) Gary, Indiana	Magnolia Mothers Trust Jackson, Mississippi	The Most Seattle, Washington
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12 Month Guaranteed Income Cash Program</li> <li>Target: Homeless Population</li> <li>Results:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased Housing Stability</li> <li>Growth in Full-time employment</li> <li>Reported less use of Emergency Services</li> <li>Fewer instances of sleeping on the street.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12-month Guaranteed Income pilot program.</li> <li>Target: Low Income Families</li> <li>Results:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Higher educational attainment</li> <li>Increased job skills</li> <li>Creation of Small Business (Green, 2023)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12-month Guaranteed Income.</li> <li>Target: Families led by Single Black Mothers.</li> <li>Results:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Mobility</li> <li>Reduced Debt</li> <li>Higher Education</li> <li>Increased Credit Scores</li> <li>Improved Job Quality</li> <li>Quality Family Time (Green, 2023)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 year Guaranteed Income.</li> <li>Target: Indigenous pregnant women.</li> <li>Desired Outcomes:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Stability</li> <li>Address Food Insecurity</li> <li>Physical Safety</li> <li>Strong Mother-Child Bond</li> <li>Healthier Communities</li> <li>2-generational approach to poverty (Giordano, 2024)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## Featured Policy Brief: Guaranteed Income Programs as a Strategy to Reduce Poverty and Boost Upward Mobility

We are pleased to share a new policy brief titled *Guaranteed Income Programs as a Strategy to Reduce Poverty and Boost Upward Mobility*. This brief explores the potential of guaranteed income programs to alleviate poverty, promote economic stability, and enhance upward mobility for individuals and families. This brief began as part of a project the author, Jennifer Haggerty, did last Spring when she participated in FMI's Community-Based Applied Research internship program.

ENGLISH

SPANISH

## HDFS Student Updates

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2025 Osburn Summer Fellowship! This fellowship supports Human Development and Family Science (HDFS) graduate students to write first- author manuscripts that will advance our understanding of children, youth or families.

**Victoria Cooper-Roundy** will be pursuing a manuscript titled, *The Power of a Village: Examining How Family and Community Support and Experiences of Discrimination Shape Black Fathering Identity and Involvement*.

**Alyssa Garcia** will be pursuing a manuscript titled, *Validating the Conflict Resolution Style Inventory for Adolescent Parents*.

## SciKIND Updates



**The Science of Kindness Community Collective (SciKind Team)** is flourishing this spring with exciting developments and events that highlight how kindness can transform communities through research and practice. This month, we are thrilled to share that the VIP (Vertically Integrated Project) class is thriving, with students actively participating in research and taking leadership roles in promoting kindness on campus.

Students from the class will be leading kindness activities at this year's **Science City Tucson Festival of Books**, where they will showcase some of the research and interactive activities designed for community. We also want to congratulate three of our amazing undergrads, **Jillian Bantz, Grace Lizama, and Zack Silver**, who spoke at the **Student Success Conference** on February 12th. Their contributions to the Kind Cats session were inspiring!

**The Kind Spaces Study** is well underway, and we are actively recruiting participants from HECL 202 with Dr. Khosla. In this study, students will explore how University of Arizona students perceive and experience kind spaces on campus. By identifying areas that promote kind behavior, the study seeks to generate insights that can inform campus design, student life, and well-being initiatives. Participants will document these spaces through photography and engage in reflective discussions to share their perspectives.

**SCIENCE OF KINDNESS**  
**COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE**

## Recording Available

The Frances McClelland Institute for Children,  
Youth, & Families invites you to...

# TURBEVILLE SPEAKER SERIES SPRING 2025

**Speaker:** Michelle Téllez, Associate Professor and Director  
of Graduate Studies in the Department of  
of Mexican American Studies at the University of Arizona

**Title:** *Oral Histories and Digital Archives  
in the Borderlands*

**Time:** Friday, February 7th, 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

**Location:** McClelland Park | 650 N. Park Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719  
| Room 402 or Zoom



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If you missed the presentation earlier this month titled *Oral Histories and Digital Archives in the Borderlands*, presented by Dr. Michelle Téllez, you can now watch the recording on our YouTube channel!

[WATCH NOW](#)

## Upcoming Events

The Frances McClelland Institute for Children,  
Youth, & Families invites you to...

## TURBEVILLE SPEAKER SERIES SPRING 2025



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**Speaker:** Steve Rains, Professor of Communication at  
the University of Arizona

**Title:** *Social Support as Kindness: Properties of Helpful  
Emotional Support Messages*

**Time:** Friday, March 21st, 1:00PM - 2:15 PM

**Location:** McClelland Park | 650 N. Park Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719  
| Room 402 or Zoom

To read more about this presentation visit our [Turbeville Speaker page](#).

REGISTER HERE

The Frances McClelland Institute for Children,  
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## TURBEVILLE SPEAKER SERIES SPRING 2025



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**Speaker:** Jessica Andrews-Hanna, Associate Professor in  
the Department of Psychology at the University of Arizona

**Title:** *The Neuroscience of Compassion:  
Cultivating Kindness for Others and Ourselves*

**Time:** Friday, April 11th, 2025 1:00 PM - 2:15 PM

**Location:** McClelland Park | 650 N. Park Ave, Tucson, AZ 85719  
| Room 402 or Zoom

To read more about this presentation visit our [Turbeville Speaker page](#).

REGISTER HERE



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# SPRING 2025 STUDENT POSTER SHOWCASE



**FRIDAY, APRIL 25, 2025**

12:30 PM - 2:30PM

Forbes Building Lobby, 1140 E.  
South Campus Dr.



The Frances McClelland Institute would like to invite you to take part in the **Spring 2025 Student Poster Showcase** on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM-2:30 PM at the Forbes Lobby/Courtyard. This in-person event provides an opportunity for Norton School undergraduate and graduate students, as well as students from other departments engaged in research with Norton faculty, to showcase their projects and explore other studies aimed at enhancing the lives of children, youth, and families.

**No registration needed—open to everyone, including those outside the University of Arizona!**

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Thank you for your support of the Institute. Stay in touch with us by following FMI on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

In Partnership,

**Melissa Barnet, Ph.D.**

Director, Frances McClelland Institute for Children, Youth, and Families

Norton Endowed Chair in Fathers, Parenting, and Families

Professor, Human Development and Family Science

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Please support our work by making an investment in the Frances McClelland Institute for Children, Youth, and Families.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE



You are receiving this email from the **Frances McClelland Institute Newsletters** mailing list.

Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinary Sciences and Cooperative Extension, Forbes Building, 1140 E. South Campus Dr., Tucson, AZ 85721, US

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## **Land Acknowledgment**

*We respectfully acknowledge the University of Arizona is on the land and territories of Indigenous peoples. Today, Arizona is home to 22 federally recognized tribes, with Tucson being home to the O'odham and the Yaqui. The university strives to build sustainable relationships with sovereign Native Nations and Indigenous communities through education offerings, partnerships, and community service.*