Chapin Hall Names Aislinn Conrad-Hiebner, Ph.D. Student at the University of Kansas, a 2014 Doris Duke Fellow for the Promotion of Child Well-Being

Aislinn Conrad-Hiebner, Ph.D. student, School of Social Welfare, University of Kansas, will join the fourth cohort of the Doris Duke Fellowships for the Promotion of Child Well-Being—seeking innovations to prevent child abuse and neglect. The 15 fellows were chosen from a highly competitive applicant pool by a panel of experts convened by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago. These fellowships are designed to identify and develop a new generation of leaders interested in and capable of creating practice and policy initiatives that will enhance child development and improve the nation's ability to prevent all forms of child maltreatment. The fellowships are generously funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation.

“The best strategies for preventing abuse and neglect will come from an innovative and well-prepared workforce—one that is not bound by the limits of any single traditional academic discipline,” said Chapin Hall Senior Research Fellow Deborah Daro, who oversees the initiative. “By providing opportunities for this diverse group of scholars to learn from each other, the fellowship creates a rich context for nurturing new knowledge on the dynamics of abuse and neglect and how best to promote child well-being.”

Each Fellow has identified two mentors—an academic mentor to supervise the content and rigor of their research, and a policy mentor to maximize the impact of their research on policy and practice. Ms. Conrad-Hiebner’s academic mentor is Dr. Margaret Severson, Ph.D., Professor, School of Social Welfare, University of Kansas. Her policy mentor is Dr. Jacqueline Counts, Ph.D., M.S.W., Director, Achievement & Assessment Institute, Center for Public Partnerships & Research, University of Kansas.

Chapin Hall has established a peer learning network that brings together the Fellows from all four cohorts, their mentors, scholars, practitioners, and policymakers across a number of disciplines, including social work, psychology, medicine, law, child development, education, public policy, and public health. Ms. Conrad-Hiebner’s dissertation research will examine the relationship between constructs of economic conditions (current economic state and material hardship) and risk for child physical abuse, as mediated by parental stress.
For more information about the Fellowships, please visit: [http://www.chapinhall.org/fellowships/doris-duke-fellowships](http://www.chapinhall.org/fellowships/doris-duke-fellowships)

Established in 1985, Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago is an independent policy research center that builds knowledge to improve policies and programs for children and youth, families, and their communities. Chapin Hall’s multidisciplinary research devotes special attention to those experiencing significant problems, such as maltreatment, poverty, delinquency, and mental illness. For more information about Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, please visit: [www.chapinhall.org](http://www.chapinhall.org).

The mission of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation is to improve the quality of people’s lives by providing grants that support the performing arts, environmental conservation, medical research and child well-being, and through preservation of the cultural and environmental legacy of Doris Duke’s properties. For more information about the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation, please visit: [www.ddcf.org](http://www.ddcf.org).

###