

International Child Welfare: Analysing and Reforming Child Protection Systems

5 Day Masterclass

Monday 1 April – Friday 5 April 2019

9.30am – 4.30pm each day

UCLan Westleigh Conference Centre, Preston

Overview: This 5 day masterclass will provide a theoretical and practical guide to analysing and reforming child protection systems in high, middle and low-income countries. The tutors will be joined by leaders in child protection reform from Better Care Network, Family for Every Child, Hope and Homes for Children and UNICEF to present a series of case studies of systems change in different countries using different strategies including top down, bottom up, middle out and when regimes change. Systemic and sociological theories will provide a framework to understand the operation of systems and identify, plan, implement and evaluate strategies for change. The sociological theories focus on issues of power and culture and indicate the need for a countervailing force to bring about institutionalized change such as the empowerment of parents, communities or other constituencies. Systemic practice stresses the need to understand and challenge the assumptions that lead to harmful patterns of response to children and families. The approach involves reflexive conversations involving engagement, emotion and explanation. Participants will also explore effective use of information and research for system change.

Participants will prepare for the 5 day programme through exercises to reflect on their experience of child protection reform. You will work in small groups to consider processes of change relevant to your cultural and country context. During the 5 day programme you will identify an area of reform, produce an analysis of this area and a plan for system reform. You will receive consultancy on your plan from other participants and trainers during the programme. After the 5 day programme, you will also have time allocated for consultancy from a trainer, to be used within 3 months, to assist with the implementation of your plan.

Aims: To enable participants to:

- Reflect on their experience of reform in child protection systems
- Analyse child protection and welfare systems, their strengths and weaknesses
- Design, implement and evaluate reform strategies.

Who should attend: The course will be open to individuals currently or planning to be involved in reform of child protection and child welfare systems.

The Trainers: Lead trainers Professor Andy Bilson and Professor David Tobis have extensive experience of child protection system reform in high, middle and low income countries. They will be joined by:

- Aaron Greenberg, Senior Regional Advisor for Europe and Central Asia Child Protection at UNICEF
- Dr Delia Pop, Director of Programmes and Global Advocacy at Hope and Homes for Children
- Florence Martin, Director of the Better Care Network
- Omattie Madray, Executive Director, ChildLinK Inc (Guyana) at Family for Every Child

All have substantial experience of reforming child protection systems on six continents at national and local levels in countries from the USA to Rwanda, from Georgia to England, and from Mexico to Australia.

Andy Bilson, Ph.D.: Andy is emeritus professor of social work at UCLan and adjunct professor at University of Western Australia. He was Assistant Director in Fife Social Work Department and Action for Children in Wales and Director of the Council of Europe's and UNICEF's observatory on European children's rights. Andy has been involved in system reform in over 30 countries and published widely including on child protection and systems approaches to organisational change. He was co-author of UNICEF and World Bank's Gatekeeping Services for Vulnerable Children and Families. *For more information see <http://Bilson.org.uk>*

David Tobis, Ph.D.: is a Senior Partner of Maestral International who has worked internationally since 1991. He worked with UNICEF and the World Bank to prevent children, the disabled and the elderly from being placed in long-term residential institutions. His World Bank monograph, Moving from Residential Institutions to Community-Based Services in Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, formed the Bank's strategy in the area. Recently he worked to strengthen the child protection systems in Nigeria, Lebanon and led a team in the state of Tabasco to implement the first-ever government-run foster care program in Mexico. David's recent book, From Pariahs to Partners (Oxford University Press, 2013) has become an international model for parent advocacy in child welfare decision-making. *For more information see <http://davidtobis.com>*

More Information and Booking Instructions: Participants will prepare for the 5 day masterclass through a series of online exercises and some directed reading to reflect on their experience of child protection reform. These exercises and materials will be developed by the lead trainers and will be available by the end of February. On completion of the masterclass, participants will be provided with a certificate of attendance which will include the CPD hours achieved.

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UCLan Westleigh Conference Centre, Lea Road Preston, Lancashire, PR4 0RB

£950 per participant

Drink refreshments and lunch will be provided. Onsite parking is available. Accommodation is not included.

Please contact the CPD team on 01772 893408 or socialworkcpd@uclan.ac.uk for a booking form and payment instructions. Deadline for bookings is 28 February 2019.

Visit uclan.ac.uk/socialworkcpd for details of all CPD events and courses available

Subject to minimum number of bookings.

This flyer was compiled in November 2018 and all reasonable care has been taken to ensure its accuracy. We cannot guarantee that all events will be available exactly as described; it may be necessary to vary the content or availability. Information on fees detailed in this flyer was correct at this date.