

ANNUAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2015/16

THE INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH CARE NETWORK

www.cyc-net.org

CYC-Net provides a unique opportunity for students, practitioners, educators and “elders” in the field of Child and Youth Care to have conversations about issues that are wide ranging and involve global perspectives.

There is an opportunity for all to learn through the discussion forum(s) and the website is a great resource for finding historical writing that is often no longer available in print.

CYC-Net is the modern version of a comprehensive archive of classic and modern writings in Child and Youth Care.

Dr. Carol Stuart

Dean: Health and Human Services, Vancouver Island University



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ANDY LEGGETT
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I think in this vast field of child and youth care there is no exact 'how to' book of recipes to every possible situation that can or will occur within your career. I believe that the invaluable service CYC-Net has offered our profession is to allow us to know that we are not alone within our search for the right interventions at the right time for each child or situation that is unique to our program or experience.

CYC-Net also allows students preparing to enter our field of practice an opportunity to connect and view the discussions that professionals are willing to share with each other. I love what CYC-Net offers, whether new or seasoned I see great and wonderful value to offer a connection to like-minded individuals in our field.

Michelle Chalupa, Nova Scotia Community College

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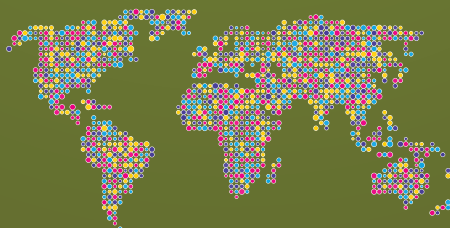
The CYC-Net discussion forum was key to the start of some accelerated progress of our position in the field. I could immediately connect myself and my colleagues and students in a young Child and Youth Development major, literally, to a world of expertise. CYC-Net showcased the commitment of practitioners, academics and students at all levels and across various contexts.

CYC-Net is the one place that shatters the perceptions that people just don't care enough anymore, or that challenges are too overwhelming to solve. You can follow a discussion thread and be offered a link to free resources. It became a huge luxury, to never wonder about how to get answers to any challenge faced in practice. Seeing how students made use of the resource was encouraging, because you know if they leave, they will have something that is consistent, reliable and dependable – some continuity during a major transition in their lives.

During the time when child and youth care in South Africa was fighting for professional recognition, CYC-Net offered students at Monash South Africa a window into a world where child and youth care existed as a strong force – people all over the world who were impacting the lives of children on a daily basis.

CYC-Net has embodied inclusivity, being relational, making moments meaningful, with a brilliance in connecting people despite geographical distances and philosophical differences. Because of CYC-Net the efforts of different people in different places helped create a unified sense of identity and we are therefore never alone.

Rika Swanzen, PhD – Associate Professor & Course Coordinator for Child and Youth Development,
Monash South Africa



CYC-Net continues to provide resources on creative interventions and solution focused approaches for our employees as well as insight into what is new and exciting in the field of CYC. By providing a forum for CYCW's from all over the world to ask questions, receive feedback and share their challenges and successes, CYC-net also offers our employees opportunities to learn and develop from others shared experiences.

There have been many times I will follow a discussion or read an article that is directly related to a current issue in one of our programs or a challenge in how to best respond to a youth. When it is shared with our employees and they are engaged in further discussion, a learning opportunity has been created for all of us.

CYC-Net also had assisted in providing Waypoints a venue to attend the World CYC conference in our own province. This was an opportunity of a life time for many of our employees who were able to participate in learning sessions with the international leaders in the field and network with other CYC's from a number of different countries.

Our employees are encouraged to consult CYC-Net when they have questions. We use articles as part of our professional development curriculum as well as to supplement our training. Our residential programs have used the discussion group as a means of seeking treatment programs for the youth.

Rick Kelly – *Waypoints*, Newfoundland

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I am a residential child care worker from Scotland, keen to learn and promote residential care as a positive choice rather than a last resort for some young people who need this.

I believe there is a need to reflect on and share experiences (good and bad) to develop the service we provide and improve to a highly skilled workforce offering a quality of care tailored to suit individuals needs. This means learning from past mistakes and historical abuse inquiries have ensured many lessons have been learned – influencing the many rapid changes to ensure these mistakes are not repeated. But equally it's important to challenge stigma, promote positive examples of how this type of group care can (and does) help and heal relationships and traumatised young people.

This is no easy task but forums like CYC-Net encourage people to think outside the box, look at world theories, approaches and interventions across the world and seek support and advice from impartial professionals with no pressures to go along with the majority or ingrained in habits. It's a cost effective way to learn and use social forums to connect with people who would otherwise be out of reach. It's interesting and non-predictable, and improves and encourages front line workers to contribute to literature research and publications to tell the world what we do. This is a great forum for raising awareness of residential care as a profession in its own right and not just an expensive last resort within social work services.

Tracey Jarvis



CYC-Net Board of Governors CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



In supporting the work of the International Child and Youth Care Network @ www.cyc.net.org, the Board of Governors has sought during the past year to keep up with and support the work of Chief Operations Officer, Martin Stabrey with continuing support from Carina Lewis and Brian Gannon in Cape Town. We applaud their efforts in keeping up with child and youth care news from around the world, and taking us through *CYC-Online Journal*, Issue 205 and counting, supporting publication of Volume 28 and now into Volume 29 of the new e-Journal of *Relational Child and Youth Care Practice*, very ably edited by Heather Snell and Rika Swanzen. Course materials for child and youth care training courses are also now readily available through The CYC-NET Press, with a growing number of contributing authors offering a range of specialist child and youth care practice monographs.

A major challenge for CYC-Net and the Board during the past couple of years has involved accepting the resignation of Founding Editors, Brian Gannon and Thom Garfat. We are grateful to the Casa Pacifica Child and Family Centers in California for supporting the appointment of one new Editor, James Freeman, and we are also grateful for the continuing support offered by Dr Garfat during his retiring years while additional editorial support is sought for James and Martin.

At least three meetings of the Board have been held during the past year, thanks to the support of Jennifer Davidson, Director of the Centre of Excellence for Looked After Children in Scotland (CELCS) in Glasgow. With help from Clare McCafferty, Ainsley Hainey and Robina Nicholson, the Board has been able to meet in cyberspace at different times in the World through use of the Strathclyde University Adobe Connect video conferencing facilities.

Following up on decisions taken earlier to amend the Constitution and widen representation of Board members from around the World. The Board now has participation from 4 Canadian Provinces and Associations; 2 USA participants; 2 UK participants; 3 South Africa participants; 1 European participant; 1 India, 1 Bangladesh and 1 Singapore/Indonesia participant; and 1 New Zealand participant. The Chair has indicated that additional members should be sought from Africa, the USA and Australia – and a strengthening of youth work representation on the Board. Three to five year funding strategies for CYC-Net remain the Board's highest priority.

Given size, and international challenges associated with face to face Board meetings or via cyberspace, regional groupings have been encouraged, using the CYC-Network to maintain relational contact with other Board members. The Canadian Regional Group demonstrated leadership with this evolving new approach to Board corporate governance, and Asia-Pacific members have also begun discussions.

Having met with Ohio-based, NGO Fund Raising Professional, Marty Freado, the Canadian Group have recommended a pause in filling Board vacancies until fund-raising expectations can be written into new Role Descriptions for Members of the CYC-Net Board of Governors. This will be considered further with Marty Freado at a breakfast Board Meeting with those available on 21 August before Vienna 2016.



I love CYC-Net. It is an invaluable resource and I use it a lot when I am trying to find different perspectives or solutions to a particular issue I might be experiencing with children or youth I am working with. It is also enjoyable to be able to participate in discussion threads, and using the site makes me feel connected to other professionals.

Delphine Amer, *Kids Can Grow*

QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

Discussion Group Members
(as at 31 March 2016)

4123

Web Site Page Views

565 770

External web links to CYC-Net

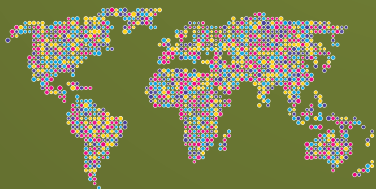
7971

Number of content searches

393 884

Consecutive months CYC-Online journal published

205



Thank you CYC-Net. I had looked for hours before I thought of posting a request on CYC-Net. How good is it that I can reach out from Australia to an international community of like people and get such a response. I love being part of this network and the online journal.

Glenys Bristow, Australia

CYC-Net EDITORS' REPORT



It has been an amazing year for CYC-Net. As the co-editors we get an up front seat for the flurry of activity that comes together to promote, collect, publish, and share the work of CYC-Net with the world. It is an honour and we cherish it.

This year brought the transition of Brian Gannon from co-editor to founding editor. His work and vision is deeply significant in the field of child and youth care and led to what has become CYC-Net today. When we were planning issue 202 at the end of 2015 we asked the columnists to reflect on his work as a way of creating a special issue highlighting a small part of his life-long contributions to the field. The value of his contribution was evident in people's comments. CYC-Net is what it is today because of his vision.

Looking back over the fiscal year, from April 2015 to March 2016 we saw the following:

- Publication of 12 issues of *CYC-Online* spanning from issue 194 to 205
- Editing and publishing of 167 articles related to relational child and youth care
- Special issue 200 in October 2015 was celebrated as a nearly triple-issue volume with 35 articles featuring regular and past contributors from around the globe as well as some long-standing classics by Brian Gannon, Mark Krueger, Lorraine Fox, and Henry Maier. If, for some reason, you did not get to read it – it is still there – as everything always is – it is an exceptional issue, well worthy of the celebration of 200 Issues!
- Featuring of a multi-column series on the experience of women caregivers working in the SOS Children's Villages titled "Examining Women's Lives: SOS Mothers Tell Their Stories" (This feature contributed by Elisabeth Ullmann, Karin Demuth, and Astrid Brandl also included amazing and personal photography from Fred Einkemmer.)
- Completion of a special six-column series by Wolfgang Vachon on improvisation in child and youth care
- Completion of a special series by Hans Skott-Myhre on the role of intellectuals in child and youth care
- The continuous debates, discussions and dialogues on the Discussion Group

In addition to our regular contributors from Scotland, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States – and in keeping the international focus of the journal - we were pleased to feature articles on child and youth care and Socio-pedagogue from around the world including:

- Austria (Thomas Kreiner, issue 198)
- Bolivia (Mildre Solano Durana, issue 203)
- Germany (Constanze Lucke, issue 198)
- India (Malay Dewanji, issue 197; Subhashini Aadinarayanamurthi, issue 199)
- Russia (Vera Jegorowa, issue 204)
- Rwanda (Marie Théogène Umuteteli, issue 202)
- South Africa (Zoe Mann, issue 196; Rika Swansen, Merle Allsopp and Leslie Du Toit, issue 200)
- Vietnam (Thi Do Nguyen, issue 205)

... continued overleaf

CYC-Net EDITORS' REPORT



We featured ten special guest writers including: Karen VanderVen, Grant Charles, Wolfgang Vachon, Andy Leggett (board member) & Gena Morrow, Alfie Kohn, Graham Bell (board member), Leslie Fuller, Heather Sago, and Frank Delano.

We also had the pleasure of working with over 20 new writers, many of whom are students or recent graduates with direct experience in daily work with today's young people.

We could not publish such a quality journal without the regular writing of our featured authors who provide such thought-provoking and practical content on a regular basis. We are deeply thankful for them. Special thanks to: John Digney (Ireland), Leon Fulcher (New Zealand), Kiaras Gharabaghi (Ontario, Canada), Jack Phelan (Alberta, Canada), Hans Skott-Myher (Georgia, USA), Max Smart (Scotland) and Laura Steckley (Scotland).

We are thrilled to add two new regular columnists this year: Aurrora DeMonte from Fleming College in Ontario, Canada and Doug Magnusson from the University of Victoria School of Child and Youth Care in British Columbia, Canada.

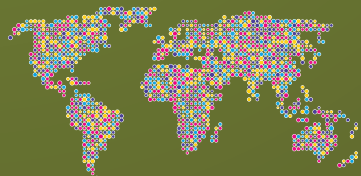
We appreciate the generosity of Atlantic Canadian humorist Nils Ling for allowing us to feature a monthly column from his book "Truths and Half Truths: Reflections on Everyday Life" (Phantom, 2014) which is comprised of his many broadcasts during his time as a CBC Radio commentator and his work as a nationally recognised stand-up story teller.

On top of all this, consider that every country in the world has accessed our website and online journal over the course of the year. What a wonderful reach for such a valuable resource supporting relational care for children and families. We wish to, and will, do more to extend our reach in the upcoming year – but really, having over 1000 distinct visits from Russia is pretty significant, we think. Below are a list of the top 20 countries visiting CYC-Net last year and – for the 1st time – Canada is on top!

- Canada, United States, United Kingdom, South Africa, Australia, Kenya, India, Philippines, Ireland, Netherlands, New Zealand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Pakistan, Nigeria, Germany, Russia, Jamaica and Egypt.

We know that CYC-Net is a valuable resource to those working with children and families around the world. As co-editors that's what motivates us to volunteer our time and effort to keep it going. Thank you for time reviewing this annual report and your ongoing financial support of the work. Your support is what keeps CYC-Net accessible to communities and practitioners around the world. We couldn't do it without you - and we don't want to slow down. It has been a wonderful year – albeit with its ups and downs – and we are optimistic about the future.

James Freeman and Thom Garfat



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MAJOR SPONSORS and DONORS



ACADEMIC SPONSORS

Mohawk College, University of the Fraser Valley, Fleming College, Ryerson University, Centennial College, Mount St Vincent University, Confederation College, University of Victoria, Algonquin College, Sheridan College, Medicine Hat College, Lethbridge College, Loyalist College, University of the Fraser Valley, Red River College, Lakeland College, Douglas College, Nova Scotia Community College, Grant McEwan University, Lambton College

ORGANISATION and ASSOCIATION SPONSORS

Waypoints, Winnipeg Association of CYCs, Homebridge Youth Society, Canadian Council of CYC Associations, Transformation International

INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY DONORS

(Full or Part year)

Homebridge Youth Society staff, Graham McPheat, Laura Steckley, Kathryn Rock, Jacqui Michael, Jennifer Kettle, Tina Kroll, Catherine Hedlin, Christine Gaitens, Judy Furnivall, Dale Curry, Lesiba Molepo, Kelly Shaw, Ian Milligan, Hawley Zytaruk, Lesley du Toit, Jack Phelan, Mark Smith, Pat Gaughan, Katharin Pritchard, Gavin Leitch, Paul Smith, Aurora de Monte,

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Dr Mark Smith, James Freeman, Dr Jim Anglin

MISCELLANEOUS DONATIONS

The Academy for Competent Youthwork (USA), Ontario College CYC Coordinators, CYC-Now Central East Ontario, Waypoints (50/50 draw)

Report of the CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER



This year sees the publishing of CYC-Net's first ever Annual Report since its establishment in 1997. CYC-Net runs in terms of its own Constitution and is headquartered in Cape Town, South Africa. It is registered as a non-profit and public benefit organisation in that country. This Annual Report covers the period April 2015 to March 2016 and coincides with the annual financial year of CYC-Net (as required by the South African Revenue Service). This report is a reflection of CYC-Net's increasing scope of operation as well its ongoing commitment to transparency and communication with its users and supporters.

From humble beginnings in the late 1990's as an eight member discussion group to the present web site of over fifty thousand text documents and discussion group of over four thousand worldwide members, CYC-Net has become the world's largest information and networking resource to the field of Child and Youth Care. Whether it's a question from a practitioner on the moderated discussion group, a request from an academic institution to source literature, or a local association requiring publicity or an upcoming conference, our network of users have welcomed CYC-Net as part of their daily routine, wherever they are in the world.

Since it's founding, CYC-Net has operated on constrained income and expense budgets. The organisation employs two full-time and one half-time staff members (an operations officer, a content/administration manager and a half-time content capturer). Web site development is outsourced. The benefit of this structure is that CYC-Net requires little investment in the way of fixed assets or need for large premises.

Our first annual report comes at an important time in the development of CYC-Net. The most important foundation stone of CYC-Net is that it will always be free to the end-user. Given this, one of the greatest challenges the organisation faces is to increase the number of income streams it has it can call on. CYC-Net can receive tax-exempt donations in South Africa and in USA (through the *Academy for Competent Youthwork*). However, funding is heavily reliant on regular donations from long standing supporters. While the support of these entities has been the salvation of CYC-Net, other sources of income will need to be identified and grown as CYC-Net looks to future sustainability.

CYC-Net is fortunate in being able to call on the expertise and goodwill of a worldwide network of leaders and practitioners in the field of Child and Youth Care who give freely of their time and knowledge contributing to the many facets that CYC-Net has to offer. The best example of this relationship is our open-source professional journal, *CYC-Online*, which has been published for 205 consecutive months from April 1999. Our free moderated email discussion group, with over 4000 members, also benefits valuably from the generous contributions of our members.

Finally, we are excited to announce that 2016 will see the launch of the CYC-Net App on the iOS and Android platforms. These Apps will be especially welcomed by practitioners and students who seldom have extended access to desktop computers. For them, CYC-Net is now just an icon away.



CYC-Net does not merely support learning and growth for practitioners; it supports my career, my identity and my enthusiasm for child and youth care practice, and my dedication and love for the global child and youth care community.

Dr Kiaras Gharabaghi – Director, School of Child & Youth Care, Ryerson University

For a field that is constantly evolving, there has been nothing more satisfying for me than connecting with other CYCPs. I've read and referenced CYC-Net for most of my academic and professional career and it has really helped me to grow into a more knowledgeable CYCP. I remember early into my career, I would go onto CYC-Net and save articles or print them off when I found something that really resonated with me. Over the years I've made a diverse and fantastic collection of articles that have motivated me through pivotal points in my career.

I love reading stories from people who have experienced the field differently than I have i.e. those outside of Ontario, who work in completely different environments, and those who have ideas that are fresh to me. Some stories make me laugh, feel emotionally connected or generally help me to relate to the experiences of someone else. The beautiful thing about CYC-Net is that you can read an article on literally every topic in CYC practice! I've read short stories and long essays that are so different from one another yet are each incredibly meaningful. I love seeing the discussion posts and reading all the awesome advice and insight other professionals offer one another. The level of engagement and sharing in these discussion posts is very impressive.

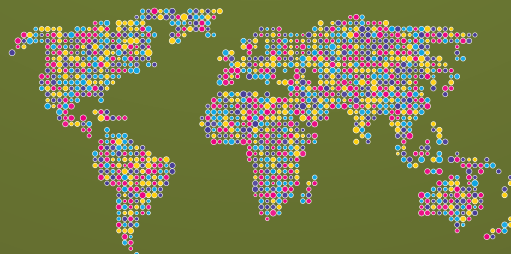
CYCPs can feel isolated in our practice and we don't always have opportunities to connect with one another. Being able to contribute to CYC-Net has been a rewarding and invigorating experience for me and I'm grateful for it.

Yvonne Bristow, Toronto School District School Board

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I am particularly grateful for CYC Net, not just the knowledge within the website, but the family and the community that has connected because of its vision.

Kathleen Mulvey – *A Life Explored*, Scotland



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

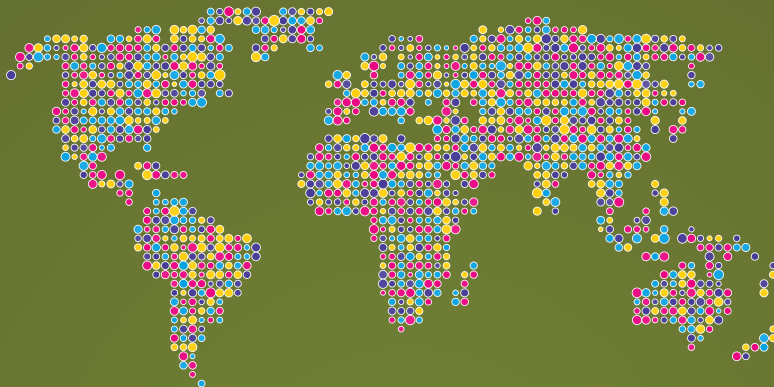
as at 31 March 2016

INCOME	ZAR 953 657.55	EXPENDITURE	ZAR 951 535.76
Donations received	563 214.29	Accommodation	6 139.28
Subscriptions & Membership Fees	353 273.15	Bank Charges	8 194.69
Advertising: CYC-Online	37 170.11	Cleaning and Consumables	6 360.00
		Electricity	18 144.90
		E-mail listserv membership fee	12 132.71
		Web Site maintenance & coding	550 606.86
		Postage, Packaging and Stationery	7 345.20
		Promotional expenses	5 111.68
		Rent Paid	108 000.00
		Salaries	192 000.00
		Travelling	37 500.44

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	ZAR 67 621.79
Goodwill	50 000.00
Stock of books	15 500.00
Cash and cash equivalents	2 121.79
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES	ZAR 67 621.79





THE INTERNATIONAL CHILD AND YOUTH CARE NETWORK
www.cyc-net.org

Registered as a non-profit and public benefit association in the Republic of South Africa
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