

**College of Health and Human Development
Faculty Research Themes**

Development in Adolescence

Leann Birch

Research Interests

**Distinguished Professor; Director, Center for Childhood Obesity Research
Human Development & Family Studies** Email Address: **LLB15@PSU.EDU**

The links among parents' own eating and weight status, parenting practices, and child outcomes from infancy through adolescence, with a current focus on the emergence of dieting and problems of energy balance in girls during middle childhood and early adolescence.

J. Douglas Coatsworth

Research Interests

**Associate Professor
Human Development & Family Studies** Email Address: **JDC15@PSU.EDU**

Prevention research and theory; design and evaluation of family-based interventions to promote development and to prevent mental health and behavioral problems in children and adolescents; resilience.

Ann Crouter

Research Interests

**Professor
Human Development & Family Studies** Email Address: **AC1@PSU.EDU**

Interrelationships of parents' employment situations, family processes, and children's and adolescent's social development; gender socialization in middle childhood and adolescence.

Anthony D'Augelli

Research Interests

**Professor and Associate Dean
Deans Office** Email Address: **ARD@PSU.EDU**

Community interventions; issues in the development of sexual orientation.

Jami Dellifraire

Research Interests

**Assistant Professor
Health Policy & Administration** Email Address: **jld40@psu.edu**

Children's health/hospital research, quality of care, underserved and uninsured populations, safety-net facilities, volume-outcome relationships.

Elizabeth Farmer

Research Interests

**Associate Professor
Health Policy & Administration** Email Address: **emf13@psu.edu**

Children's mental health services, effectiveness of mental health interventions, mental health in life course trajectories, community-based services for youth, role of schools in children's mental health services.

Lori Francis

Research Interests

**Assistant Professor
Biobehavioral Health** Email Address: **LAF169@PSU.EDU**

Sociocultural factors influencing the development of obesity in low-income and minority children, including family environment, neighborhood characteristics and socioeconomic status; family-based interventions to reduce and prevent obesity and related morbidities in children; understanding biobehavioral, family environmental and cultural factors that influence self-regulation of energy intake and body weight in young children.

Scott Gest

Research Interests

**Assistant Professor
Human Development & Family Studies** Email Address: **GEST@PSU.EDU**

Reading and social competence in elementary school; peer relations; early preventive intervention; risk and adaptation from childhood to adulthood; behavioral inhibition.

John Graham

Research Interests

**Professor
Biobehavioral Health** Email Address: **JGRAHAM@PSU.EDU**

Theoretical and methodological issues relating to adolescent, young adult, and adult health promotion and disease prevention; social development and family behavior relating to health; development of research methods (missing data, structural equation modeling, detection and control of self-report bias).

**College of Health and Human Development
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Douglas Granger

Research Interests

Professor

Biobehavioral Health

Email Address: **DAG11@PSU.EDU**

Mechanisms and consequences of interactions between the central nervous and immune systems in animals and man; behavioral and cognitive correlates of children's adrenocortical reactivity to naturalistic psychosocial challenges; role of cytokines in the emergence of, and continuity in atypical development.

Marianne Hillemeier

Research Interests

Assistant Professor

Health Policy & Administration

Email Address: **MMH18@PSU.EDU**

Disparities in child and adolescent health; effects of context on health and health-related behavior; disparities in children's health care access and utilization; provider-family interaction in health care encounters; chronic conditions among children and adolescents including asthma and

Eva Lefkowitz

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Human Development & Family Studies

Email Address: **EXL20@PSU.EDU**

Development during adolescence and emerging adulthood, with a focus on sexual attitudes and behaviors, gender role development, romantic relationships, religiosity, ethnic identity, body image, and communication; communication between adults and their parents.

Jennifer Maggs

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Human Development & Family Studies

Email Address: **JLM73@PSU.EDU**

Adolescent social development and health; transition to adulthood; risk behaviors; prevention science; research methods; alcohol expectancies.

Susan Mc Hale

Research Interests

Professor

Human Development & Family Studies

Email Address: **X2U@PSU.EDU**

Family relationships and family roles (particularly gender roles) in childhood and adolescence; differential socialization of siblings.

Carol Miller

Research Interests

Associate Professor

Communication Sciences & Disorders

Email Address: **CAM47@PSU.EDU**

Typical and atypical language development; children with specific language impairment; cognitive processes in communication disorders, with emphasis on speed of processing in children and adults with language disorders.

John Moran

Research Interests

Assistant Professor

Health Policy & Administration

Email Address: **JRM12@PSU.EDU**

Health insurance; hospital care for children; use of medical care by the elderly; alcohol and tobacco policy.

Emilie Phillips Smith

Research Interests

Associate Professor; Interim Director, Center for Human Development and Family Research in Diverse Contexts

Human Development & Family Studies

Email Address: **eps10@psu.edu**

Preventing youth violence and aggression and promoting positive child and family development, approaches that develop partnerships across the home, school, and community contexts.

Fred Vondracek

Research Interests

Professor and Interim Dean

Deans Office

Email Address: **FWV@PSU.EDU**

Career development across the life span; research settings include schools, work sites, and communities.