



# ECFP-3 PROJECT NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2025

**Social Development Lab - University at Buffalo**

Dear Families, Teachers, and Directors/Principals,

We hope that you have all been enjoying your summer! Thank you so much for helping to make year two of ECFP-3 a success! We are so grateful for all parents who signed their children up for our project and for those who were able to complete reports and attend psychophysiology sessions. We also sincerely thank the teachers and directors/principals for welcoming us into their buildings, completing reports, and helping us to implement our intervention. The work we do would not be possible without all of you!

As the school year begins, we will be contacting parents to obtain children's kindergarten teacher information. We will ask participating children's kindergarten teachers for teacher reports. If you already know your child's kindergarten teacher contact information, you may let us know by contacting us via email or phone. We will also be inviting teachers who did not receive the intervention this previous year to take part in our virtual training later in the fall.

In this newsletter, you will find our preliminary project findings from year two of our study, and some lab updates. Thank you for your support!

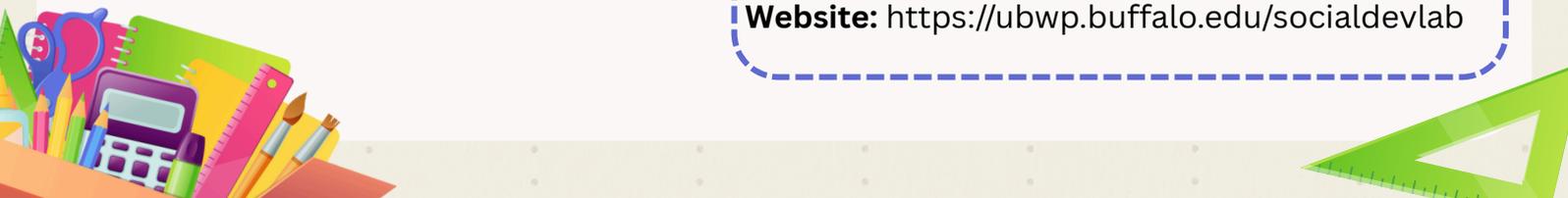
With gratitude,  
Dr. Jamie Ostrov  
Director, UB Social Development Lab

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### ECFP-3 Summary:

Children Participating: 236

Preschools Participating: 20



### Preliminary Findings:

The ECFP-3 project is interested in the evaluation of an in-school aggression and bullying intervention. Specifically, we are interested in how the intervention may affect children's peer relationships, emotion regulation, school performance, and positive and negative aspects of their social development. Based on reports from undergraduate classroom observers, who are unaware of what condition (intervention or control) a classroom is in, initial findings from this past year of the ECFP-3 project show that from the start of the year to the end of the year, relational aggression (i.e., social exclusion, gossiping) was significantly lower in the intervention group compared to the control group, controlling for their initial behavior. There was also a tendency for those experiencing relational victimization (i.e., the receipt of relational aggression) to experience decreases of these behaviors from peers over time in the intervention rooms relative to the control rooms. Additionally, prosocial behavior (e.g., sharing and helping) and working memory (i.e., keeping ideas in mind for a short period of time) tended to increase over time in the intervention rooms relative to the control classrooms. Lastly, across the first two years of the project and our sample of over 230 children we find similar intervention effects for relational aggression, relational victimization, and prosocial behavior. This provides initial evidence that the intervention is effective when teachers implement the program with our coaching support in their rooms!

### What's Next For ECFP-3:

We will begin recruiting our third cohort of preschoolers for the ECFP-3 Project this fall! We will also be following up with families from our second cohort in September to obtain your child's kindergarten teacher information. We will ask your child's kindergarten teacher to complete a survey similar to the one their preschool teacher completed. If you have your child's school name, teacher name, teacher email and phone number, you may email it to us at [devlab@buffalo.edu](mailto:devlab@buffalo.edu).

### Exciting Times in the Lab:

Dr. Ostrov will be recruiting a new Ph.D. student for Fall 2026. We are also anticipating hiring two new research technicians to join our lab!



### Lab Updates:

- **Gretchen Perhamus** has completed her Clinical Psychology doctoral internship at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) and received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. Dr. Perhamus will remain at MUSC for a post-doctoral fellowship.
- **Maggie Azu** completed and defended her 2nd year project, presented a poster at the 2025 SRCD Biennial Meeting, received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (GRFP), and received the 2025 Psychological Association of Western New York (PAWNY) Morton D. Brooks Scholarship Award.
- **Emily Hong** received the 2025 Psychological Association of Western New York (PAWNY) Scholarship for Racial/Ethnic Minority Doctoral Students in Clinical Psychology.
- **Katy Gardner** completed and defended her 2nd year project and presented a talk at the 2025 SRCD Biennial Meeting.
- **Hannah Dickinson** presented a poster at the 2025 SRCD Biennial Meeting.
- **Ella Rivet** will be pursuing her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Western University. We also welcomed a new staff member, **Kate Kasoff (Colby College)**, to the lab.
- **Riley Godwin** received the 2025 College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for Outstanding Student Graduating from Psychology.
- **Katie Kremer** received a Psi Chi Regional Research Award for her research she presented at the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA) annual conference in New York, NY.
- **Dr. Ostrov** received the University of Minnesota's College of Education and Human Development Distinguished Alumni Award.

### Research Assistant Graduates:

Riley Godwin, Gabriella Markham, Lauren Montagne, Alexa Nanfro and Adriana Santoro all graduated from UB. Riley successfully completed the Department of Psychology Honors Program and will be pursuing her Ph.D in School Psychology at UB. Gabriella will be attending UB's School Psychology M.A./A.C. program this fall, and Lauren will be attending UB's School Counseling M.A. program. Alexa will be attending George Washington University to receive her master's in School Counseling. Adriana will be starting UB's Masters of Social Work program this fall. Riley, Gabriella, and Lauren will continue working with the lab as part-time staff in the fall.

#### Principal Investigator

Dr. Jamie Ostrov  
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#### Graduate Students

Maggie Azu  
Katy Gardner  
Emily Hong

#### Research Staff

Kristin Tymchak Carrol  
Hannah Dickinson  
Kate Kasoff

#### Part-Time Staff

Riley Godwin  
Gabriella Markham  
Lauren Montagne

#### Co-Investigators

Dr. Dianna Murray-Close  
Professor, University of Vermont

Dr. Kimberly E. Kamper-DeMarco  
Associate Professor, Buffalo State University

Dr. Stephanie Godleski  
Associate Professor, Rochester Institute of Technology

#### Undergraduate Research Assistants

Sarah England  
Amanda Fox  
Maya Maurer  
Madi Tewksbury

