

RCH Alumni

The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
50 Flemington Road
Parkville Victoria 3052 Australia
TELEPHONE +61 3 9345 5522
www.rch.org.au/alumni



You're invited to a Face-to-Face Aluminar

Thursday, 10th September 2026 12 midday

RCH Foundation, 2nd Floor, 48 Flemington Road

"A 'Good News' Story about Early Education and Care"

With A/Professor Brigid Jordan AM

This presentation will discuss embedding infant mental health as a core element in a centre-based early childhood education and care (ECEC) model designed for infants and toddlers living with significant family stress and social adversity, including exposure to trauma, abuse and neglect. The aim of the program is for vulnerable children to enter school developmentally and educationally equal to their peers. A randomised controlled trial, comparing participation in the program with usual care, found large and significant gains in cognitive, language and social-emotional skills for participants. Funded by Commonwealth and state governments and philanthropy, Parkville Institute is implementing a replication trial in partnership with ECEC service providers in urban and regional settings in Victoria and Queensland. The presentation will discuss the theoretical underpinnings and key features of the model, the replication framework informed by implementation science, the outcomes for children in the RCT and replication trial, and lessons learned that can inform current sector reforms.



A/Professor Brigid Jordan AM is a social worker and infant mental health clinician and researcher who worked at RCH for 35 years in the consultation liaison psychiatry service and social work department and continues to have honorary roles in the UOM Dept of Paediatrics and MCRI. Her research explores the relationship between early life stress and the mental health of infants and has a strong focus on clinical and translational outcomes. In 2021 she cofounded Parkville Institute – a research and practice institute focused on early childhood education and care for infants and toddlers living with significant adversity.

Brigid has been President of the Australian Association for Infant Mental Health, and a Board Director of the World Association for Infant Mental Health. She co-founded post graduate infant mental health training courses, is a recipient of the World Association for Infant Mental Health medal and in 2019 she was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia.

You are warmly invited to join us for lunch (\$25/person) following the talk – RSVP by 31st August if joining us for lunch. Parking beneath the building is reached via Entry no 4 in Flemington Rd or kerb side parking may be available along Flemington Rd or Chapman St.

To register, please go to:

<https://register-for-event.memberwizard.com.au/1930ddf317784cd8b241c62ddb59a37f>

Any queries to the Honorary Secretary, Peter Bunworth - rchalumni123@gmail.com