

## **Cassie Landers, Ed.D, MPH**

Assistant Professor, Department of Population and Family Health,  
Mailman School of Public Health  
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### **EDUCATION**

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<b>Harvard University</b> <i>Doctor of Education, Comparative Human Development</i>	<b>Cambridge, Massachusetts</b> 1984
<b>Harvard University</b> <i>Master of Science, Maternal and Child Health</i>	<b>Cambridge, Massachusetts</b> 1980
<b>Columbia University</b> <i>Master of Public Health, Population Sciences</i>	<b>New York, New York</b> 1978
<b>University of Pennsylvania</b> <i>B.A., Urban Studies and Sociology</i>	<b>Philadelphia, Pennsylvania</b> 1976

### **CAREER PROFILE**

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#### **CURRENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES**

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<b>Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University</b> <i>Assistant Professor, Department of Population and Family Health</i>	<b>New York, New York</b> 2006-Present
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Courses taught include: Child Development Programs: A Global Perspective; Research Design and Management; and Client-based Practicum Seminar.

*Lead Faculty Advisor, Office of Field Practice.* Create new domestic and international practicum opportunities for Master Public Health students across the school. Strengthen and enhance systems for design supervision and evaluation of the practicum component of the degree program. Further develop a model of client based practicum opportunities.

*Senior Faculty Advisor, General Public Health Program.* Advise accelerated students in creating individualized course of study to ensure the integration of public health practice within their professional degree. Design an invited speakers seminars with expertise in clinical medicine. Support students in identifying, supervising and evaluating student practicum.

*Principle Investigator.* Evaluation of a community based health education program for pregnant women in Liberia. Open Society Foundation, Liberia.

*Principle Investigator.* Development and implementation of training materials to increase the design of early childhood centers to support learning through physically active learning. Department of Active Living. New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

*Principle Investigator.* Development of curricula materials to support the use of block play in early children to improve early child development outcomes. Imagination Playground, Rockwell Group, New York.

## **RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES**

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*Co-Investigator.* President's Global Innovation Grant Award. Funding awarded to develop a South Asian Public Health Network in collaboration with Columbia University Global Center, Mumbai, India and the Mailman School of Public Health

*Co-Investigator. Getting Ready for School. National Institute for Education.* Three year development grant to design and implement complementary home- and classroom-based learning activities to promote school readiness. Products produced include training manuals and videos, classroom activities, and parent materials to support preschool children's literacy, numeracy and self-regulation capacities. Program fidelity is being evaluated with Head Start programs in New York City.

### **UNICEF**

**New York, New York**

**Imagination Playground. UNICEF.** Design and implementation of training and evaluation materials for Imagination Playground. Imagination Playground, created by architect David Rockwell, is a mobile unit consisting of large blue blocks designed to enhance children's social, emotional, and cognitive development. In collaboration with UNICEF, 30 playgrounds were distributed to schools in Haiti and Child Friendly Spaces in Bangladesh and reached over 10,000 children, teachers and communities.

### **Open Society Foundations**

**New York, New York**

Development of an Early Childhood Policy Framework for East Timor and the identification of priorities for a comprehensive early childhood system. Additional support has been received for the development of a Master's Degree program in Early Childhood Leadership in collaboration with the Moscow School of Social and Economic Studies.

Overall technical assistance on educational reform initiatives in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Responsible for the design, training and evaluation of community-based parent education programs. Technical assistance provided to programs in Armenia, Albania, Moldova, Bosnia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Albania, and Serbia. Currently involved in the development of a strategic plan for Early Child Development activities in Asia and Africa.

### **BRAC University, Institute for Educational Development**

**Dhaka, Bangladesh**

*Director of the Professional Degree Program in Early Child Development* in collaboration with BRAC University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. This initiative involves the design and implementation of nine graduate level courses in taught in collaboration with a team of National and International faculty. Courses include: introduction and advanced child development, innovative approaches in early education, cross sector programming, basic research methods, policy analysis and advocacy.

### **UNICEF, Child Protection Unit**

**New York, NY**

In collaboration with Maestral International, design and pilot test a toolkit for mapping and assessing national Child Protection Systems in 7 countries including Bangladesh, Cambodia, DR Congo, Guatemala, Kenya, and Tunisia

### **UNICEF, Child Development Unit**

**New York, NY**

Designed and developed an Early Child Development Kit for young children in emergencies. Produced caregiver and training guidelines. The ECD kit has been implemented in more than 20 countries experiencing both armed conflict and natural disasters.

### **UNICEF New York, Program Division, Education Section**

**New York, NY**

*Education advisor* in the design, development and implementation of a child-to-child approach to school readiness in young children. Program currently implemented in Bangladesh, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Tajikistan, Yemen.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES—CONSULTING**

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### **Head Start National Center for Early Literacy**

**Sonoma, California**

Technical assistance and training in the Getting Ready for School. This parent education initiative, developed for Central Asia with support from the Open society Institute, is being implemented within the National Head Start Program. Materials and training are provided to 300 Head Start Centers of Excellence and their affiliates across the US.

2009-present

### **US Fund for UNICEF**

**New York, NY**

Senior Advisor to Teach UNICEF in the design and development of global education materials for middle and high school students. Web based lesson plans and student materials based on *UNICEF's State of the World Children's Reports; Child Survival (2008)*, and *Maternal and Newborn Care (2009)*.

2006-2009

### **Education Unit, UNICEF**

**New York, NY**

Senior Advisor on a 6 country school readiness initiative: Bangladesh, China, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Tajikistan, Yemen.

2006-2008

### **World Bank: Human Development Group**

**Washington, DC**

Developed a Behavioral Pediatrics Manual for pediatric residents and medical students in developing countries. Module/training implemented in Chile, Dominican Republic, and Argentina.

2005

### **Asian Development Bank: Afghanistan Education Sector Analysis**

Participated on an education sector assessment mission to Afghanistan in collaboration with World Bank, Asian Development, UNICEF and UNESCO. Prepared a Comprehensive Needs Assessment and recommended strategies.

2002

### **Save the Children Alliance**

**Westport, Connecticut**

Project Leader for an education assessment mission in Kosovo. Critiqued all aspects of the current educational system. Proposed recommendations for a long-term intervention strategy.

2001

### **Columbia University Head Start**

**New York, NY**

Designed and implemented a family literacy program in collaboration with Columbia Head Start.

2001

### **UNICEF Central and Eastern Europe**

Provided technical on emerging educational trends and issues in Macedonia, Armenia, Georgia, Yugoslavia, Montenegro, Romania, and Kosovo.

2000

### **United States Committee for UNICEF**

**New York, NY**

Designed and developed a global education strategy for children and teachers in grades k-6 in the United States.

1998

### **Bernard van Leer Foundation**

**The Netherlands**

Designed and evaluated a three-year initiative providing intensive training for senior educators from 11 countries in Southern Africa. Countries included; South Africa, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Ghana, Mauritius, Zanzibar, Ethiopia, Namibia, Uganda, Malawi and Kenya.

1995-1997

### **UNICEF Middle East and North Africa Regional Office**

In collaboration with UNICEF Regional Office, Middle East and North Africa designed and implemented a media-based parent education initiative in; Tunisia, Morocco, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Iraq, West Bank, Turkey. 1992-1995

**Women's Action Alliance** **New York, NY**  
Advisor to a multi-site drug and alcohol prevention program for high-risk minority women. 1988-1992

**Child Care, Inc.** **New York, NY**  
Designed, implemented and evaluated the impact of Family Day Care Networks on early child care services in New York City. 1988

**National Council on Alcoholism** **New York, NY**  
Designed an evaluation strategy to measure the impact of a large-scale randomized school-based alcohol prevention Program. 1986

**UNICEF** **New York, NY**  
Provided technical consultation UNICEF country offices international organizations in the design, implementation, training and evaluation of child development programs Niger; Ivory Coast; Egypt; Mauritius; Rodriquez; Vietnam; Korea; Nepal; India; China; Romania. 1985-1992

**International Center for Integrative Studies** **New York, NY**  
Program evaluator of a comprehensive health promotion project for at-risk adolescents 1985-1987

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES**

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**Open Society Institute, Soros Foundation** **New York, NY**  
*Senior education consultant* providing overall technical assistance on educational reform initiatives in Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Tajikistan, Moldova, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Bosnia, Armenia, Albania, and Kosovo. Developed education materials for distribution in 30 countries throughout Central and Eastern Europe and Central Asia. 2001-2004

**UNICEF Regional Office in South Asia** **Kathmandu, Nepal**  
*Advisor in Early Childhood Development* for UNICEF's ongoing early programs in South Asia; India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Nepal, Bhutan, Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh. Design, develop and monitor programs in collaboration with UNICEF's partner agencies. 1999-2001

**Division of Emergency Programs, UNICEF** **New York, NY**  
*Editor/Project Manager* of; *Assisting in emergencies: A resource handbook for UNICEF field staff; UNICEF and Humanitarian Crises* and an ongoing working paper series on policy issues in emergency situations. Assessment of office procedures and priorities. Proposed recommendations to improve linkages between New York and Geneva. 1996-1998

**Education Cluster, Program Division, UNICEF** **New York, NY**  
*Project Coordinator* of a multi-country early child development initiative. Designed and implemented a media-based parent education strategy for use in UNICEF's country offices. Initially developed in collaboration with UNICEF, Middle East Regional Office, the program currently operates in over 30 countries throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Animated video series and guidebooks available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. 1992-1996

**Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development, UNICEF** **New York, NY**  
*Coordinator* of an international, interagency group designed to strengthen programs benefiting young children and their families. Facilitated a network of researchers and practitioners in over 90 countries; editor of an

international journal in child development; development of policy reviews and translation of scientific data into action-oriented programming strategies. 1987-1992

### **American Health Foundation**

**New York, NY**

Promoted to Senior Research Scientist in the Division of Health Promotion Research. Project Director of several NIH funded community-based health promotion initiatives. Provided technical and administrative assistance to senior investigators in the development of grant proposals to both public and private funding sources. 1984-1987

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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Maria Marti; Emily C Merz, Ph.D.; Landers Cassie, EdD; Kimberly G Noble, Ph.D.; Helena Duch, Psy.D. (2017). *Parent Engagement in the Getting Ready for School Intervention: Associations with Family Characteristics and Gains in School Readiness Skills*. Journal of School Psychology. (Manuscript under Review).

Landers, C; DaSilva, C; and Kibane, T. (2013) *Prevention of Violence against Children. In Handbook of Early Child Development: Translating Research into Practice*, Oxford University Press, 2013.

Noble, K.G; Duch, H.; Darvique, M.E.; Grundleger, A., Rodriguez, C. Landers.(2012) *Getting Ready for School: A preliminary evaluation of a parent focused school readiness program*. Child Development Research [www.hindawi.com/journals/cdr/aip/259598/](http://www.hindawi.com/journals/cdr/aip/259598/)

Kessler, S and Landers, C. (1996). "Children after the Fall." *Development: The Journal of the Society for International Development*, Vol. 1.

Landers, C., (1988). "A Cry for Help: UNICEF's Response to Street Children in the Third World." *Children's Environment Quarterly*, October Issue.

### **Case reports**

Landers, C. and Leonard, A. (1991). "Child Care: Meeting the Needs of Working Mothers and Their Children." *SEEDS*, no. 31. The Population Council: New York, NY.

Landers, C and Leonard, A. (1991). "Women's Work and Child Care: A Review of UNICEF Programmes in Nepal, Ecuador, and Ethiopia." UNICEF: New York, NY.

### **Books**

Landers, Cassie. (2009) *Uniting for Child Survival: The State of the World's Children Report for Youth*. US Fund for UNICEF. New York, NY

Landers, Cassie, Mercer, Raul, Molina, Helia, Young Mary Eming. (2006) *Desarrollo Integral en la Infancia: Una Prioridad para la Salud: Manual de Desarrollo Temprano para Profesionales de la Salud*. Pan American Health Organization, World Bank, Johnson and Johnson Institute.

Landers, Cassie. (2006) *Getting Ready for School: Helping parents help their children*. International Step by Step Association. Open Society Institute. New York.

### **Reviews, training materials, policy guidelines**

- Landers, Cassie (2016). Peace Education in Early Childhood. An analysis of program in 4 countries in South Asia. ARNEC (Asia Regional Network in Early Childhood), Singapore.
- Landers, Cassie (2016). Framework for an Analysis of Parenting Education Program for Vulnerable youth and their Families in Nigeria. 4Children: A child protection initiative of US AID.
- Landers, C. (2014). *Integrating Early Childhood Development and Violence Prevention: Landscape Analysis Campaigns, Networks, and Interventions*. Prepared for the Global Alliance for Children with support from UBS Optimus Foundation.
- Landers, C. (2014). *Parenting Education and Support for Families with Young Children: Review of Evidence and Recommendations for Action*. Prepared for Child Fund, Washington DC.
- Landers, C. (2014). *Engaging and Listening to Young Children's Voices. Implications for Programs*. Prepared for Child Fund, Washington DC.
- Landers, C. (2012). *Universal Birth Registration: Every Child's Right*. Concept Paper prepared for International Day of Prayer and Action, NYC, NY, November, 2012.
- Landers, C. (2012). *Promoting Equity: The role of early child development programs*. Concept paper commissioned by Education Sector, UNICEF, New York, NY.
- Landers, C. (2012). *Training Package to accompany a UNICEF Child Protection Toolkit*. Includes power point presentations, readings, group and individual exercises, case studies, frequently asked questions, and assessment planning templates.
- Landers, C. (2012). *Preventing and Responding to Violence, Abuse and Neglect in Early Childhood. A technical background document*. Child Protection Division, UNICEF NY.
- Landers, C. (2011). *Universal Birth Registration: Every Child's Right*. Concept Paper prepared for International Day of Prayer, NYC, November, 2011.
- Landers, C. (2011). *Promoting Equity: The role of early child development programs*. Concept paper commissioned by Education Sector, UNICEF, New York, 2011.
- Landers, C. (2006). "Getting Ready for School: Fun early learning activities to do with your child." Step by Step Association, Open Society Institute, New York, NY.
- Landers, C. (2006). "Parenting with Confidence: Helping your child from birth to 5 years." A complete parenting education and training program. Step by Step Association, Open Society Institute, New York, NY.
- Landers C. (2005). Parent Education Booklets. A series of booklets for parents on basic issues in child development. International Step by Step Association, Open Society Institute, New York. NY.
- Landers, C. (2003). "Making the Link: Girls' Education and Early Childhood." Educating Children for Democracy. The Journal of the International Step by Step Association.
- Landers, C. (2003). "Early Learning and the Transition to School: Implications for the Girls' Education Initiative." Education Sector, Program Division, UNICEF New York.

- Landers, C. (2002) "Gender Socialization in Early Childhood." Education and Gender Sections, Program Division. UNICEF New York.
- Landers, C. (1999). "Early Childhood development as an international policy issue." Early Childhood Matters. The Bernard van Leer Foundation. June, No. 92.
- Landers, C. (1998). "Listen to Me: Promoting Early Childhood Care and Protection in Emergencies." UNICEF Office of Emergency Programmes: Working Paper Series.
- Landers, C and Torkington, K (1997). "Towards Quality Early Childhood Training: The Joint Training Initiative. Evaluation Report." Bernard van Leer Foundation: The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Torkington, K., Irvine, M., Landers, C. (1997). "The More and Better Early Childhood Training Initiative. Trainers Manual." Bernard van Leer Foundation: The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Dalais, C., Landers, C., Fuertes, P. (1996). "Early Childhood Development Revisited: From Policy Formulation to Programme Implementation." Innocenti Monograph. UNICEF International Child Development Centre: Florence, Italy.
- Landers, C. and Sporn, M. (1996). "Creating Early Child Development Materials: A Holistic Management Approach," In Drawing Insight: Communicating Development Through Animation. Southbound: Penang, Malaysia.
- Landers, C. (1996). Enhancing Child Development: A Video Based Parent Education Strategy. Set of Four Facilitators' Guides, Readings and Worksheets. UNICEF Education Section; UNICEF, New York.
- Torkington, K. and Landers, C. (1995). *Enhancing the skills of early childhood trainers*: Training pack. Bernard van Leer/UNESCO: The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Landers, C. (1995). "Children Affected by Organized Violence." UNICEF, Education Section, New York.
- Landers, C. (1995). "Guide to the Development of the Young Child." Bernard van Leer Foundation: The Hague, The Netherlands.
- Landers, C. (1994). "Early Childhood Development: The Challenge and the Opportunity." Education Section, UNICEF New York.
- Landers, C. (1993). "An Inter-Agency Policy Review-Towards a Comprehensive Strategy for the Development of the Young Child." UNICEF, Education Section. New York, NY.
- Landers, C. (1992). "Training Programs for Early Child Care Workers." The Coordinators' Notebook (12). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York, NY.
- Landers, C. (1992) "Creating Linkages: Women, Work and Child Care." The Coordinators' Notebook (11). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York, NY.
- Himes, J., Landers, C., and Leslie, J. (1992). "Women, Work and Child Care." Innocenti Global Seminar Report. UNICEF International Child Development Centre: Florence, Italy.
- Himes, J., Kessler, S., and Landers, C. (1991). "Children in Institutions in Central and Eastern Europe and a First Look at Alternative Approaches." Innocenti Essays. UNICEF International Child Development Centre: Florence, Italy.

- Landers, C. (1991). "Trends in Early Child Development Programmes: A Developing Country Perspective." In Spodek, B. (ed.) Yearbook in Early Childhood Education: Issues in Early Childhood Education Curriculum (Vol. 2). Teachers' College Press: New York, NY.
- Landers, C. (ed.) (1991). "Language Planning in Preschool Education." The Coordinators' Notebook (9). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: NY, NY.
- Landers, C., (1990). Summary Report: Innocenti Global Seminar on Early Child Development. UNICEF International Child Development Centre: Florence, Italy.
- Landers, C., Kessler, S., and Gleason, G., (1990). "Emergency Assistance Programme for Institutionalized Children in Romania." UNICEF Emergency Mission to Romania.
- Landers, C. and Kagitcibasi, C., (1990). "Summary Report: Innocenti Technical Workshop, Measuring the Psychosocial Development of Young Children." UNICEF International Child Development Centre: Florence, Italy.
- Myers, R. and Landers, C. (1989). "Early Childhood Development: A Programme Manual and UNICEF Guide for Programme Officers." UNICEF: New York, and High/Scope Educational Research Foundation: Ypsilanti, Michigan.
- Landers, C., (1989). "Early Childhood Development: Why We Need to Go Beyond Survival." UNICEF Intercom (51). UNICEF: New York, NY.
- Landers, C., (ed.) (1989). "Issues in Infant Feeding and Development." The Coordinators' Notebook (7). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York, NY.
- Landers, C., (1989). "A Psychobiological Study of Infant Development in South India." In Brazelton, T.B., Lester, B.M. and Nugent, J.K. (eds.). The Cultural Context of Infancy (Vol.1). New Jersey: Ablex Publishers.
- Landers, C., (1989). "The Effect of Tactile and Kinesthetic Stimulation on Early Infant Growth." In Gunzenhauser, N. (Ed.) Advances in Touch: New Implications in Human Development, New Jersey: Johnson & Johnson.
- Landers, C., (ed.) (1989). "Early Intervention and Primary Schooling." The Coordinators' Notebook (8). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York.
- Landers, C., (1989). "From Theory Into Action: The Need for Early Child Development Programmes." Summary Report Child-to-Child Conference, Nairobi, Kenya, Institute of Education, University of London, England.
- Landers, C., Otaala, B., and Myers, R. (1988). "Children Caring for Children: New Applications of An Old Idea." Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York.
- Landers, C., (ed.) (1988). "Children Caring for Children." The Coordinators' Notebook (6). Consultative Group on Early Childhood Care and Development: New York.
- Landers, C., (1985). "An Evaluation of Early Child Development Activities in Mauritius." UNICEF: New York.



## **EDUCATIONAL VIDEOS**

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Columbia University Head Start. (2006) An introduction to the programs and services provided to families in Washington Heights.

Landers, C. (1997) The Silent Shout: helping children learn about landmines. Animated Video and Teachers' Guide. Narrated by Alan Alda. Division of Communication, UNICEF, New York. Available in French, English, and Spanish.

Landers, C. (1997) UNICEF's Animated Child Development Video Series: Off to A Good Start, A Time of Adventure, Pathways to Learning, Ready for School. Narrated by Celest Holm. Delmar Publishers: Albany, New York. Available in French, English, and Spanish.

Landers, C. (1995) Growing and Changing. A parent's guide to the development of young children. A UNICEF special animated video prepared for International Children's Day of Broadcasting. Narrated by T.B. Brazelton. Division of Communication UNICEF, New York.