ISPCAN
The International Society for
Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

2008-2009 Annual Report

Shehzad Noonan/World Bank
Dear Members, Colleagues and Friends:

The International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), a non-profit membership organization, was founded more than thirty years ago by Dr. C. Henry Kempe, a Colorado pediatrician whose life’s work was protecting children. ISPCAN is the only multidisciplinary international organization that brings together a worldwide cross-section of committed professionals to work towards the prevention and treatment of child abuse, neglect and exploitation. Our mission is to “support individuals and organizations working to protect children from abuse and neglect worldwide.” ISPCAN’s philosophy is that effective child abuse and neglect (CAN) prevention and treatment can most effectively be accomplished through an integrated multidisciplinary approach. Professionals from all disciplines – medicine, psychology, psychiatry, public health, social work, legal, judicial, law enforcement, education and government - are needed to detect, treat and prevent child abuse and neglect.

ISPCAN provides the resources and trainings to enable these professionals working with children to more effectively fulfill their duty of protecting and treating abused children. ISPCAN’s multi-level approach consists of:

1) Training and Education through training programs, congresses and conferences tailored for diverse professional disciplines and regions;
2) Training Materials, Resources, Models and Tools, including model curricula;
4) Consultation and Support to professionals, nongovernment organizations and governments to assist them in advancing their CAN prevention efforts.

We are pleased to report on the progress of ISPCAN during 2008 and 2009, which were very exciting years for ISPCAN. We held our first Global Summit on Protecting Children from Violence, Abuse and Neglect in Chicago in April 2008; our successful XVIIth International Congress was held in Hong Kong in September 2008; and we drafted pre-policy recommendations for World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents during a pre-Congress consultation in Hong Kong. Sanphasit Koompraphant, who had become President in September 2008, resigned his position at the end of March 2009, when he was appointed to the Committee of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. In accordance with ISPCAN’s Standing Orders, Irene Intebi, President Elect, then acceded to the position of President. We also returned to our roots – relocating our office in December 2009 from the Chicago area to the Denver, Colorado area, where ISPCAN was founded in 1977. ISPCAN’s new office is located in the Gary Pavilion at The Children’s Hospital in Colorado. This new office space provides ISPCAN with high quality, professional office and meeting areas and state-of-the-art conference rooms and video conferencing. The office relocation resulted in significant re-staffing, which has been ongoing into 2010.

Thank you for your interest and support of ISPCAN over the past thirty-two years. The challenge of preventing and treating child abuse and neglect throughout the world is enormous and will require all of our efforts; but by working together, we really can make a difference in the lives of the world’s children.

With kind regards,
Irene Intebi, MD      Sherrie L. Bowen
President      Acting Executive Director
ISPCAN advances international knowledge

Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal

ISPCAN’s flagship publication, Child Abuse and Neglect: The International Journal, is a monthly peer reviewed journal, providing high-quality, international, multidisciplinary information on all aspects of child abuse and neglect, including practice implications. One of the most highly cited and influential journals in the field, it is a consistently strong resource publishing over 120 papers each year. ISPCAN membership includes a subscription to the Journal, as well as on-line access to articles dating back to 1977.

LISTSERV

The daily LISTSERV is perhaps the most interactive benefit of ISPCAN membership. It offers a simple and effective means of communicating directly with the international, professional child abuse and neglect (CAN) community to share resources, discuss CAN-related issues, network, and collaborate.

ICAST Questionnaires

More than 20 countries around the world are using ISPCAN’s tested and standardized survey instruments to collect information on CAN from parents, independent young adults, and children over 11 years of age. Please see page 5 for additional information or visit our website at http://www.ispcan.org/questionnaires.htm.

LINK Newsletter

The LINK provides topical reports on specific CAN issues and offers an exchange of information on challenges and best practices around the world, as well as information on ISPCAN programs, activities and upcoming events. Published three times per year, the LINK helps members remain connected to the Society and to their international, professional colleagues. The LINK is produced in English and translated to French, Russian, and Spanish. Future plans are to make them available also in Arabic and Chinese.

World Perspectives on Child Abuse: The International Resource Book

Since 1992, ISPCAN has produced World Perspectives on Child Abuse, a biennial report on the status of child protection efforts worldwide. Based primarily on information from a standardized survey of informed professionals engaged in child abuse prevention and intervention work in their respective countries, the report offers a unique view of the child safety policies and practices currently in place in dozens of countries around the world. In addition to the survey data, the report includes a series of issue briefs on innovative national policies or research efforts underway in both developed and developing countries and an annotated bibliography summarizing the literature on cross-national and non-U.S. research published over the previous two years.

Virtual Issues Discussions

One of ISPCAN’s electronic resources is its Virtual Issues Discussion (VID), whose purpose is to initiate discussion and information sharing among professionals from around the world on an important issue in the field of child maltreatment. VIDs may stimulate new thinking and offer useful ideas and are open both to ISPCAN members and nonmembers interested in the topic.

ISPCAN’s tenth VID was on the topic “Cultural Competence in Child Maltreatment Prevention and Intervention” and occurred from 26 – 30 May 2008. Some of the issues discussed during this VID were accommodating the needs of cultural minority groups, differing legal jurisdictions, minority language issues, and the relevance of culture to specific types of abuse and related prevention and intervention. ISPCAN hosted its eleventh VID from 15 - 22 June 2009 and focused on “Approaches to Children Exposed to Domestic Violence.” Issues discussed included how exposure to domestic violence affects children; whether exposure to domestic violence is a form of child abuse and the advantages and disadvantages of this approach; how child maltreatment professionals can best collaborate with domestic violence professionals; and whether cultural variables impact the influence of exposure to domestic violence.

...and aiding in professional development

Thanks to our donors, ISPCAN awarded scholarships to 70 professionals from developing countries, enabling them to attend and contribute to Regional Conferences and International Congresses. There they furthered their knowledge and networked with professionals internationally. They took this experience home and applied it to programs in their home countries. The 2008-2009 scholarships were possible thanks to the support of UNICEF, Elsevier, Ltd., Save the Children, Loyola University, American Humane Association and Prevention Resources.

Each year, ISPCAN awards honorary memberships to professionals from developing countries. Thanks to support from members, donors and sponsors, especially Elsevier, Ltd. and the Oak Foundation, each honorary member receives full ISPCAN membership benefits for two years, including a subscription to the Journal. Memberships were awarded to 163 professionals in 2008 and 2009.
In too many developing countries, there are no professionals trained in child abuse and neglect, and there is no place for multidisciplinary teams. The children who experience abuse need help to recover and stop it from recurring. This is where ISPCAN steps in, working globally to offer children hope by training professionals on how to intervene, treating both the child and the family and helping them to recover from the abuse and stop it from recurring. With proper CAN training, a doctor examining an injured child knows how to identify signs and symptoms of CAN, what to do, and how to report it according to local legislation. With proper CAN training, schools, agencies and local NGOs dealing with social problems in the communities and schools learn how to respond to CAN, protect and treat children, provide support to families, and stop abuse from recurring. In short, when professionals are trained, they know how to recognize abuse, report it, and when and how to protect children according to their local legal framework and cultural background. They know how to treat both the child and the family to recover from the abuse and stop it from recurring in the future.

### ISPCAN Training Highlights

#### Healing through Projecto Uere

Brought to Projecto Uere was a 13 year old boy who, since age 6, had very seldom talked to anyone, just speaking a few words in a low voice and without any eye contact. His desperate mother labeled him “autistic” and was referred to Projecto Uere after doctors suspected abuse to be a factor in his behavior. Eventually, it was learned that he witnessed a violent episode at home and was wounded after attempting to shout for help. As a result of exposure to this violence, the child stopped talking. After careful evaluation, the experts at Projecto Uere were able to diagnose him with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and establish an intervention plan to help the boy understand his feelings and cope with the violence he encountered at home. With multi-modal therapy provided by ISPCAN-trained professionals, he has returned to a healthier level of functioning.

This story is an example of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder following an episode of physical-emotional abuse, associated with social exclusion and structural violence at a poor school setting and lack of access to health care. Without ISPCAN’s adequate training of professionals in developing countries, resources available to protect and serve children suffering from maltreatment would be limited and their lives severely affected.

### Belarus

In Belarus, there are trained professionals at all levels – national, regional and local. However, professionals do not have specialized training in the prevention of child abuse and interdisciplinary cooperation. There are 145 governmental, social and pedagogical centers in Belarus and most of them have child social shelters. ISPCAN’s Country Partner in Belarus, INGO “Poniimanie”, has ISPCAN-trained representatives in the centers. The model of disclosure has been successful in reaching children from abusive families, schools and the streets. The INGO “Poniimanie” teams are located in Vitebsk, Kalinkovichi, Minsk and Brest at the regional Resource Social and Pedagogical Center. Four different models are being developed by parallelizing and linking their activities to build together a more effective country model. Every team includes psychologists, social pedagogues, minor’s police inspectors and pediatricians. Additionally, some teams include child psychiatrists and psychotherapists, special education teachers, morale protection and counter police inspectors. In total, 176 professionals were trained in 2009 and are continuing their activities involved within a frame of local multidisciplinary teams.

### Democratic Republic of Congo

In 2009, IUS ET VITA, the local NGO partner in DR Congo, in collaboration with ISPCAN, organized ten training sessions focused on a multidisciplinary approach to the prevention and treatment of sexual abuse in DR Congo. DR Congo is a country with one of the highest levels of sexual violence committed against women and children over the past five years, particularly in the Eastern Region where 300,000 women and children have been victims of sexual violence. The treatment for victims requires a multidisciplinary approach involving psychological, medical, judicial and social support. IUS ET VITA uncovered a new practice of engaging children in child prostitution in mining operations, involving girls between the ages of eight and ten years old. IUS ET VITA is working on opening a School of Social Workers with one aim being to train professionals on how to treat and assist victims of sexual abuse.

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### Country | Local NGO Partner
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<tr>
<th>Argentina</th>
<th>Familias del Nuevo Siglo</th>
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<tr>
<td>Belarus*</td>
<td>INGO “Poniimanie”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Centro de Estudos Integrados, Infância, Adolescência e Saúde (CEIIAS)</td>
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<td>Colombia*</td>
<td>Asociacion Afecto Contra el Maltrato Infantil (AFECTO)</td>
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<td>D.R. Congo*</td>
<td>IUS ET VITA</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Tartu Child Support Centre</td>
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<td>Georgia</td>
<td>The Public Health and Medicine Development Fund of Georgia (PHMDFG)</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>The Indian Council for Child Welfare</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>Nizhny Novgorod Resource Center “Childhood without Violence and Cruelty”</td>
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<td>South Africa*</td>
<td>Childline South Africa</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>The Center for the Protection of Children’s Rights Foundation (CPCR)</td>
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*ISPCAN Country Partners
Many countries do not have the infrastructure that professionals need to protect and treat abused and at-risk children. This infrastructure includes child protection policies and national legal frameworks, child abuse and neglect (CAN) reporting mechanisms, data collection systems, social services, multidisciplinary networks, trained professionals, and public awareness and education programs.

Every country varies in its capacity to respond to, treat and prevent CAN. In 2007, ISPCAN launched a new Technical Assistance and Consultation Program, which has continued to grow during 2008 and 2009, to help countries improve their child protection infrastructure. Consultation services, available on a project basis, can include conducting situational analyses of needs, assisting in the design of systems and policies to detect, treat and prevent CAN; developing CAN data collection systems; assessing compliance with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; designing CAN training programs and resource centers; and establishing monitoring and evaluation programs.

ISPCAN's first major Technical Assistance and Consultation project was in partnership with the National Family Safety Program (NFSP) in Saudi Arabia. A situational analysis of the child protection system in 2007 in Saudi Arabia found that lack of training was one of the most challenging problems affecting the delivery of high quality child protection services. Based on this analysis, a multidisciplinary academic course on CAN was designed and piloted in November 2007. Additional medical training occurred in 2008 and 2009. Several additional components were added in 2009: a child maltreatment data collection system and the ISPCAN Child Abuse Screening Tools (ICAST).

ISCAN is working with the Child Protection Research Center at the American Humane Association on a child maltreatment data collection project, providing assistance and support to the working group.

ISCAN also worked with the Public Health and Development Fund of Georgia on the improvement of its child protection advocacy and CRC implementation during 2009. Funding and support was provided by ISPCAN to the Xi’an Philanthropic Child Abuse Prevention and Aid Centre in Xi’an, China, for continuation of their public education and training activities.

ISCAN Child Abuse Screening Tools (ICAST) are a set of three model questionnaires developed by ISPCAN, with the assistance of UNICEF and the Oak Foundation, that are designed to collect data on the extent and depth of child abuse from parents, independent young adults, and children over eleven years of age. The ICAST tools have been translated into seven languages and are available upon request. To learn more about these questionnaires, please visit ISPCAN’s website at http://www.ispcan.org/questionnaires.htm.
2008-2009 Financial Data

Revenues derived from the international Congress, grants, publication royalties, membership dues and in-kind contributions have provided the resources to deliver an expanded array of direct services to our members, as well as support an increasing number of member-initiated projects targeting specific countries or regions.

Revenues in 2008 and 2009 were lower than 2007, largely because of a multi-year grant that was pledged, and recorded as revenue, in 2007 for the years 2007 through 2010. Congress and Conference revenues were higher in 2008 due to ISPCAN’s biennial International Congress, which was held in Hong Kong in September 2008. ISPCAN membership dues increased by a moderate amount in 2008, US $150 for 1 year, $280 for 2 years, with reduced rates for Developing Country* members of $55 for 1 year, $105 for 2 years. One of the improved benefits that members received beginning in 2008 was to be able to access back issues of Child Abuse and Neglect: the International Journal at no additional cost to the members. Membership dues and publication royalties were lower in 2009 due to the worldwide economic recession, causing a significant number of our members to be unable to renew their memberships. We expect to see improvement in both of these revenue sources in 2010. The Technical Assistance and Consultation program, begun in 2007 to help members, governments, and other organizations to establish or improve their child protection infrastructure, continued to expand during 2008 and 2009.

Expenses for Congress and Conferences were higher in 2008 due to the biennial International Congress held in Hong Kong in September 2008. The reduction of Journal and Newsletter expenses in 2009 is a result of the decreased number of members being able to renew their 2009 memberships. Developing Countries Training was higher in 2008 due to the configuration of the training funding. The Technical Assistance and Consultation program continued to expand during 2008 and included ISPCAN’s first Global Summit, held in Chicago in April 2008. This program also included a three and a half day meeting in Hong Kong of professionals from around the world, in preparation for the World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents; this meeting was funded by UNICEF. ISPCAN’s first fundraising dinner, held in April 2008, was very successful and resulted in a modest net surplus.

These financial data do not capture the total value of our programs and services. Thanks to the significant volunteer contributions of our members and Country Partners, ISPCAN is able to provide a far richer array of training programs and offer professionals worldwide more intensive support. These volunteer resources assisted the Secretariat in continuing to hold administrative and operational costs to 11% of total expenses for 2008, a very modest level given the diversity and scope of our services. Administrative and operational costs in 2009 temporarily increased to 21% of total expenses due to increased in-kind legal services, the office relocation from Illinois to Colorado, and Executive Director search costs. ISPCAN is a not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization as designated by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Financial Audit 2009 (Selected Data)

ISPCAN audited financial results for 2009: Current Assets at the end of 2009 were $1,087,069, including Grant Receivable of $429,070; Property and Equipment at Cost (minus depreciation) was $10,626. At the end of 2009, Total Assets were $1,097,695 and Total Liabilities were $168,259, bringing ISPCAN’s year end Net Assets to $929,436. This is a net decrease of $470,420 for 2009 memberships. Developing Countries Training expenses for 2009, due to the release of net assets from temporary restrictions during the year.

ISPCAN is formally audited each year in accordance with relevant auditing standards. For a copy of the 2008 and 2009 audited financial statements, please contact the ISPCAN Secretariat.

* Developing Country status is based on information from World Bank reports.

Revenue ($) 2009 2008
Grants and Contributions 49,336 450,788
Congress and Conference Fees 10,635 476,354
Membership Dues 147,687 189,922
Publication Royalties 147,000 171,778
Technical Assistance and Consultation 54,035 59,901
In-Kind Contributions 160,417 72,978
Interest and Investments 11,071 24,843
Miscellaneous 2,476 4,445
Total 583,457 1,449,709

Expenses ($) 2009 2008
Grants and Contributions 261,900 454,771
Congress and Conferences 134,992 130,834
Journal and Newsletters 60,665 90,119
Membership Programs and Awards 169,044 363,655
Technical Assistance and Consultation 97,259 326,211
Research 3,389 28,513
Administration and Operations 200,522 187,668
Strategic Planning 15,791 47,137
Executive Council and Nominations 20,055 29,027
Fundraising 83,764 97,934
Total 1,047,901 1,725,969

* Administrative = Administrative, Operations, Executive Council and Nominations
Global Reach of ISPCAN Conferences

Since the year 1999, ISPCAN has organized a pre-conference Global Institute in San Diego, California, U.S., in association with the American San Diego International Conference on Child and Family Maltreatment. The 2008 Global Institute focused on “Cross-Border Child Trafficking” and in 2009 the theme was, “Poverty: Child Protection and Children’s Rights – Professionals and Government Roles”. Global Institutes have attracted U.S. and international professionals interested in global issues and the most recent research findings in the field of child abuse and neglect. ISPCAN’s Executive Council and members are committed to organizing the Global Institutes by providing experts from various countries representing a multidisciplinary cross-section of the field.

This important international institute is sponsored annually by the U.S. Justice Department’s Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention and Fox Valley Technical College.

African Regional Conference

The 5th ISPCAN African Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 4-6 May 2009 and had the theme of “Focus on Early Childhood Development and Education.” Sub-themes included Early Childhood Survival and Care, Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Protection, Child Rights and Development, and Cross-Cutting Issues.

Arab Regional Conference

The 4th ISPCAN Arab Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect was held in Minsk on 22-23 April 2010 with the theme of “A Safe Belarus for Children.”

Belarus National Conference

Belarus’ First National Conference on Prevention of Child Abuse, held in Minsk on 22-23 April 2010 had the theme of “Working Together for a Safer Childhood.” Topics focused on traditional and new forms of child abuse and exploitation; causes and consequences of child abuse and neglect; response in intervention and rehabilitation services; and prevention strategies and data collection systems.

Asian-Pacific Regional Conference

The 8th ISPCAN Asia-Pacific Regional Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (APPCAN 2009) was held on 15-18 November 2009 in Perth, Australia. The theme of the conference, “Child Abuse and Neglect: Looking Through the Lens of Prevention” recognized that preventing child abuse and neglect before it happens is far more effective than responding after the harm has occurred.

The XVIIth International Biennial Congress of ISPCAN

Hong Kong, 7 - 10 September 2008

Hong Kong is a vibrant city, with a population that make the city feel as if it is on the move, with busy streets that are always busy. The XVIIth ISPCAN Congress was held at the Hong Kong Conference Centre, located on the Kowloon Peninsula, with views of the harbor,; the conference centre was a most impressive venue and in itself lent a certain air of “dignity” and grandeur.

A total of 589 delegates attended the Congress, representing 67 countries from every continent. It provided opportunities for both formal and informal learning and exchanges, with keynote and plenary sessions, specialist streams focusing on specific interests, practice areas in child protection and symposia in which identified issues were debated at greater depth. The specialised streams of concurrent papers also enabled participants to follow a particular theme or discipline interest.

ISPCAN's Global Institute

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Arab Regional Conference

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Belarus National Conference

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The Congress began with the DC Forum on Saturday and was followed by the Master Class on Sunday. It is an important and invaluable ISPCAN “tradition”, as opportunities to hear several world-renowned experts share their knowledge and expertise in child protection on a single day rarely occurs. The opening presentation addressing the day’s theme, “What have we learned about child abuse in the past 30 years”, was given by Dr. James Garbarino (USA). This was followed by Patricia Ip (Hong Kong) presenting on the development of the Child Protection System in Hong Kong and Dr. Barbara Bonner (USA), who discussed advances in mental health interventions with abused and neglected children. These presentations discussed a number of new and diverse approaches to working with children who have experienced abuse and neglect. Dr. Bonner reminded participants to avoid the “neglect of neglect”.

The afternoon sessions were presented by Dr. Margaret Lynch (UK), who discussed advances in child protection systems, and Dr. Bernadette Madrid (Philippines), whose presentation focused on advances in the medical examination, assessment and care of children who experience abuse and neglect.

Participants rated all the speakers very highly, indicating that the day had been very valuable, significantly contributing to their professional knowledge.

The main Congress event began with a colorful opening ceremony in which delegates were welcomed by a lion dance and acrobats. The performance of the lions was truly breathtaking. The main Congress event began with a colorful opening ceremony in which delegates were welcomed by a lion dance and acrobats. The performance of the lions was truly breathtaking. The performance of the lions was truly breathtaking. The performance of the lions was truly breathtaking.

This meaningful involvement was underlined by one of its presenters, Kids Dream, in a symposium on child participation. The children and young people spoke about how their involvement in supporting the re- alisation of children's rights through activities does not compromise their family relationships and education.

Keynote speakers included Cindy Kiro, Children’s Commissioner of New Zealand, who provided useful information on the role of Children’s Commissioners as protectors of the Rights of Children; Michael Freeman (UK) encouraging a universal ban on corporal punishment; and James Garbarino (USA) who spoke about children and resilience, emphasizing the role of parents and caretakers of children in significantly impacting the recovery of children from the impact of trauma.

The exhibition hall provided the opportunity for organisations and booksellers to exhibit their programmes, materials and information literature in child protection and related fields. It also hosted interactive poster sessions – a particularly useful medium for presenting work as it enables presenters to engage on a personal level with those who display an interest in their work.

Social events provided Congress participants with an opportunity to engage with each other less formally and the Congress Dinner at the famous Jumbo Floating Restaurant enabled delegates to learn more about Chinese culture and cuisine. This evening function was particularly colourful with many delegates wearing national dress.

The Congress evaluations indicated that it provided excellent value for the majority of delegates, who had an opportunity not only to return home with new and updated knowledge, but also to forge and renew collegial relationships, thus helping to bring new enthusiasm and broader perspectives on their own work in child protection.

Joan van Niekerk, M. Med, Sc, ISPCAN Councillor
With the support of donors and volunteers, ISPCAN is able to continue to accomplish all its goals and strides in preventing child abuse and neglect worldwide. Thank you for your generous support!

Thank you to our Supporters

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2008-2009 Annual Report

Design
- Kayla Manzel, USA

Child Abuse & Neglect: The International Journal
Join our efforts to protect children worldwide from child abuse and neglect.

**Join us as a member.** Membership dues enable us to pay for our journal and newsletter production, our Listserv, and other member services. Annual dues are $150 for professionals in developed countries, and $55 for professionals in developing countries. As a member, you receive our international monthly journal and quarterly newsletters, access to our Listserv and Virtual Issues Discussions, and discounts at our conferences. You will also be supporting our efforts to train professionals, sponsor research on child abuse and neglect, and advance the rights of children around the world.

**Join us as a partner.** You will be in the good company of organizations like Child Helpline International, Plan International, 26 national and regional Societies for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, and numerous national and local NGOs that work to prevent violence against children.

**Join us as a donor.** Through the support of organizations like The Oak Foundation, UNICEF, Public Health Agency of Canada, Save the Children International, Loyola University Center for the Human Rights of Children, Elsevier, Ltd., Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Fox Valley Technical College, Rady Children’s Hospital, and all of the personal donations we receive from people just like you, we are able to assure broad participation at our conferences from professionals in developing countries and provide much needed specialized training and technical assistance to professionals in developing countries. Your financial support provides abused and at-risk children in developing countries access to professionals and places to turn to for help.

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