



The National Center for the Development of Boys

helping organizations and people who work with boys, become more effective

Executive Director: Troy F. Kemp Sr.

Mission: To improve the lives of boys by providing resources for parents, educators, mentors, and organizations committed to helping boys develop into good and successful men.

There is a substantial “boy crisis” in the U.S. Some males are doing quite well, but millions of our sons are also failing or falling behind in ways untenable for a positive national future. These boys emerge throughout the demographics and across races and boundaries. In 2015, the World Health Organization released its comprehensive report on physical and mental health outcomes for gender. The WHO conclusion: “In most parts of the world, health outcomes among boys and men continue to be substantially worse than among girls and women.” Our nation and world is facing a loss of males in health and well-being markers that bode badly for all of us.

The National Center for the Development of Boys makes visible this relatively invisible epidemic and works with individuals and organizations to solve the crisis. Founded in 2015, the Center is a non-profit organization housed at McCallie School in Chattanooga, TN. It operates with an independent staff and office, conducting its own research and collaborating with other research and science-based organizations to help families and institutions meet the challenges our boys face today. Crucial to this work is its emphasis on forward-thinking visions of male development, visions that help adults help boys to become empathic, intelligent, and successful men.

OUR SERVICES

Research and Resource Dissemination	Community and Family Support	School and Institutional Efficacy-Development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speaking events - Conferences - White papers - Newsletters - Studies and meta-analyses - Library of resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parent and mentor coaching - Violence reduction programs and partnerships - Summits and events for parents and faith communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot programs - Teacher training - Training for mental health and social service workers - Collaboration with sports and athletic organizations - Consulting for single gender institutions

The Center's approach to its mission is three-pronged: to be a resource hub, a connector, and a catalyst. Integrating these three elements, the Center:

- Supports existing programs that serve boys and families in need, with special emphasis on programs that assist boys, families, schools, and organizations in disadvantaged communities.
- Is developing one of the largest and most comprehensive digital research and resource libraries on boys' development in the U.S. and, within a few years, hopefully, the world.
- Assists and trains athletics and sports organizations in understanding how to best coach and nurture both good competition and good character in young males.
- Provides resources and assistance to mentoring agencies and community mentoring initiatives, especially those that target violence reduction.
- Provides hands-on consulting and coaching to parents and new schools, boys' schools, charter schools, and agencies and organizations working in or expanding into the boys' sphere.
- Networks with all available agencies and institutions to connect staff and assets with one another who may have been working in this field in different silos.
- Delivers presentations in educational conferences and at schools, including educator professional development, in partnership with the Center's training partner, the Gurian Institute (www.gurianinstitute.com).
- Supports existing and new pilot programs that can connect various resources and research together in public, independent, and other schools to codify best practices for boys' education.
- Hosts events for visiting scholars, speakers, researchers, and other assets at McCallie School for Boys and in the Chattanooga community.

How We Measure Our Success

The Center measures its success via both quantitative and qualitative data markers so that, where possible, data is gathered to show that the Center's programs have facilitated these outcomes:

- Increasing student engagement and teacher effectiveness;
- Closing achievement gaps by improving test scores and grades in pilot schools;
- Promoting a safe school culture, including decreasing bullying and relational violence;
- Lowering discipline referrals, including lowering suspension/expulsion rates in a school or district;
- Lowering dropout rates and turning around low performing schools;
- Increasing student literacy and STEM achievement; and
- Assisting boys of color to succeed in disadvantaged communities.

In all its work and programs, the Center's focus and mission include a passion for gender equity. The WHO research team wrote, "Including both women and men in efforts to reduce gender inequalities in health will improve everyone's health and well-being." Helping boys and men helps girls and women. We encourage you to visit our website and follow us on social media @Center4Boys. For more about us, please contact Executive Director, Troy Kemp at info@understandingboys.org.