The Child Protection Revolution

Ministerial Conference on Violence Against Children

UNICEF Satellite Event: November 6th, 4:30-7 PM

Botero Museum

On the eve of the Ministerial Conference on Violence against Children, this event will build momentum around the transformative power of eliminating child maltreatment and three evidence-based interventions which evidence has shown have enormous impact on addressing violence against children: universal access to quality parent and caregiver support; universal access to safe and enabling school environments; response and support services for children who need them.

The event feature Dr. Nadine Burke Harris* as its keynote speaker. Dr. Burke Harris is an award-winning physician, researcher, writer and public health leader, who was the Surgeon General of California between 2019 and 2022. She is an expert on the links between adverse childhood experiences, toxic stress and long-term affectations for individuals and societies. Dr. Burke Harris is a world recognized speaker on these issues and we are very fortunate to have her participate in this global forum.

The event will also bring the perspective of youth through the expression of a local artists.

A tour of the world famous Botero Museum will also be a part of the event.

Attendance at this event will be by invitation only.

Background:

1 out of 2 of the world’s children are victims of violence and this has massive impacts on individuals and societies at large. The incredible news is that we have sufficient evidence to do something about this. What is needed is political prioritization to address this issue and strategic investments. The first ever ministerial conference against children is a pivotal opportunity to make this happen.

The medium- and long-term consequences of violence against children are increasingly understood and they are major. For an individual child, such violations derail their development and drive poor physical and mental health, along with compromised life outcomes across almost every well-being indicator. Child maltreatment in the family is also one of the biggest drivers of all other forms of other protection risk. They also reduce prospects for healthy relationships into adulthood and are the primary preventable cause of mental illness. It is estimated that violence against children costs up to 5% of GDP, or the equivalent of trillions of US dollars.

Three breakthrough approaches have the power to make a serious impact in reducing violence against children: universal access to quality parent and caregiver support; universal access to
safe and enabling school environments; response and support services for children who need them.

**Dr. Nadine Burke Harris**

Dr. Nadine Burke Harris is an award-winning physician, researcher and public health leader who has spent her career on the front lines of some of our world’s most pressing public health challenges. As California’s first-ever Surgeon General, Dr. Burke Harris successfully launched a first-in-the-nation statewide effort to train over 20,000 primary care providers on how to screen for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and respond with trauma-informed care.

Dr. Burke Harris’ career has been dedicated to serving vulnerable communities and combating the root causes of health disparities. After completing her MPH at Harvard and residency at Stanford, she founded a clinic in one of San Francisco’s most underserved communities, Bayview Hunters Point. It was there that Burke Harris identified Adverse Childhood Experiences as a major risk factor affecting the health of her patients and applied research from the CDC and Kaiser Permanente to develop a novel clinical screening protocol.

In 2011, she founded the Center for Youth Wellness to advance pediatric medicine, raise public awareness, and transform the way society responds to children exposed to ACEs and toxic stress. In this role she founded the Bay Area Research Consortium on Toxic Stress and Health and led the first-ever randomized-controlled trial to validate ACE screening and assess treatment of toxic stress.

Dr. Burke Harris served as a committee member and co-author for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine for the consensus report *Vibrant and Health Kids: Aligning Science, Practice and Policy to Advance Health Equity*, published in 2019; and as a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics’ National Advisory Board for Screening.

Her work has been profiled in best-selling books including *How Children Succeed* by Paul Tough, as well as in Jamie Redford’s feature film, *Resilience*. She has also been featured on NPR, CNN, and Fox News as well as in USA Today and the New York Times. Dr. Burke Harris’ TED Talk, “How Childhood Trauma Affects Health Across the Lifetime” has been viewed more than 10 million times. Her book “The Deepest Well: Healing the Long-Term Effects of Childhood Adversity” was called “indispensable” by The New York Times.

Dr. Burke Harris is the recipient of the 2023 David G. Nichol Health Equity Award presented by the American Pediatric Society and the American Board of Pediatrics, the Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism in Medicine Award presented by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Heinz Award for the Human Condition. She was named one of 2018’s Most Influential Women in Business by the San Francisco Business Times and as one of Capitol Weekly’s Top 100 most influential people in 2020.